

HELSINKIN YLIOPISTO
HELSINKI UNIVERSITY OF FINLAND

Special Education

Risto Hotulainen
risto.hotulainen@helsinki.fi

Department of Teacher Education / Special Education

■ **Credits:** 3 ECTS

Aims: *Special education as a field in educational sciences concentrates on studying education, family, and working life from a specific perspective. It focuses on finding the solutions for how general educational and pedagogical tasks can be solved in special ways when ordinary methods do not work, when a child's or student's development seems not to be evolving, is hindered or is regressing. In these cases it is necessary to find the means to overcome the barriers, which are impeding learning or teaching. The course seeks to build basic knowledge of groups requiring special education and special education pedagogics. Furthermore, the course introduces the special education system in Finland.*

■ **Content of the lectures**

Special education: Risto Hotulainen, 12 h

Tue 2.11. at 13.15 - 14.45 2h T23, A213

Tue 9.11. at 12.15 - 14.45 3h T23, A213

Special guests (Belgium & Russia) and Finnish system

Tue 16.11. at 12.15 - 14.45 3h T23, A213

Behavioral Disorders (Risto)

Tue 23.11. at 12.15 - 15.45 4h T23, A213

Individual / small group presentations:

a) Special education as a part of educational system in my country OR b) Closer introduction of the groups who need special education (SEN)

■ **Methods**

Students deepen their knowledge of special education by discussions, group work, action methods and by reading the required literature and by writing an essay based on the lectures and literature. **There is an examination held at the end of the course.** Students are also asked to give feedback of the course by evaluating the course aims. Active participation is required.

Literature:

- 1. Hornby, G, Atkinson, M. & Howard, J. (1998). *Controversial Issues in Special Education*. London: David Fulton Publisher, and 2. Ainscow, M, & al. (2006) *Improving schools, developing inclusion*. London: Routledge.
- Or 3. Florian, L. Ed. (2007) *The Sage handbook of special education*. London: Sage. (Sections I, II and IV.)

■ Assessment: 0-5

Examination date: 30.11.2010 (12.15-15.00) group examination (2-4 persons)

University of Helsinki

Orientation

Faculty of Behavioral Sciences

Department of Teacher Education	Institute of Behavioral Sciences	Training Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Class teacher education •Kindergarten teacher and early childhood education •Special education •Subject teacher education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educational Science - Logopedics - Psychology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helsinki normalaalisyyden, Training School - Viikki Teacher Training School of University of Helsinki

Department of Home Economics and Craft Science

- Craft Science and Textiles teacher education
- Home Economics and Home Economics teacher

Centre of the Educational Assessment

■ **Special Education section**

- Special education as science (major)
 - Experts on special education
 - Special class teachers
 - + minor students (x > 100)
 - Doctoral students (x > 10)
- Special teacher education (one year study program)
 - Special class teachers
 - Special teacher
 - Early Special educator
 - students are mainly:
 - Masters of Arts in Education (class teachers and subject teachers)
 - Kindergarten teachers



Staff (2010)

- 1 professor
- 6 lecturers
- 1 amanuensis
- 2 secretaries

- Research projects
 - Inclusive education
 - Intervention studies
 - Mathematical thinking and learning difficulties
 - The development of thinking and learning-to-learn
 - Transition planning and prevention of social exclusion
 - Follow-up (gifted and life course) etc.

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... seeks to build basic knowledge of groups requiring special education and special education pedagogics

- #1: pupils with a mild learning difficulty
 - #2: pupils with a moderate or severe learning difficulty;
 - #3: pupils with attention problem
 - #4: pupils with autism
 - #5: pupils with a visual impairment;
 - #6: pupils with a hearing problem;
 - #7: pupils with severe learning problems which cannot be explained by an intellectual disability;
 - #8: gifted
 - #9: ...
...definitions, %, how to special education needs are met
- ... 15-20min*

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