General issues on studying Computer Science

28.8.2014 Tiina Niklander

HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO HELSINGFORS UNIVERSITET UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

Faculty of Science Department of Computer Science

www.cs.helsinki.fi 11 April 2012 1



- Important guides and links
- Teaching periods
- Ways of completing a course, grading
- Registration for courses
- Library
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- Planning of studies
- Language studies



Important guides and links

The university-level orientation page <u>http://www.helsinki.fi/orientation/</u>

The Orientation Handbook

The main page of the Department of Computer Science http://www.cs.helsinki.fi/en

Especially the sub-page of studies

Study guide

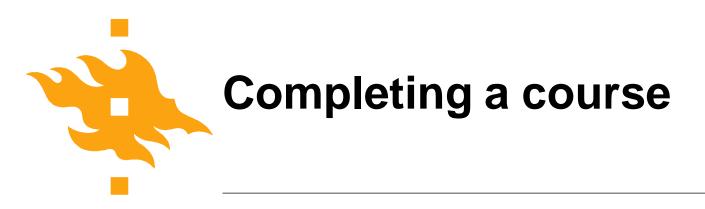
Teaching programme

Computing Facilities at the Department of Computer Science http://www.cs.helsinki.fi/en/compfac/



4 periods (7 weeks teaching + one exam week)

- I Period: September 1 October 19 (exams: 20.10-24.10)
- II Period: October 28 December 14 (exams: 15.12-19.12)
- III Period: January 12 March 1 (exams: 2.3-6.3)
- IV Period: March 9 May 3 (exams: 4.5-7.5)
- + two weeks for intensive period in May



Two ways
 Lecture course
 Separate exam

Both require advance registration

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Usually 4-10 credits

Consist of

lectures

weekly exercises

sometimes a project work

one or two course exams (2.5 hours); some courses have also a renewal exam

Always check details from the course homepage!

If you want the exam questions in English, contact the examiner two weeks before the exam.



Independent of the lecture courses

Requirements are based on the material in the course description

Duration 3.5 hours

Schedule for separate exams can be found at the studies web page http://www.cs.helsinki.fi/en/studies

If you want the exam questions in English, contact the examiner two weeks before the exam.



The grading scale is divided into six steps (0-5)
To gain the lowest passing grade, 1/5, a student usually needs to gain half of the maximum points
5/6 of the maximum points usually gives grade 5/5



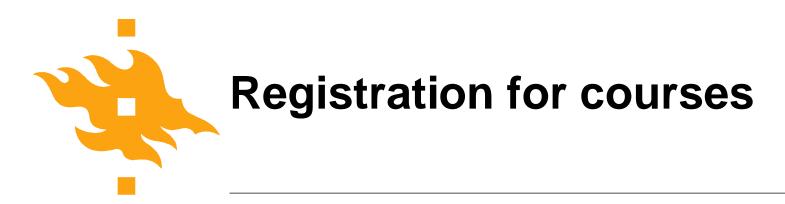
Intermediate studies project (for exchange students)

In the Bachelor's degree 3 individual projects
 The Programming project
 The Database application
 The Data Structures project

Each project course lasts 6 weeks
 Registration for the project course is binding

Projects at master's degree have more variety in their formats

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Registration system at the Department of Computer Science <u>http://ilmo.cs.helsinki.fi</u>

Most other departments use OODI for registrations

For separate and renewal (=make-up) exams you should register about two weeks before the exam.
If you want the exam questions in English, contact the examiner two weeks before the exam.

Some other diciplines use f.e. WebOODI for registration



Kumpula Science Library

The collections contain material in the fields of physical sciences, geology, chemistry, geography, mathematics and statistics, computer science and seismology.

Web page: http://www.helsinki.fi/library/kumpula

Either of the following two cards can be used as a library card:

HELKA card

UniCard or Lyyra card

Library is under renovation at the moment



- 1. The main university account by IT Department (AD)
 - all university-level services (oodi, oodle, flamma)
 - log in to the computers
- 2. The Computer Science Department system (cs),
 - self-activated (in the computing tools course)
 - second mail box

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- access to ukko cluster and some other departmental servers

 User account manager at the CS department: Pekka Niklander, room A230, luvat@cs.helsinki.fi



Workstations in

computer class rooms B221, BK107, CK110, DK108, and DK110, and

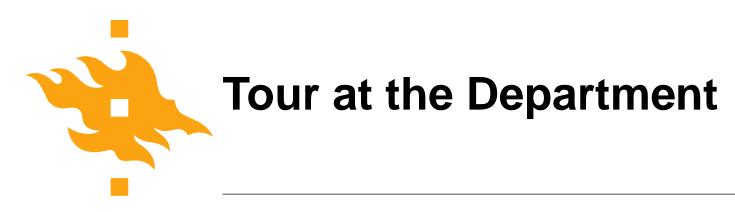
halls C202 and D202

Each workstation in the computer classrooms/halls has 2 operating systems:

Cubbli (Ubuntu based)

Windows

OR only MacOS (in halls C202 and D202)

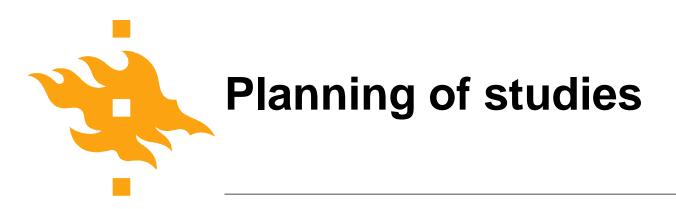


Exactum floor plans

http://www.cs.helsinki.fi/contact/exactum-kartat.html

Old page, some minor changes to the room organizations)

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The size of the MSc degree is 120 credits and the optimal study time 2 years

2 years = 4 terms

About 120/4 = 30 credits per term

 A course that yields 4 credits requires, for example, a minimum of about 100 hours of work.



The basic planning rule:

schedule appr. 2 hours of independent work per every classroom or exercise hour.

The number of lectures and other contact teaching per course (and credit) varies

If there are uncommonly few teaching hours in relation to the number of credits a course yields, the portion of independent work is even larger than described above.



ALL: Computing tools for CS studies

- Introduction to the department environment and Linux
- hands-on course in paja, no lectures
- (Can be expanded to 4cr, by doing the optional ICTdriving license, obligatory only for our bachelors)

Masters:

- Scientific writing for MSc in computer science
- Academic Writing for ... (few alternative courses)



Finnish language course and exams http://www.helsinki.fi/fus/studying/finnishforinternationalstudents.html

- Finnish Language Courses for International Degree Students
- Finnish Language Courses for Exchange Students

Language centre <u>http://www.helsinki.fi/kksc/english/index.html</u>

Course list available in WebOODI