
The Teaching Style in Denmark

Danish higher education features innovative teaching methods and an informal learning environment designed to promote creativity, self-expression, analytical and critical thinking



Guide

The Teaching Style in Denmark

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STUDY IN DENMARK

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The Teaching Style in Denmark

Did You Know?

Push the boundaries, express yourself, work with others, apply critical thinking and turn new learning into innovative solutions. Be ambitious. Study in Denmark.

Teaching style - characteristics:

- Student-centered learning and open debate during class
- Close collaboration between students and teachers
- Traditional lectures combined with project work with the teacher as a consultant
- Active participation and problem solving rather than passive listening
- Focus on turning new knowledge and learning into innovative solutions

You gain:

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- The ability to work analytically and creatively in a problem-solving environment
- The ability to work independently as well as effectively as a team member
- An internationally recognised qualification
- An international profile - and an excellent foundation for your future career

Did You Know?

Problem Based Learning (PBL) is a key feature of education in Denmark. PBL promotes the students's innovative abilities through problem-based group projects with the teacher as a consultant, and sometimes in collaboration with a company to work on real-world problems.

THINK-PLAY-PARTICIPATE

Students in Denmark are expected to play an active role in their own learning process. Apart from attending traditional lectures, students engage in project work and are encouraged to participate in open discussions with their teachers and fellow students.

Project work & problem based learning

As a student in Denmark you will attend lectures, study independently and undertake projects – on your own and in groups of students. These projects will challenge you to think freely, to use your initiative and be creative. They will also give you experience in using new knowledge to solve complex real-world problems.

In addition to project work, Danish professors often have experience as working professionals, offering students an invaluable practical perspective. Moreover, many Danish educational institutions are partnered with local companies and public organisations for research purposes, and many programmes offer students internships and thus work experience.



What a typical week look like

A typical week of classes will consist of 10 hours of tuition and around 30 hours of preparation, self-study and project work. This, however, varies depending on **the type of higher education institution**.

The on-going evaluation of your progress will take place through oral and written exams.

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The Danish education system

The Danish education system offers high quality education and training at all levels

Here is an overview of the levels of education in Denmark:

- Pre-school
- Primary and lower secondary education
- Upper secondary education
- Vocational education and training
- Higher education
- Adult learning

Before starting pre-school most children in Denmark benefit from day-care services such as nurseries and kindergarten. Pre-school, which is optional, is followed by nine years of compulsory education in primary and lower secondary school. There is an optional tenth form. The upper secondary education system includes a range of opportunities. Academic programmes allow students to apply for entry to higher education. Vocational programmes are aimed at direct entry to the labour market.



The higher education sector includes:

- Artistic Higher Education Institutions (research and/or artistically based undergraduate and postgraduate programmes)
- Universities (research-based undergraduate and postgraduate programmes)
- University Colleges (Academy Profession and professional Bachelor's programmes)
- Business Academies (short-cycle higher education institutions offering Academy Profession and joint Bachelor's degree programmes)
- Adult education. The opportunities for lifelong learning in terms of adult education are many. They are offered at all levels. Individual courses are also offered under the Act on Open Education, either at college or university

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

ACADEMY PROFESSION DEGREE

- 2 years (120 ECTS)
 - Degree from an Academy of Professional Higher Education or a University College
 - Theory and practice in one programme
 - Internships in Denmark or abroad
 - Developed in close collaboration with business and industry
 - Small class sizes and close contact between students and teachers
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PROFESSIONAL BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- 3-4 years (180-240 ECTS)
 - Degree from a University College
 - Aimed at specific professions
 - Theory and practice in one programme
 - Internships in Denmark or abroad
 - Small class sizes and close contact between students and teachers
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TOP-UP DEGREE

- 1½ year (90 ECTS)
 - Degree from a University College or a Business Academy
 - For students who have already completed an AP degree programme
 - Theory and practice in one programme
 - Internships in Denmark or abroad
 - Small class sizes and close contact between students and teachers
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BUSINESS ACADEMY BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- 3½ year (220 ECTS)
 - Degree from a Business Academy
 - Aimed at specific professions
 - Theory and practice in one programme
 - Internships in Denmark or abroad
 - Small class sizes and close contact between students and teachers
-

UNIVERSITY BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- 3 years (180 ECTS)
 - Research-based education
 - Degree from a University
 - Predominantly theoretical
 - Opportunities to undertake study periods or internships abroad
 - Independent studies as well as project work
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ARTISTIC BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- 3 years (180 ECTS)
 - Degree from an Artistic Higher Education Institution
 - Research and/or artistically based education
 - Theory and artistic practice in one programme
 - Opportunities to undertake study periods or internships abroad
 - Independent studies as well as project work
-

POSTGRADUATE DEGREES

MASTER'S DEGREE

- 2 years (120 ECTS)
 - Degree from a University
 - Research-based education
 - Internships in Denmark or abroad
 - Exchange opportunities at universities around the world
 - Access to PhD studies or the labour market
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ARTISTIC MASTER'S DEGREE

- 2 years (120 ECTS)
 - Degree from an Artistic Higher Education Institution
 - Research and/or artistically based education
 - Internships in Denmark or abroad
 - Exchange opportunities at selected Universities and Artistic Higher Education Institution around the world
 - Access to PhD studies or the labour market
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PHD DEGREE

- 3 years (180 ECTS)
 - Degree from a University / Research institution or an Artistic Higher Education Institution
 - Research and teaching in Denmark
 - International Experience and cooperation
 - Opportunities for financial support
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**Useful links**

The Danish Ministry of Children and Education
<http://eng.uvm.dk/>

The Danish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Higher Education
<http://en.ufm.dk/> (<http://en.fivu.dk/>)

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The Danish grading system

The grading system in Denmark applies to all educational institutions. The seven-point scale allows you to easily convert your Danish grades to ECTS credits according to the EU's European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

Below you find a view of the Danish seven-point scale:

7-point grading scale

Grade	Description	ECTS	Old scale (00-13)
12	For an excellent performance displaying a high level of command of all aspects of the relevant material, with no or only a few minor weaknesses.	A	13 11
10	For a very good performance displaying a high level of command of most aspects of the relevant material, with only minor weaknesses.	B	10
7	For a good performance displaying good command of the relevant material but also some weaknesses.	C	9 8
4	For a fair performance displaying some command of the relevant material but also some major weaknesses.	D	7
02	For a performance meeting only the minimum requirements for acceptance.	E	6
00	For a performance which does not meet the minimum requirements for acceptance.	Fx	5 03
-3	For a performance which is unacceptable in all respects.	F	00

In some cases, a simple pass or fail can be given instead of grades. Your performance will be assessed according to academic targets set for the specific subject or course. For further information about grading, please visit the [Ministry of Education - Order on the Grading Scale and Other Forms of Assessment \(primary and secondary school, short to medium-cycle higher education\)](http://fivu.dk/en/education-and-institutions/the-danish-education-system/grading-system/-ministry_of_education_order_262_2007_grading_scale.pdf) (http://fivu.dk/en/education-and-institutions/the-danish-education-system/grading-system/-ministry_of_education_order_262_2007_grading_scale.pdf) and [Ministry of Science - Order on the Grading Scale and Other Forms of Assessment \(university education\)](http://fivu.dk/en/education-and-institutions/the-danish-education-system/grading-system/-ministry_of_education_order_262_2007_grading_scale.pdf) (http://fivu.dk/en/education-and-institutions/the-danish-education-system/grading-system/-ministry_of_education_order_262_2007_grading_scale.pdf).

Useful links

Ministry of Education - Order on the Grading Scale and Other Forms of Assessment (PDF)

http://ufm.dk/en/education-and-institutions/the-danish-education-system/grading-system/ministry_of_education_order_262_2007_grading_scale.pdf

Ministry of Science - Order on the Grading Scale and Other Forms of Assessment (PDF)

http://ufm.dk/en/education-and-institutions/the-danish-education-system/grading-system/karakterbekendtgørelse_vtu_en.pdf

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