

STUDY CULTURE AND PRACTICES OF EDUCATION & EXAMINATION

University Teacher Matti Isohookana

Director of the Degree Program in Electronics and Communications Engineering

Coordinator of the Double Degree Programme in WCE

Room TS471 (4th floor)

Email: matti.isohookana@oulu.fi

Outline

- General impressions of Finland
- Finnish education system
- WCE's "position" at the University of Oulu
- Studies in Finland
- Course materials
- Structure of your studies
- Teaching arrangements
- Some basic rules
- Grades
- Master's thesis
- Some tips

General impressions of Finland (1/2)

- Low hierarchy & informal
 - No need to call Sir, Herr Professor, ...
 - All staff can be approached directly
 - In sauna we are “you and me, Harry and Henry”
- Teachers expect quite independent work
 - # of staff limited, limited hands-on-guidance
- People
 - don't talk much, but are helpful
 - often skip the small-talk and go directly to the topic
- Staff tends to be busy
- Bribery is extremely rare, but punishable



General impressions of Finland (2/2)

- Oulu is 2 degrees south from the Arctic Circle (65N):
 - In December, you have 2 hrs of sunlight
 - In June, the sun hardly sets
 - Sun is never very high in the sky

- Weather

- West winds come from Atlantic
- East winds from Siberia
- -15..-30 degrees C in Dec-Feb
- Snow during December-April
- March-April; excellent weather for ski-ing

- Food

- Quite international



View to the northern sky in study months and summer

Finnish Education System

- Day care (kindergarten) (age -5)
- Pre-school (age 6)
- Primary school (age 7-13)
- Secondary school (age 13-16)
- Upper secondary school or vocational school (16-19)
- (Military or non-military service; 6, 9 or 12 months)
- BSc (3 years, incl B.Sc. thesis)
- MSc (2 years, incl M.Sc. thesis)
- Doctor of Technology (4 years; studies, research, publications, doctoral thesis & public defence)

WCE's "position" at the University of Oulu (1)

Faculties



Faculty of Biochemistry and
Molecular Medicine



Faculty of Education



Faculty of Humanities



Faculty of Information Technol-
ogy and Electrical Engineering



Faculty of Medicine



Faculty of Science



Faculty of Technology



Oulu Business School

WCE's "position" at the University of Oulu (2)

ITEE Research Groups

CAS	CIRCUITS AND SYSTEMS PROF. TIMO RAHKONEN	CMVS	CENTER FOR MACHINE VISION AND SIGNAL ANALYSIS PROF. OLLI SILVEN
MIC	MICROELECTRONICS PROF. HELI JANTUNEN	BISG	BIOMIMETICS AND INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS PROF. JUHA RÖNING
OPEM	OPTO-ELECTRONICS AND MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES PROF. TAPIO FABRITIUS	M3S	EMPIRICAL SOFTWARE ENGINEERING IN SOFTWARE, SYSTEMS AND SERVICES PROF. MARKKU OIVO
CWC-RT	CWC-RADIO TECHNOLOGIES PROF. MARKKU JUNTTI	UBICOMP	UBIQUITOUS COMPUTING PROF. TIMO OJALA
CWC-NS	CWC-NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS PROF. JARI IINATTI	OASIS	OULU ADVANCED RESEARCH ON SERVICE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS PROF. HARRI OINAS-KUKKONEN
ACM	APPLIED AND COMPUTATIONAL MATHEMATICS PROF. KEIJO RUOTSALAINEN	INTERACT	HUMAN COMPUTER INTERACTION AND HUMAN-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT PROF. NETTA IIVARI

Degree Programme in Electronics and Communications Engineering

WCE's "position" at the University of Oulu (3)

Degree Programme in Electronics and Communications Engineering	
Bachelor's Programme - 3 years	Master's Programme – 2 years

Study Options				
Electronics Design	Electronics Materials and Components	Telecommunications	Radio Engineering	Photonics and Measurement Techniques

WCE-RAN	WCE-RF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International programme - Separate admission - Own coordinator - Teaching in English - ... 	

Studies in Finland

- 1 year = 60 ectcs (= 1600 hr student work)
- 1 ectcs = 27 hours of student work (25-30 in EU)
- Typical course
 - 5 ectcs (130 h work – ca. half at home)
 - duration 7-9 weeks (1 period)
 - 25-30 h lectures (200+ pages handouts)
 - 14 h exercises (100+ handouts)
 - small lab / design work
 - exam
- Typical staff per course
 - 1 lecturer (professor, university lecturer, university teacher, senior research fellow or postdoctoral researcher)
 - 1 teaching assistant (post graduate student)
- 3-4 courses on each period

ectcs = European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

Course materials

- Official course information can be found from Oodi (<https://weboodi oulu.fi>)
- Most courses have handouts (200-300 pages)
- Library has a few copies of the textbooks
- Electronic material is often available either in open or password-protected platforms or web sites
 - MOODLE (new platform) (<https://moodle oulu.fi/>)
 - OPTIMA (in use till 31.7.2020) (<https://optima oulu.fi/>)

Structure of your studies

- Basic, Advanced, and Electives (selective) studies
 - Basic Studies (40-41 ects)
 - Advanced Studies (25-30 ects)
 - Elective Studies (17-22 ects)
 - Training (3 ects)
 - Master's Thesis (30 ects)

Teaching arrangements

- 2 periods in autumn, two period 2 in spring
- Timetables vary between these periods
- Breaks on
 - Christmas (2 weeks)
 - (schools have 1 week in Oct and 1 week in March, some teacher sync their holidays to these)
 - Eastern (about a week)
 - Summer holiday in mid-May – Sept 1
 - Some courses and exams available (more information in spring)
 - Lab/design works can be done and returned
 - Training period (2 months) usually at summer (some grants available by University and CWC)

Some basic rules (1/3)

- You credit only once of one performance (content)
 - If something is accepted as training, it is not accepted as a design exercise any more, for example
 - Training cannot be part of Master's Thesis

Some basic rules (2/3)

- Individual performance is individual
 - If a lab is conducted as a team-work, it can be done & reported jointly. Might require own contribution explanation.
 - If a lab/paper is returned solo, it should be done by you only
- In both cases, the report/content/program etc. should be own work, not from someone else (other group, students, wep etc)
 - Plagiarism is not allowed
 - Will be controlled, teachers can detect it !
 - Cases will be handled by University rules:
Hearing, minutes, and for decision making to Vice Dean of the Faculty (responsible for education). Performance is failed. Dean can move decision to Rector (result can be warning or exclusion from the University)

Some basic rules (3/3)

- Exams
 - Final exam after the course OR 2-3 intermediated exams or weekly exams during the course
 - 2 re-tries per year
 - Always solo (individual) and controlled
 - Usually without material
 - Mobile phones are not allowed
 - Cheating and copying is kepted watch
 - Will be informed to responsible teacher for sanctions
 - Programmable calculators are usually not allowed
 - You can use pencil; if you use pen do it only for fair copy (final without corrections)

Grades

- Course grades are fail, pass and 1 to 5 (poor to excellent)
- Typically, 35-45% points is needed for passing, more than 85-90% for excellent
- The lab/design exercise may be part of grading (e.g. 20 %) or just pass/fail
- Failing is not a disaster (usually, 20-30% fails)
- Failing in one course usually does not prevent attending the following one
- Yet, all courses marked to your personal study plan have to be passed before graduating, and **obligatory courses can not be replaced**

Master's Thesis

- Worth 30 ECTS (6 months full-time work)
- You have to fill an application for the thesis topic prior to beginning
- Thesis ca 50-80 pages
- Remember correct referencing:
 - No direct copy-paste referencing (re-phrase with your own words)
 - If something is borrowed, name the source [1]
- If not referenced, the text/equation/... is assumed to be developed by you
- Supervisor guides the structure & contents, usually 3-6 review meetings. Writing is iterative.
- Electronic form – word template in use
- Detailed Master's Thesis Guidelines

Some tips

- Structure of the studies
 - See the web page of WCE (DD-WCE)
 - Contact coordinators Dr.Tech. Kärkkäinen, (UnivTeach Isohookana)
- Course contents and timing
 - Listed on WebOodi web service, linked to Noppa and Moodle
 - Note that most ECE courses outside WCE curriculum are in Finnish. Exam can be taken in English, though
- Timetable
 - Follow also Noppa, Moodle and course web page (if exists)
- Acknowledgment of previous studies
 - If you have previous studies which have not been included to your Bachelor's studies may fit into your Master's studies here. Application is done in OSAT system.

Thank you !

Good luck in your studies !

Enjoy at Oulu !