



Aalto University  
School of Electrical  
Engineering

# ELEC-E0110

# Academic Skills in

# Master's Studies

*Start lecture*

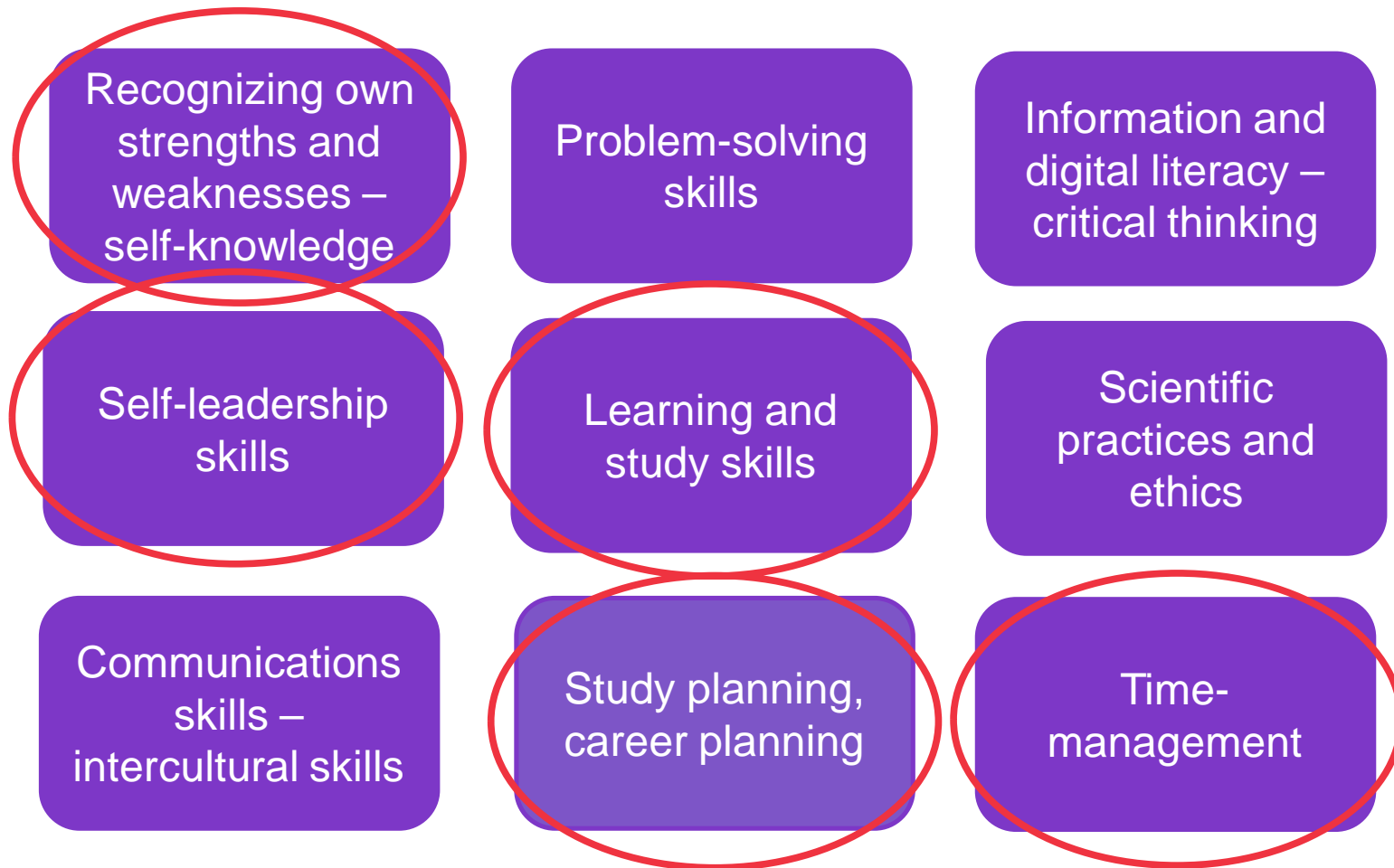
*13.9.2021*

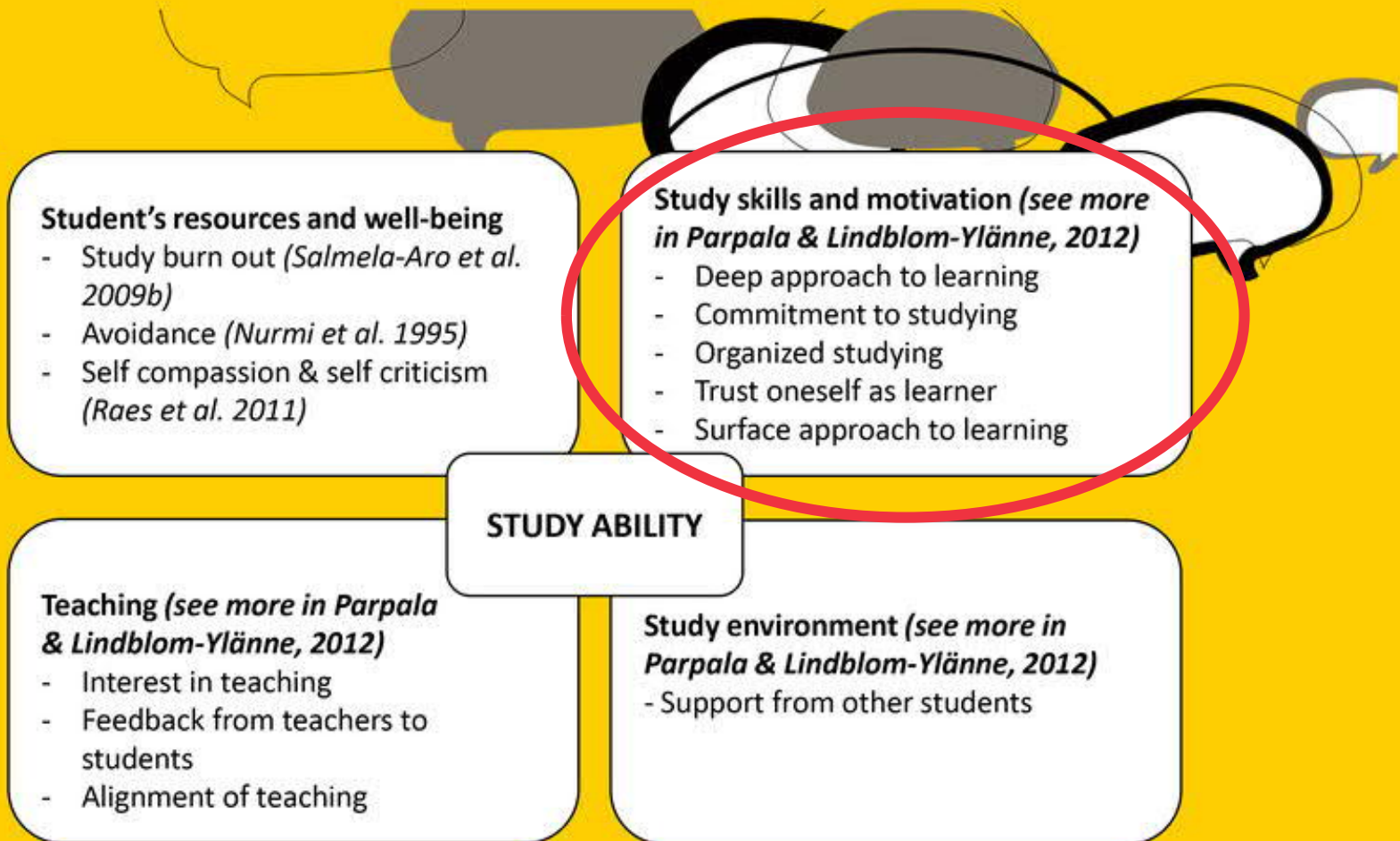
*Jenni Tulensalo, Eeva Halonen*

# Start lecture

- **Keep your video and audio muted.**
- **Questions in chat after the presentation.**
  
- **Background for the course**
- **Course content and instructions**

# Why this course?





Source: Kunttu, Kristina. 2005.

**Academic skills are the skills that you will need in order to take full advantage of all the knowledge that is at your disposal during your university studies.**

# Learning is

- ❖ a **skill** you can **practice** and
- ❖ an **attitude** you can **adopt**.

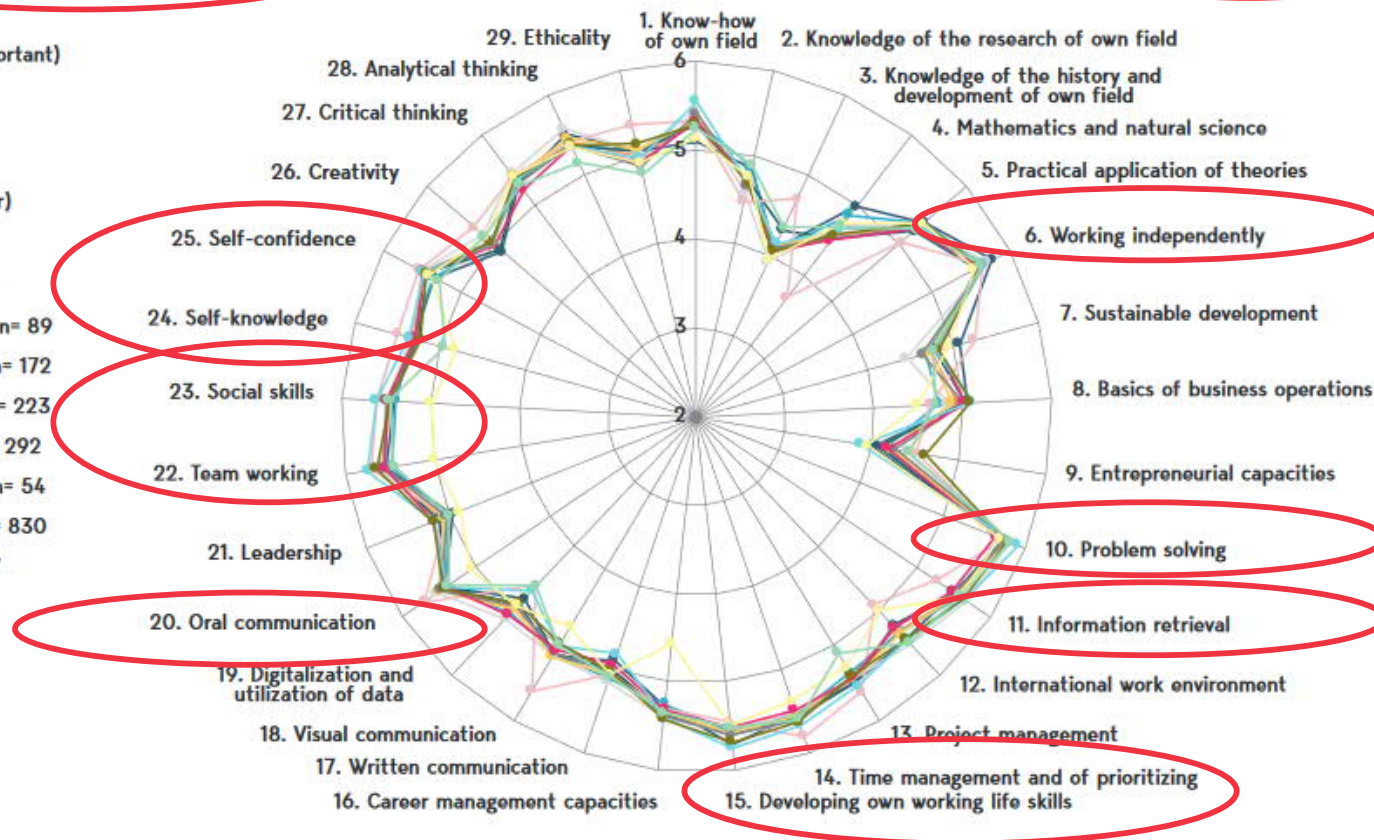
# Expertise and skills

## Importance for own career

©TEK Graduate Survey 2019

SCALE  
 1 = Not at all (important)  
 2 = Very little  
 3 = Little  
 4 = Somewhat  
 5 = Much  
 6 = Very much  
 (7 = Cannot answer)

- ALL, n= 1988
- Aalto CHEM, n= 89
- Aalto ELEC, n= 172
- Aalto ENG, n= 223
- Aalto SCI, n= 292
- Aalto ARTS, n= 54
- Aalto ALL, n= 830
- TUNI, n= 507
- LUT, n= 436
- UO, n= 106
- UT, n= 64
- AAU, n= 22
- UV, n= 23





- **Future working life skills!**
- **Requirements in master-level studies differ from bachelor's studies – you are required more self-leadership**
- **Remote study mode highlights the need for good study skills and techniques**

The **purpose** of this course is to **learn and practice new skills** or **enhance such existing skills** that will benefit both your **studies** and your **career in the future of work**.

- The course has been planned in co-operation with student psychologists, Aalto pedagogical experts, ELEC lecturers and the ELEC learning services.

# Feedback from last year

75 %  
positive

20 %  
neutral

5 %  
negative

*All in all I think this course was really helpful, since people have different backgrounds and I myself had a bit of a break between my bachelor's and master's studies, so this course helped me to get my study motivation and study related skills back.*

*By following these tips, I feel like I gained back the ability to concentrate well again and I've drastically improved my studying abilities, which has made a huge difference for my life and my well-being!*

*Overall, I feel like I have done more improvements than gone to the opposite direction despite the very exceptional and frustrating situation.*

*In summary, I think that the course provided very good tools for improvement. After this course I wish to implement these tools the best I can for better academic and career performance as well as better well being.*

# Course content and practicalities

# Content of the course

## Three common parts

- Self-assessment assignments
- Study and career planning
- Thesis process start

## Three optional assignments

### (7 options to choose from):

1. Essay assignment, optional material
2. Ethics in Technology
3. Getting things done online workshop
4. Learning skills online workshop
5. Superstudent
6. Time management
7. Academic writing assignment

# Self-assessment

## First assignment

- you assess which study skills you need to improve or develop during the course
- goal is to choose the optional contents that benefit you the most
- deadline 24.9.2021

## Second assignment

- you evaluate how your goals have realized during the course
- deadline 25.2.2022

# Mentoring

**Academic advising, ie. mentoring is organized as a part of this course.**

- You will be assigned a professor or other academic faculty member of your major as your mentor – sign up to a group by 20.9.2021.
- You will have two individual meetings, one in Autumn and one in Spring.
- Assignments in study and career planning as well as in the thesis process start -sections will be discussed with the mentor.
- You will receive information on your mentor and meeting arrangements after 20.9.



# Study and career planning – period I

- **The goal of this part is a well-planned, justified and goal-oriented personal study plan (HOPS).**
- **This part consists of 4 items during period I:**
  1. Career planning assignment (choose 1 out of 3 options by 24.9.), DL 4 Oct
  2. Study-planning assignment, DL 4 Oct
  3. Mentor meeting and meeting report, DL in December
  4. Submission of official study plan (HOPS), DL 17 December

# Thesis process start – period III

- **The goal of this part is to provide you with basic information about master's thesis and planning tools for a smooth thesis work during the second year of your master's studies.**
- **This part consists of four parts that are completed during III-IV periods**
  1. Thesis info lecture in January 2022
  2. Thesis review assignment
  3. Thesis brainstorming assignment
  4. Mentor meeting and meeting report

# Choose three assignments, periods I-II

- Seven optional assignments - choose three (descriptions are available in MyCourses under “Descriptions”):
  1. **Essay assignment, optional material**
  2. **Ethics in Technology**
  3. **Getting things done online workshop**
  4. **Learning skills online workshop**
  5. **Superstudent**
  6. **Time management**
  7. **Academic writing assignment**
- The themes are learning as a skill that can be developed, developing ethical problems solving, time management and academic writing skills, and coping with procrastination.
- Some parts have limited attendance - it is mentioned in the description.

# Choose three assignments

- Choose the optional assignments that offer you **the most learning experience**. Challenge yourself - do not select the topics that you are already comfortable with!
- Read the descriptions carefully.
- Take advantage of the findings you have made in the self-assessment
- Schedule wisely - if your period I is full, select period II versions instead.
- Ask if you need more information.
- *Choose three optional assignments by Friday 24.9. in MyCourses page.*
- You can start doing the period I assignments immediately (depending on their schedule)

# Requirements to pass – a summary

## **Self-assessment:**

- 2 assignments

## **Study and career planning:**

- 2 assignments
- 1 mentor meeting and report
- Personal study plan

## **Thesis process start:**

- Lecture
- 2 assignments
- 1 mentor meeting and report

## **Optional assignments:**

- 3 assignments (requirements depend on the entity, there may be online teaching sessions or online submissions)

- Note! Deadlines for all assignments are at 18.00.
- After the selection of optional assignments (by 24.9), you will only see the assignments you have chosen in the MyCourses page (until then you can see them all).

# Contact

## Questions & Answers –Forum

- Post general questions on the forum so that other participants can also view the answer.

## E-mail

- [Masters-elec@aalto.fi](mailto:Masters-elec@aalto.fi)

# First things to do!

- **Enrol to mentoring**
    - Enrolment tool is open on the course start page in MyCourses
    - Deadline on Monday 20.9.2021 18.00
  
  - **Do the first self-assessment assignment**
    - Deadline on Friday 24.9.2021 18.00.
  
  - **Select the optional parts**
    - You must choose 3 out of 7 available parts
    - Select also Career planning A, B or C
    - Selection tool is open on the course start page in MyCourses
    - Deadline on Friday 24.9.2021 18.00
-



# Questions

# Have an inspiring Autumn!