250145 - ENGGEOTEC - Geotechnical Engineering

Coordinating unit: 250 - ETSECCPB - Barcelona School of Civil Engineering
Teaching unit: 751 - DECA - Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Academic year: 2017
Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Compulsory)
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2017). (Teaching unit Compulsory)
ECTS credits: 4,5
Teaching languages: Spanish

Teaching staff
Coordinator: ANTONIO GENS SOLE
Others: ANTONIO GENS SOLE, JEAN VAUNAT

Opening hours
Timetable: To be arranged

Degree competences to which the subject contributes

Specific:
3029. Knowledge of soil and rock geotechnics and mechanics and the ability to apply this knowledge in carrying out studies, projects, constructions and exploitations in which earthmoving, foundations and retention structures are necessary.
3046. Students will acquire the skills needed to build geotechnical works.

General:
3104. Students will learn to identify, formulate and solve a range of engineering problems. They will be expected to show initiative in interpreting and solving specific civil engineering problems and to demonstrate creativity and decision-making skills. Finally, students will develop creative and systematic strategies for analysing and solving problems.
3106. Students will learn to assess the complexity of the problems examined in the different subject areas, identify the key elements of the problem statement, and select the appropriate strategy for solving it. Once they have chosen a strategy, they will apply it and, if the desired solution is not reached, determine whether modifications are required. Students will use a range of methods and tools to determine whether their solution is correct or, at the very least, appropriate to the problem in question. More generally, students will be encouraged to consider the importance of creativity in science and technology.
3107. Students will learn to identify, model and analyse problems from open situations, consider alternative strategies for solving them, select the most appropriate solution on the basis of reasoned criteria, and consider a range of methods for validating their results. More generally, students will learn to work confidently with complex systems and to identify the interactions between their components.
3110. Students will learn to plan, design, manage and maintain systems suitable for use in civil engineering. They will develop a systematic approach to the complete life-cycle of a civil engineering infrastructure, system or service, which includes drafting and finalising project plans, identifying the basic materials and technologies required, making decisions, managing the different project activities, performing measurements, calculations and assessments, ensuring compliance with specifications, regulations and compulsory standards, evaluating the social and environmental impact of the processes and techniques used, and conducting economic analyses of human and material resources.
3112. Students will develop an understanding of the different functions of engineering, the processes involved in the life-cycle of a construction project, process or service, and the importance of systematising the design process. They will learn to identify and interpret the stages in preparing a product design specification (PDS), draft and optimise specifications and planning documents, and apply a systematic design process to the implementation and operation
Students will learn to apply knowledge of geotechnical engineering, soil mechanics and rock mechanics in studies, projects, construction work and operations that require earthworks, foundations or retaining walls. They will also develop the skills to carry out geotechnical construction projects.

Upon completion of the course, students will have acquired the ability to: 1. Design a shallow foundation structure on the basis of a geological-geotechnical study. 2. Design a deep foundation structure on the basis of a geological-geotechnical study. 3. Design a retaining wall and carry out a stability and in-service performance analysis.

Site-investigation techniques; Behaviour of shallow foundations, calculation of bearing capacity and settlement, design and checking; Behaviour of deep foundations, calculation of bearing capacity and settlement, design and checking; Lateral earth pressure theory and its application to the calculation of pressure coefficients in retaining walls; Behaviour of rigid and flexible retaining walls including drainage, stability monitoring, anchorage elements, and stability and in-service performance analysis; Selection of methods for analysing, designing and checking geotechnical structures in foundations and retaining structures and carrying out road-related tasks such as analysing the stability of slopes, embankments, earthworks and underground work on the basis of geological/geotechnical studies.
# Study load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total learning time: 112h 30m</th>
<th>Hours large group:</th>
<th>26h</th>
<th>23.11%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hours medium group:</td>
<td>13h</td>
<td>11.56%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hours small group:</td>
<td>6h</td>
<td>5.33%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guided activities:</td>
<td>4h 30m</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self study:</td>
<td>63h</td>
<td>56.00%</td>
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</tbody>
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## Content

| Introduction | Learning time: 2h 24m  
|--------------|---------------------|
| Description:| Theory classes: 1h  
|             | Self study: 1h 24m |

| Site investigation | Learning time: 7h 11m  
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Description:       | Theory classes: 3h  
| Preliminary documentation | Self study: 4h 11m |
| Density and depth of investigation |  
| Surface investigation |  
| Deep investigation |  
| Trenches and boreholes |  
| Piezometric observations |  
| Sampling |  
| Soil properties and parameters |  
| Laboratory tests |  

| In situ tests | Learning time: 14h 23m  
|---------------|---------------------|
| Description:| Theory classes: 3h  
| Standard penetration test (SPT) | Practical classes: 3h  
| Cone penetration test | Self study: 8h 23m |
| Dynamic penetration test |  
| Vane test |  
| Pressuremeter test |  
| Plate load test |  
| Seismic tests |  
| Permeability tests |  
| In situ testing exercises |  

## Shallow Foundations

**Description:**
- Introduction
- Bearing capacity
- Settlements
- Design criteria
  - Factor of safety against failure
  - Admissible settlements
- Design of a shallow foundation empirical
- Allowable pressure
- In situ tests

**Learning time:** 4h 48m
- Theory classes: 2h
- Self study: 2h 48m

## Deep foundations

**Description:**
- Preliminaries. Classification
- Methods of pile construction
- Mechanisms of resistance of piles
- Bearing capacity of an isolated pile
  - Tip resistance
  - Shaft resistance
- Special cases: gravel, rock
- Bearing capacity of a pile group
- Settlements of a single pile
- Settlements of a pile group
- Piles subjected to lateral loads
- Negative friction
- Foundation exercises

**Learning time:** 16h 48m
- Theory classes: 4h
- Practical classes: 3h
- Self study: 9h 48m

## Test

**Learning time:** 14h 23m
- Laboratory classes: 6h
- Self study: 8h 23m
### Calculation of earth pressures

**Description:**
- Coefficient of earth pressure at rest
- Rankine active and passive states
- Limit equilibrium
- Method of Coulomb
- Additional earth pressures due to surcharges

**Earth pressure exercises**

**Learning time:** 9h 36m  
- Theory classes: 2h  
- Practical classes: 2h  
- Self study: 5h 36m

### Gravity structures

**Description:**
- General  
  - Different types of structure (gravity walls, rockfill walls, walls in L)  
  - Assessment process for geotechnical stability  
  - Gravity walls  
  - Evaluation of the stability (sliding, overturning and bearing capacity failure)  
  - Structural stability  
  - Global stability  
  - Pre-design  
  - Drainage. Constructive aspects  
- Discussion exercises  
- Rockfill walls  
  - Morphology  
  - Evaluation of stability  
  - Drainage  
  - Commissioning work  
- Cantilever wall  
  - Types of structure  
  - Evaluation of earth pressure  
  - Evaluation of stability  
  - Design  
  - Construction aspects

**Gravity structures exercises**

**Learning time:** 14h 23m  
- Theory classes: 4h  
- Practical classes: 2h  
- Self study: 8h 23m
### Reinforced earth

**Learning time:** 12h
- Theory classes: 4h
- Practical classes: 1h
- Self study: 7h

**Description:**
- Reinforced Earth
- Green Walls
- Bolts
- Anchors

Reinforced earth exercises

### Diaphragm walls

**Learning time:** 12h
- Theory classes: 3h
- Practical classes: 2h
- Self study: 7h

**Description:**
- Introduction
- Construction aspects
- Distributions of pressure on diaphragm walls
  - Cantilever wall
  - Wall with a row of anchors
  - Calculation with subgrade coefficient
  - Three-dimensional aspects
- Drainage around an excavation
  - Flow net and stability against piping
  - Methods of drainage and control of ground water (pumping, injection, jet grouting)
- Proppping
  - Distribution of earth pressures
  - Verification of stability
- Surface settlements

Diaphragm wall exercises
Qualification system

There will be two exams: one at an intermediate stage of the course (Note: Nint) and the other at the end of the course (Note: Nfin).

Exams consist of a part with questions on concepts related to the learning objectives of the course and some exercises.

The final grade is obtained from the maximum of Nfin or (0.4*Nint + 0.6*Nfin).

Criteria for re-evaluation qualification and eligibility: Students that failed the ordinary evaluation and have regularly attended all evaluation tests will have the opportunity of carrying out a re-evaluation test during the period specified in the academic calendar. Students who have already passed the test or were qualified as non-attending will not be admitted to the re-evaluation test. The maximum mark for the re-evaluation exam will be five over ten (5.0). The non-attendance of a student to the re-evaluation test, in the date specified will not grant access to further re-evaluation tests. Students unable to attend any of the continuous assessment tests due to certifiable force majeure will be ensured extraordinary evaluation periods.

These tests must be authorized by the corresponding Head of Studies, at the request of the professor responsible for the course, and will be carried out within the corresponding academic period.

Regulations for carrying out activities

In the final exam, all the course matter will be considered regardless of the grade in the intermediate examination.

Bibliography

Basic:

