

PED-9001 Teaching assistant as a learning instructor



Aalto-yliopisto
Aalto-universitetet
Aalto University

Teaching session 1

Welcome to the course!

Your course facilitators:



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Aalto School of
Engineering

Timetable

12:15 – 12:40

Course practicalities

Getting to know each other

12:40-13:35

Conceptions of learning and teaching: What makes a good teaching assistant?

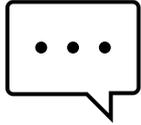
--Break--

13:35-14:00

Teaching observations

Getting ready for the next time

Housekeeping



Please, feel free to ask questions at any time.

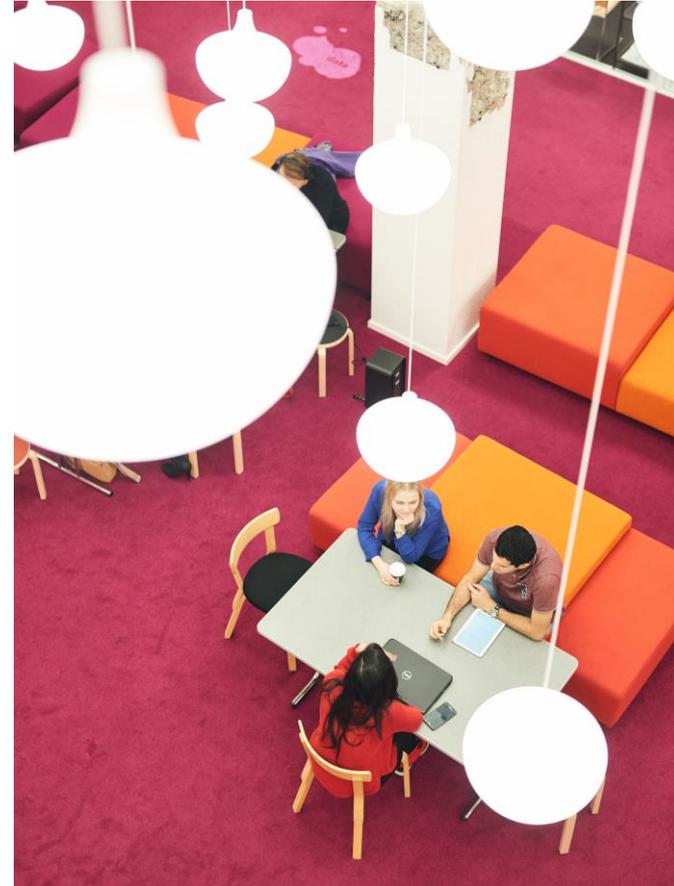


**We are here together, learning from each other.
Kindness and respect are the ways of working.**

Learning outcomes for this course

After the course you will be able to

- observe the learning environment from the learning perspective
- identify aspects to support students' learning process
- recognise ways to support students' study motivation
- identify your role as a learning instructor



Teaching assistant as a learning instructor (2cr)

Course timeline 13.10.2022-15.12.2022

Pre-assignment
DL 10.10.2022

Session 1:
Thu 13.10.2022
12.15-14.00
(campus)
Introduction

Session 2:
Thu 27.10.2022
12.15-15.00
(campus)
*Interaction and
feedback*

Session 3:
Thu 10.11.2022
12.15-15.00 (online)
*Approaches to
learning, levels of
thinking about
teaching*

Session 4:
Thu 24.11.2022
12.15-15.00
(online)
*Different kinds of
students*

Session 5:
Thu 15.12.2022
12.15-15.00
(campus)
*We as teaching
assistants*

Reading
assignment
& group
reflection

Reading
assignment
& group
reflection

Final
feedback

Individual assignments in MyCourses (e.g., questions for visitors)

Video observation (DL
9.11.) VIDEO

Teaching observation (DL 13.12.)
AUTHENTIC

Individual reflecting & processing during the course

How to complete the course

- Pre-assignment
- Participating in the teaching sessions
- Doing the coursework
 - reading assignments (two) & group meetings (two)
 - individual assignments in MyCourses
 - teaching observations (two) & reflective write-up of the observations (two)

Participant's workload

A. Teaching sessions 13 h

B. Learning assignments (all together) 27 h

a) Reading assignment x 2 4 h

b) Group meetings x 2 8 h

c) Individual assignments x5 5 h

d) Teaching observations x 2 4 h

e) Reflective write-up x 2 6 h

C. Reflection 15 h

Total 55 h
(2 credits)

(one credit is equivalent to a workload of 27 h)

Pre-assignment: What you are especially hoping to learn

- ❑ how to
 - support **study motivation**
 - be **inclusive** and how to take everyone into consideration

- ❑ improve **communication skills**
 - explaining the subject in a clear and supportive way
 - written teaching material

- ❑ recognise **difficulties** students might have e.g., with learning materials

- ❑ practical **tips** and **tools** dealing with students in different situations

- ❑ learn from each other

Ice breaker



designed by freepik

Hello! (5 rounds, 1 min each)

Introduce yourself (name, SCHOOL).

1. What is your mood today?
2. What is Aalto to you?
3. What is being Teaching Assistant to you?
4. If you were not here today, where would you be?
5. What are you expecting from this course?



Challenge: use one word only ;)



Aalto University
School of Electrical
Engineering

1. What is your mood today?



2. What is Aalto to you?



Aalto University
School of Electrical
Engineering

3. What is being Teaching Assistant to you?



**4. If you were not here today,
where would you be?**



5. What are you expecting from this course?



Conceptions of learning and teaching: Prototype of a good teaching assistant

Step 1: 5mins individually

Step 2: 25 mins in small groups

(break)

Step 3: 20 mins all together

What makes a good teaching assistant?

What are the elements and capabilities that make "a good teaching assistant"?

Step 1 (5 min), individually:

Write down elements and capabilities of a good teaching assistant to a piece of paper.



Design and present a "prototype" of a good teaching assistant

Step 2 (~25 min) with your group:

- Share your thoughts with your group
- Create your prototype of a good teaching assistant in a large paper
- Be ready to summarise your prototype to everyone

YOU HAVE TIME UNTIL 13.10



Group A:
Mohammed
Thilini
Matilde
Juha
Jose Luis

Group B:
Richa
Tom
Mar Francis
Mehr
Zahra

Group C:
Joe
Allu
Joel
Mila

Group D:
Alex M
Marcel
Dmitrii
Alex I
Heikki

Group E:
Kaapo
Charles
Meishan
Etna



13.10-13.15

Break



Design and present a "prototype" of a good teaching assistant

Step 3 (everyone together):

Share the elements of your prototype which haven't been introduced yet by other groups.



Conceptions of teaching and learning: why is it important to be aware of them?

- The teacher's own conception of learning has an impact on their choices of teaching methods.
- Different conceptions may lead to different teaching methods—and different methods may lead to different learning results.
- If you want to develop your teaching, you need to be aware of your own conceptions of learning.
- International students may be accustomed to different teaching and learning methods, so they expect different kinds of teaching.

Teaching observation (DL 13.12.2022)

During this course, you will observe a teaching session (min 45min) of one of your peers of this course.

- When observing, focus on **the students** and note down at least the following:
 - **What do the students do?**
 - **How does the teacher and/or teaching assistant motivate them?**
 - **Add reflections and insights of your own.**
- Use the form in MyCourses→ **Teaching observations** for the reflection
- Submit your observations and reflections to the submission box in MyCourses→ **Teaching observations. DL 13.12.2022**
- Remember to fill in the Excel in MyCourses so someone can come and observe your teaching. **DL 26.10.2022**

To do before our 2nd session:

1. Orientation questions to an experienced teaching assistant / teacher?

- What would you like to ask from an **experienced teaching** assistant, or from a teacher of a course with teaching assistants?
- Post at least one question in discussion forum in MyCourses.
- **DL 24.10.2022**

2. Organizing observations

- Fill the Excel spreadsheet about the observations
- **DL 26.10.2022**

Thank you!

