



Finnish Education in a Nutshell Online Course – The Finnish Way: Rethinking Learning

Finnish Education in a Nutshell Online Course – The Finnish Way: Rethinking Learning, is a self-paced, expert-led learning experience that explores what makes the Finnish system internationally respected.

Created with experts from the Finnish National Agency for Education

The online course has been designed and delivered in cooperation with specialists from the Finnish National Agency for Education. Their first-hand expertise offers an authentic understanding of the values, structures, and practices that guide education in Finland — with a particular focus on primary and lower secondary (basic) education.

A modular, flexible learning experience

Each module offers a compact, easy-to-follow package with videos, visual explanations, and short reflection tasks designed to activate your thinking.

You can choose to complete a single module or gradually build a comprehensive overview of Finnish education — entirely on your schedule.

Module 2: Educational Values and Curriculum Foundations in Finnish Education Online Course

The second module introduces the principles, values, and curriculum structures that guide teaching and learning in Finland. The module explains how shared values shape school culture, how the national core curriculum is developed, and how transversal competence prepares students for lifelong learning and participation in a changing world. Benefits for participants

Benefits for Participants

- Understand the core values of Finnish education—including equality, democracy, sustainability, and lifelong learning—and how they guide school life and curriculum design.
- Gain insight into how schools build positive and inclusive cultures through trust-based leadership, collaboration, and equity.
- Learn how the national core curriculum is structured, how it is rooted in legislation, and how it provides a coherent framework for all education providers.
- Explore transversal competence, seven interconnected areas that combine knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes, preparing students for lifelong learning, work, and democratic participation.

Structure, duration, and learning activities

- **Format:** Self-paced online module
- **Estimated duration:** 5 hours
- **Learning activities:** A compact, easy-to-follow package including videos, visual explanations, and short reflection tasks designed to activate your thinking.
- **Assessment or certification:** A printable certificate of completion is available upon finishing the module.

Key Themes Covered in Module 2

The module covers five essential areas related to educational values and curriculum development:

Values in Finnish Education

The core values—equality, democracy, sustainability, and lifelong learning—and their role in guiding school life, curriculum design, and active citizenship.

Developing School Culture

How schools build inclusive and positive cultures through trust-based leadership, collaboration, and equity, supporting both learning and well-being.

The National Core Curriculum

The structure and role of the national core curriculum, its foundation in legislation, and how it provides a common framework for all education providers.

Local Curricula

How local curricula complement the national framework, including participation, municipality- and school-level structures, and the use of digital tools such as eRequirements.



Transversal Competence

An introduction to the seven interconnected competence areas combining knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that prepare students for lifelong learning and democratic participation.

More themes coming soon

In addition to Module 2, the course also includes *Module 1: Introduction to the Finnish Education System* which you can access via the link below.

Module 1: Introduction to the Finnish Education System

Stay tuned! We are currently developing new course modules that will explore the following themes:

- Digitalization in education
- Inclusion and student support
- Vocational Education and Training (VET)
- Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and pre-primary education
- Education, pedagogy, and the development of school culture in practice — featuring student stories and real-life examples at the school level
- Teacher education and professional development in Finland

More details will be shared in 2026! We look forward to continuing the learning journey with you!

