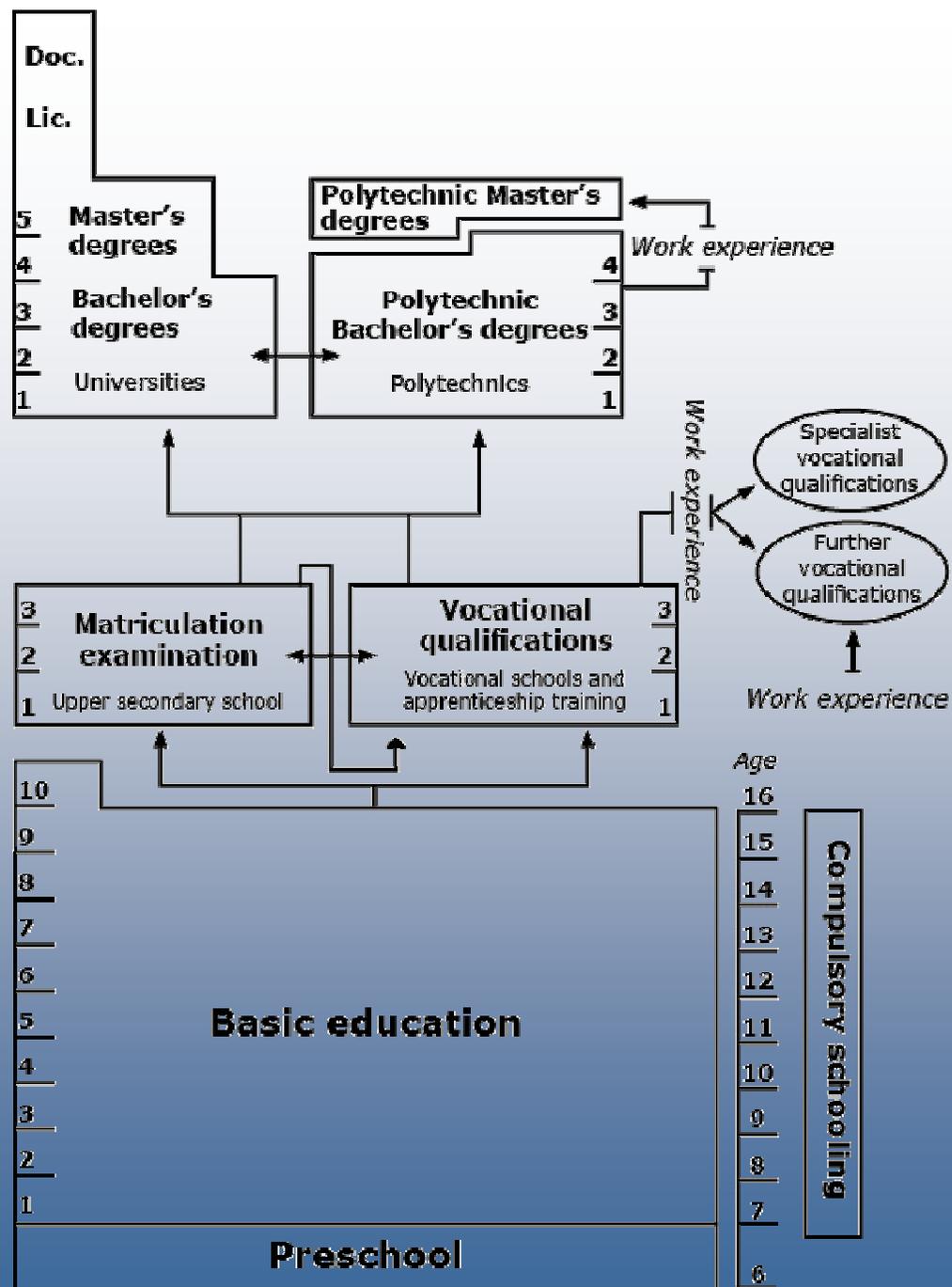


General Upper Secondary Education in Finland



Finnish National Board of Education (FNBE)

- develops education: draws up core curricula for basic and upper secondary education, the framework for vocational qualifications and competence-based qualifications,
- evaluates education = learning results and improves the efficiency of training

FNBE

- produces support services for education: organises language examinations, organises and funds further studies for teachers and other teaching staff, develops and sells learning materials

The Main Principles for Comprehensive Education in Finland...

- Equal opportunities for education irrespective of domicile, sex, economic situation or mother tongue
- Regional accessibility of education
- No separation of sexes
- Education totally free of charge
- Comprehensive, non-selective basic education

...The Main Principles for Comprehensive Education in Finland

- Supportive and flexible administration – centralised steering of the whole, local implementation
- interactive, co-operative way of working at all levels; idea of partnership
- Individual support for learning and welfare of pupils
- Development-oriented evaluation and pupil assessment – no testing, no ranking lists
- Highly qualified, autonomous teachers
- Socio-constructivist learning conception

The joint application system to upper secondary education

- The selection of students for general secondary school is based on their grade point average for theoretical subjects on the basic certificate
- Application form: the easiest way to apply is online at www.haenyt.fi
- The joint application system is a national procedure that Finnish education institutions use when selecting new students

National Core Curriculum for Upper Secondary Schools...

- The admission requirement for the general upper secondary school is the completion of basic education syllabus (comprehensive school)
- General upper secondary school studies primarily aim at further education at the higher level
- Progress in studies is individual
- Syllabus planned for three years
- Possible to complete in two years, maximum four years
- The latest upper secondary school framework curriculum was adopted simultaneously in all Finnish upper secondary schools in 1 August 2005. (The former was from year 1994.)

...National Core Curriculum for Upper Secondary Schools

- General upper secondary education has been divided into courses that each consists of about 38 lessons.
- The school year is usually divided into five or six periods.
- Year classes have been abolished and all general upper secondary schools are now non-graded.

”Course ideology”

- School year is divided into the 38 weeks
- 1 Course is about 38 lessons, this equals to the traditional model of 1 lesson /week.
- 1 Period = about 7 Weeks
- $5 \times 45 \text{ minutes/weeks} = 3 \times 75 \text{ minutes/weeks}$

Example

Periods	Courses =	Traditional model
1 st period	Math Course 1 (3 x 75 min/week)	3 Math lessons every week
2 nd period		↓
3 th period	Math Course 2	
4 th period	Math Course 3	
5 th period		

National Core Curriculum – local/School-specific curriculum

- By devising the National Core Curriculum, the Finnish National Board of Education determines the objectives and core contents of the various subjects, subjects groups, cross-curricular themes, and other instructions.
- Local/School-specific curriculum characteristic and special focus of the school, special tasks.
- Each education provider draws up its own local curriculum.

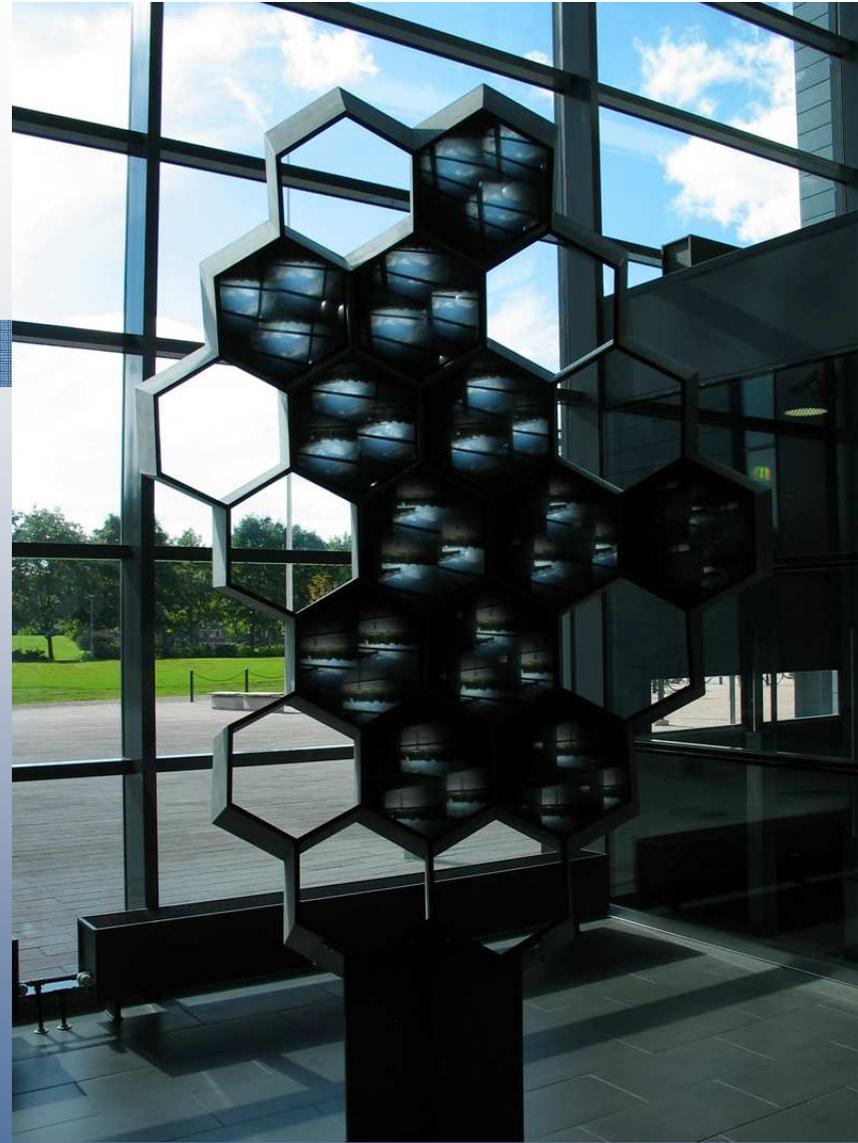
Sammon keskuslukio



- Built in 2003-2005
- The biggest upper secondary school in Tampere
- Partly a sport school
- 960 pupils, of which 200 active sportlers
- 65 teachers and 12 coaches

Sammon keskuslukio





Sammon keskuslukio



Sammon keskuslukio

Sammon keskuslukio



National Core Curriculum: The upper secondary syllabus consists of a minimum of 75 courses
(2005 Curriculum)

Subjects	Compulsory courses	National specialization courses
Finnish and Literature	6	3

Languages:

A-language (english, german, french, russian)	6	2
B-language (swedish)	5	2
Other languages		8

Mathematics:

Advanced (MAA)	10	3
Basic (MAB)	6	2

Sciences and humanities

Biology	2	3
Geography	2	2
Physics	1	7
Chemistry	1	4
Religion or Ethics	3	2
Philosophy	1	3
Psychology	1	4
History	4	2
Civics	2	2
Health Education	1	2

Arts and Physical education

Physical Education	2	3
Music	1-2	3
Visual Arts	1-2	3
Guidance counselling	1	1
Compulsory courses	47 / 51	(Math choice !)
National Specialization Courses (minimum)	10	National specialization courses
Optional courses	Min. 14-18	
Total number of courses (min.)	75	

			SAMMON KESKUSLUKIO	
Subjects	Compulsory courses	National specialization courses	Specialization courses	Applied courses
Finnish and Literature	6	3	1	4

Languages:

A-language (English,german, french,russian)	6	2	4	2
B-language (Swedish)	5	2	5	2
Other languages		8	4-6	1

Mathematics:

Advanced (MAA) /	10	3	1	
Basic (MAB)	6	2	1	

Sciences and humanities

Biology	2	3	1	5
Geography	2	2	1	2
Physics	1	7	2	2
Chemistry	1	4	2	2
Religion or Ethics	3	2	1	
Philosophy	1	3	2	1
Psychology	1	4	2	2
History	4	2	3	2
Civics	2	2	1	3
Health education	1	2		

Arts and Physical education

Physical Education	2	3		10
Music	1- 2	3		5
Visual Arts	1- 2	3		3

Guidance counselling	1	1		1
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Sports coaching

				18
Compulsory courses	47 / 51	(Math choice!)		
National Specialization Courses (minimum)	10	National specialization courses		
Optional courses	Min. 14-18			
Total number of courses (min.)	75			

Web valinta

Study plan

Tuntikaavio

Upper Secondary Education

- At the end of upper secondary education the Matriculation Examination
- The purpose of the examination is to discover
 - 1) whether pupils have assimilated the knowledge and skills required by the curriculum for the upper secondary school and
 - 2) whether they have reached an adequate level of maturity in line with the goals of the upper secondary school.

The Finnish Matriculation Examination...

- The Matriculation Examination Board is responsible for administering the examination.
- The Ministry of education nominates the chair of the Board and its members at the suggestion of universities, institutions of higher learning and the National board of Education.

...The Finnish Matriculation Examination

- The Matriculation Examination is held biannually, in spring and in autumn, in all Finnish upper secondary schools, at the same time.
- The tests: the examination consists of at least four tests; one of them, the test in the candidate's mother tongue, is compulsory for all candidates. The candidate then chooses three other compulsory tests from among the following four tests: the test in the second national language, a foreign language test, the mathematics test, and one test in the general studies battery of tests (sciences and humanities). As part of his or her examination, the candidate may additionally include one or more optional tests.

Links to Finnish Educational System

The Finnish National Board of Education

<http://www.oph.fi/english/>

The Matriculation Examination Board

<http://www.ylioppilastutkinto.fi/en/>

Thank You for Your Attention!

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