**Credits and Grading**

**The Finnish Credit System and ECTS**

National credit allocation and accumulation system has been replaced by the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). In this ECTS based system, the annual student workload amounts to 1600 hours. The concept of the student workload refers to the time required to achieve the set learning outcomes of a programme. A total of 60 credits (in Finnish opintopiste) will measure the workload of a full-time student during one academic year; a total of 30 credits is the full-time workload for one semester.

Consequently, there will be no more credit conversion from the ECTS system to the national Finnish system or vice versa, as the credit system used is the ECTS system.

**Grading**

The Senate of the University of Helsinki decided that the University shall apply a six-level grading scale of 0-5 in the grading of basic degrees.

The grading scale is directly comparable to the ECTS grading scale, as shown below. However, there is one important difference: the ECTS system is based on an expectancy of the distribution of different grades, the Finnish system is not. That means that in the Finnish system there is no rule or expectation as to how big a proportion of the participants in any given course can be given what grade; each student is graded on his/her individual performance, not in relation to the performance of others.

**Grading scales (Finnish and ECTS):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Finnish grading scale** | **ECTS grading scale** |
| 5 = excellent (100-90 %) | A |
| 4 = very good (80 %) | B |
| 3 = good (70 % | C |
| 2 = satisfactory (60 %) | D |
| 1 = passable (50 %) | E |
| 0 = fail (<50 %) | F or FX |

In addition to applying this general grading system, pass/fail grading may be applied in cases of practical training and practical skills courses, as decided by the faculty council.

Harri Nyberg, Ph.D., Docent, Senior lecturer

Faculty LLP Erasmus coordinator

University of Helsinki, Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry

[harri.nyberg@helsinki.fi](mailto:harri.nyberg@helsinki.fi)