Teacher training in Denmark - primary and lower secondary

Takes place at seven University Colleges spread over the country

The frames of the education is decided by the Ministry of Education, expressed in broad terms of knowledge and skills for each subject

Curriculum in teacher training

Content for four years training

- Citizenship and philosophy (17 ECTS)
- Psychology, didactics and educational organisation and pedagogic (33 ECTS)
- School Practice (36 ECTS)
- 1st specialisation: Danish, maths or science (72 ECTS)
- 2nd and for some students 3rd specialisation (72 ECTS or (36 + 36) ECTS)
- Bachelor project (10 ECTS)

Science specialisations

- Biology (36 ECTS)
- Geography (36 ECTS)
- Physics/chemistry (72 ECTS, combined with nature/technology 36 ECTS)
- Nature/technology (72 ECTS, combined with physics/chemistry 36 ECTS)

A possible combination:

Biology, Physics/chemistry and Nature/technology – a total of 144

In-service training and teacher professional development

- In recent two or three years the Ministry of Education has supported in-service training of science teachers
 - the most common is training of danish or math teachers in nat/tech
- No systematic use of inquiry-based science teaching neither in training nor in in-service training of science teachers

Science culture in schools

Some schools have special emphasis on the development of a science culture

Such schools often participate in courses with a group of teachers – or educators from an UC offers courses on the school and participates/observes teaching of the students in classrooms