

Curriculum Vitae

Personal details and date of CV

Lonka

Kirsti Maaria

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5487-3964>

08.05.2025

Degrees

June 3, 1997, PhD, psychology, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts, University of Helsinki, Finland; P.O. Box 9, 00014 University of Helsinki, Finland.

November 11, 1994, Licentiate, psychology and Legalized Clinical Psychologist, University of Helsinki, Finland

Aug 1988 – Jan 1990, PhD coursework, Centre for Applied Cognitive Science, OISE, Toronto, Canada.

Nov 13, 1986, MA, psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Helsinki, Finland

Title of Docent/Adjunct professor: June 8, 2000, educational psychology, Faculty of Education, University of Helsinki.

Current employment

2005- Professor of Educational Psychology, Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki

2024-Academic Director, Helsinki Education Hub – a joint EdTech start up incubator by City of Helsinki and University of Helsinki (placed in Faculty of Educational Sciences)

2022-2027 Member of Board of Trustees, Sharjah Education Academy, United Arab Emirates,

2012–, Founder and Chair of Board, ELE Finland Oy/Ltd.

Previous work experience

2012–2013, Vice Dean (Public Relations), Faculty of Behavioural Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland

2007–2011, Foreign Adjunct Professor, Dept of LIME, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

2001–2005, Professor of Medical Education, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

2002–2004, Director of the Centre for Cognition, Understanding and Learning, The Department of Learning, Informatics, Management and Ethics (LIME), Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

August 1, 1996 – 2001, Senior lecturer and Director, Development and Research Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Helsinki, Finland, (tutkijalehtori, Pedagogisen yksikön johtaja)

2000 (August – December), Researcher, Academy of Finland

1986–1996, Junior lecturer, Department of Psychology, University of Helsinki, Finland, (assistant)

Research funding and grants

2019–2025, Research, **DigiConsumers - Learning to be digital consumers**. *How to improve young people's financial skills in a technologically driven consumer society?* DigiConsumers.fi, Finnish Strategic Research Funding, 1 328 375 euro; **PI of WP2**, University of Helsinki; PI of the whole consortium is prof Terhi-Anna Wilska (JYU, Finland).

2018–2023, Research, **Growing Mind**, Growingmind.fi, Finnish Strategic Research Funding, the total budget of the project 6 million euro; **involved in application and research Kirsti Lonka participant in WP1 and WP6**, PI Kai Hakkarainen.

2018–2021, Research, **Bridging the Gaps – Affective, cognitive, and social consequences of digital revolution for youth development and education**, Academy of Finland, totally 570 000 euro; CO-PI Kirsti Lonka with PI Professor Katariina Salmela-Aro.

2018–2019, Research, **Learning2Be**, EU Erasmus+ project, about 300 000 euro; PI with CO-PI Markus Talvio, University of Helsinki.

2015–2017, Research, Department of Teacher Education part of **3Spaces project** – ESR project coordinated by Haaga Helia University of Applied Sciences, about 200 000 euro; PI.

2013–2016, Research, **Mind the Gap** – between digital natives and educational practices, Academy of Finland Mind Program, 970 000 euro; PI (collaborators professor Kai Hakkarainen, Kimmo Alho and Katariina Salmela-Aro).

2011–2015, Research, **Indoor environments program**, funded by TEKES, Dept of Teacher Education, 920 000 euro; PI of **WP4 Task 1.1**. User needs.

2012, Development of new spaces for learning, University of **Helsinki World Design Capital 2012 project: ELE** – Future learning environments in teacher education, University of Helsinki and International Design Foundation, Dept of Teacher Education, 140 000 euro plus business collaboration; Leader.

Research supervision and leadership experience

2005–, Director, Research Group for Educational Psychology, Faculty of Behavioural Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland

2022–2024, Member of Board, PsyCo Graduate School, Faculty of Behavioural Science, University of Helsinki, Finland

2019–2022 Vice Chair, Psyco/CLIC Doctoral School, University of Helsinki, Finland

2010, Vice Chair (research), Department of Teacher Education, University of Helsinki, Finland

2009–2010, Vice Director, CICERO Learning Network www.cicero.fi

2007–2009, Vice Chair (research), Department of Applied Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland

Teaching merits

1988–2025 Teaching various courses at the University of Helsinki

2013– Member, Teachers' Academy, University of Helsinki and their first Chair.

2005–, Director of Research Group for Educational Psychology: responsible for courses in educational psychology in Finnish and English (yearly 600+ students). Supervised 80+ MA theses

Supervised Dissertations: (1999-2025): 26 (out of which 15 as 1st supervisor)

Postdoctoral Fellows (2002-2025): 10 (in Karolinska Institutet and University of Helsinki)

Awards and honours:

2018–2025 Extraordinary Professor, NWU, Vaal Trangle Campus, South Africa

2022 Gold Medal of The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies for 30 years' service in the benefit of science in 2022

2013- Member and President (2013–2014) of Teachers' Academy of University of Helsinki

2012 First Class Knight of the White Rose of Finland admitted by the President of the Republic Sauli Niinistö

2012 Good Teacher "Magister Bonus" in 2012 (Vuoden opettaja, HYY)

2012 "Communicator of the Year 2012 Award" (Vuoden viestijä 2012), University of Helsinki, Finland

2006–2008 J.H. Bijtel Visiting Honorary Professor, University Medical Centre Groningen, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, 2006–2008

Other key academic merits, such as

Member of University of Helsinki Collegium, Finland, 2022–2025

Member of Supervisory Board, Finnish Cultural Foundation, Oct 1, 2016 – Sept 30, 2021

Member of Master Programme Board, Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland, 2019–2022

Associate Editor, Learning and Instruction, 2014–2017

Invited Expert, Committee for Culture and Learning (CULT) European Parliament, May 2015

Member of the Innovation Committee of the University of Helsinki, Finland, 2014–2016

Member of Board, ICT Centre of the University of Helsinki, Finland, 2014–2018

Associate Editor, British Journal of Educational Psychology, 2012–2016

Board Member OPMON Graduate School, 2010–2013

Member of Faculty Council, Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki (Behavioral Sciences 2007-2014; Educational Sciences 2015–2017)

Board Member of University Collegium, University of Helsinki, Finland, 2007–2009

Chair, Prize Committee, Karolinska Institutet International Prize for Research in Medical Education, 2003–2006

Scientific and societal impact

Over 150 peer-reviewed publications <https://researchportal.helsinki.fi/en/persons/kirsti-lonka/publications/>