

Dr. Niemivirta, an adjunct professor of educational psychology, currently serves as the head of the educational section at the Institute of Behavioural Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland. He is also one of the founding members of the Centre for Educational Assessment at Helsinki University, which conducts large scale evaluation studies in both national and international contexts (e.g., PISA and EU research on learning indicators). As a motivation researcher, he has some specialized expertise in the areas of large-scale comparative research, longitudinal research, psychological experiments, and advanced methodology. For some years now, his research has focused on the situational dynamics in motivation and task engagement as well as on the developmental relationships between motivation, subjective well-being and achievement. His most recent work centers on linking educational psychology and cognitive neuroscience, and investigates, among other things, how brain activity related to error processing is associated with individual differences in motivational tendencies and neurocognitive functioning.

