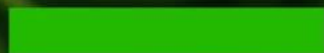




# LAND OF THE CURIOUS



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# COMMENT - KAPPAS II

20 May 2026

Annikka Nurkka

Quality system manager

LUT University





## KAPPAS II @ LUT

➤ LUT has participated in nationally coordinated assessments of learning outcomes of HEIs three times since 2012: AHELO, Kappas I (CLA+) , Kappas II

➤ **For LUT the aim has been to**

- increase the understanding and importance of general skills as learning outcomes of university degrees,
- strengthen the role of transferable skills in curriculum planning,
- gain insight into our students' general competencies and their development in studies.

➤ The assessments have supported us achieving these objectives, but...





# STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ASSESSMENT

It has been difficult to recruit students for the voluntary test

- AHELO in 2012 response rate 12% (25 graduates),
  - KAPPAS in 2019 response rate 16% (49 graduates) and 45% (88 beginners),
  - KAPPAS II in 2025 response rate ~8% (17 graduates) and ~20% (51 beginners).
- A low number of participants reduces reliability of the results – we can not make conclusions on field of science or degree programme level.
  - The group of participants is likely an unrepresentative sample of our student body: Those who participated are likely to be exceptionally focused on studying and learning.

# AHELO 2012

Figure 2 presents mean scores for institutions with more than 15 participating students. The mean for this institution is shown with a larger shape.

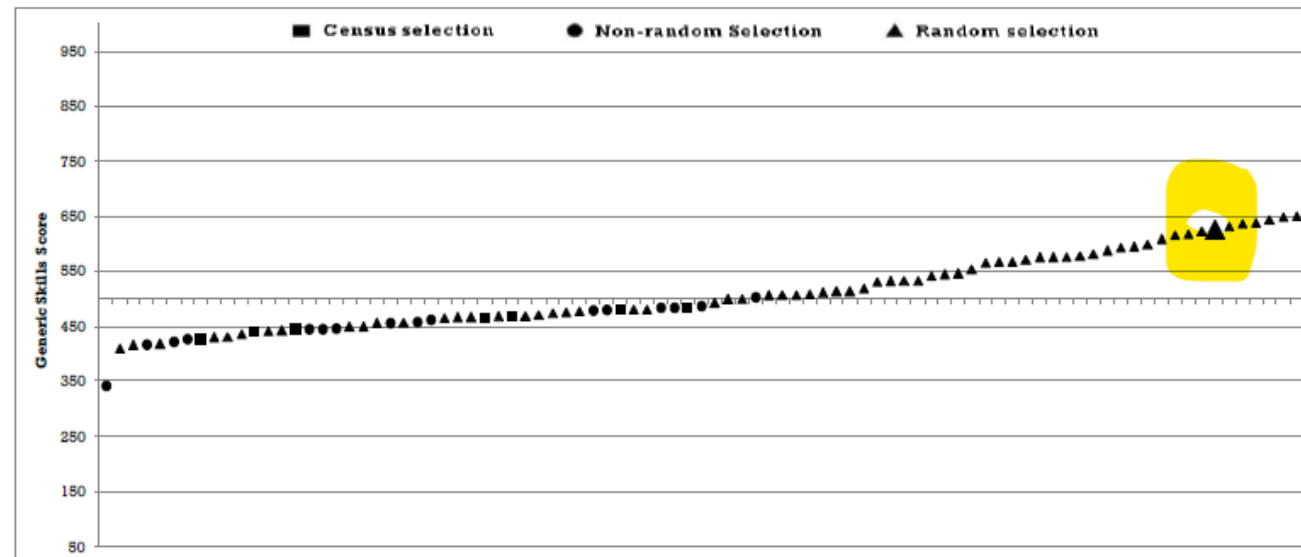


Figure 2: Mean scores for all institutions and for this institution

# KAPPAS 2019

## Number of Entering Students Tested

Number of Students

88

## Summary of CLA+ Results

### TOTAL SCORES

	Mean Score	Standard Deviation	25th Percentile Score	75th Percentile Score
Your Institution	1114	92	1045	1185
Finland	1071	117	996	1153
International Benchmark	1056	149	950	1163

## Number of Exiting Students Tested

Number of Students

49

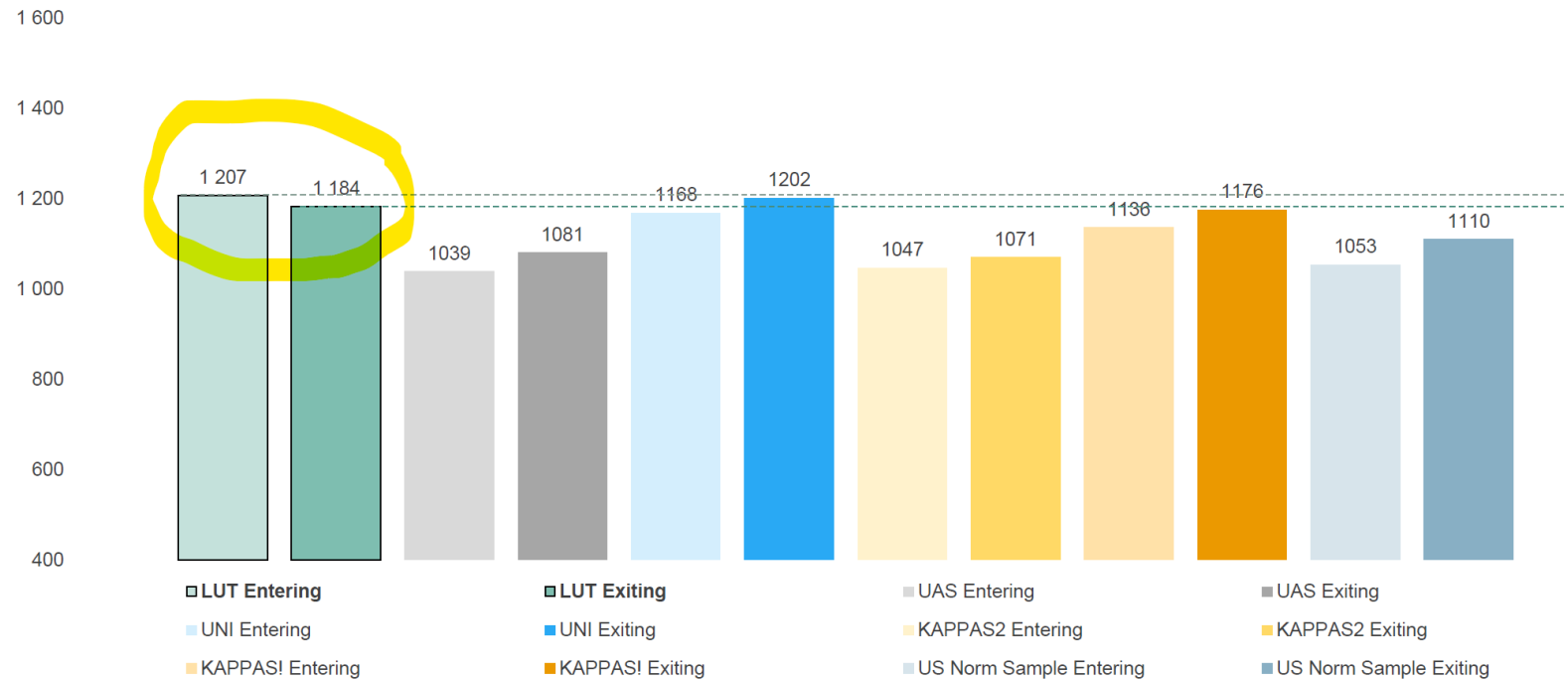
## Summary of CLA+ Results

### TOTAL SCORES

	Mean Score	Standard Deviation	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Score	75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Score	Effect-size, vs Entering
Your Institution	1107	99	1050	1179	-0.07
Finland	1101	118	1024	1186	0.26
International Benchmark	1110	148	1009	1217	0.36

# KAPPAS 2025

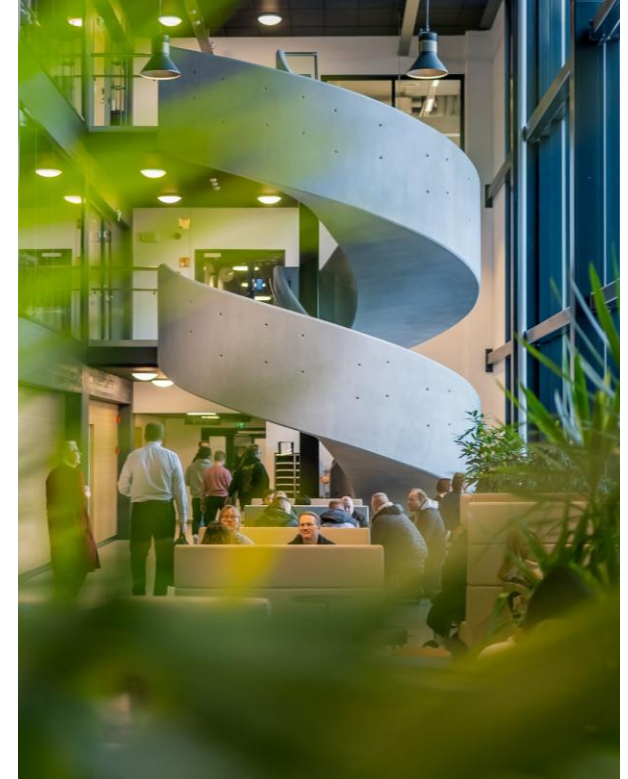
## Average Total Score *Entering vs Exiting Students*





## KEY RESULTS FOR LUT

- » Samples are too small → we need to interpret the results with caution
- » Key Findings @ LUT
  - » Very high competence level already at entry and almost no low-performing students
  - » Average scores do not increase during studies at LUT → *Question remains, what is behind that finding??*
- » The main impact has been to provide data for national analysis; the university-specific results are of little use
- » LUT has benefitted teacher trainings on transferable skills given by project researchers





## REFLECTION – THREE POINTS

- » In 2012 there was discussion about University Pisa and ranking universities based on student learning outcomes by AHELO –tool, but these Finnish exercises show that the outcome is not even close to that.
- » As effort in taking the test predicts student performance, pedagogically the most important question is *how to make students give their best effort in learning*.
- » I have learned something about students participation in voluntary activities.



**Thank you for good co-operation throughout the various stages of this interesting research project!**