Course guides
330119 - SC - Communication Systems

Unit in charge: Manresa School of Engineering
Teaching unit: 750 - EMIT - Department of Mining, Industrial and ICT Engineering.

Degree:
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS AND AUTOMATIC CONTROL ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2009). (Optional subject). 
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ICT SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Optional subject). 
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS AND AUTOMATIC CONTROL ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2016). (Optional subject).

Academic year: 2020  ECTS Credits: 6.0  Languages: Catalan, Spanish, English

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: ILKER DEMIRKOL

Others:

DEGREE COMPETENCES TO WHICH THE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTES

Specific:
E.30. (ENG) El coneixement de l'arquitectura de les xarxes de comunicacions i la seva aplicació així com la capacitat de dissenyar, desplegar i administrar xarxes de comunicacions, especialment xarxes de computadors.
E.31. (ENG) La capacitat de descriure, programar, utilitzar, avaluar i optimitzar protocols i interfeïrcies de comunicació dels diferents nivells d'una arquitectura de xarxa.
E.32. (ENG) El coneixement dels principals serveis de xarxa i la seva aplicació, així com la capacitat de dissenyar i implementar nous serveis.
E.51. (ENG) La capacitat d' especificar, analitzar, dissenyar i avaluar circuits i sistemes de comunicacions així com el coneixement dels principis i subsistemes que intervenen en els sistemes de comunicacions mitjançant ones radioelèctriques i òptiques.

Transversal:
E.70. (ENG) El coneixement i la capacitat d'usar les eines i instrumentació existents per a l'anàlisi, el disseny, el desenvolupament i la verificació de sistemes electrònics, informàtics i de comunicacions.
E.71. (ENG) Capacitat per desenvolupar les activitats pròpies del grau tenint en compte els estándards, reglaments i normes reguladores corresponents.
E.72. (ENG) Capacitat per modelar i simular sistemes de l'àmbit del grau i aplicar els resultats a la resolució de problemes d'aquest àmbit.

3. EFFICIENT ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION - Level 3. Communicating clearly and efficiently in oral and written presentations. Adapting to audiences and communication aims by using suitable strategies and means.
4. TEAMWORK - Level 3. Managing and making work groups effective. Resolving possible conflicts, valuing working with others, assessing the effectiveness of a team and presenting the final results.
5. EFFECTIVE USE OF INFORMATION RESOURCES - Level 3. Planning and using the information necessary for an academic assignment (a final thesis, for example) based on a critical appraisal of the information resources used.
6. SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING - Level 3. Applying the knowledge gained in completing a task according to its relevance and importance. Deciding how to carry out a task, the amount of time to be devoted to it and the most suitable information sources.
7. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.
TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course consists of face-to-face activities consisting of 2 hours a week in the classroom (large group) and 2 hours a week in the laboratory (small group). The student performs learning through various mechanisms. In the participatory lecture classes the contents of the subject are presented, where teaching methods of cooperative learning and active learning are used. These methods will allow interaction among students and between the students and the teacher.

In the laboratory classes, the students carry out a previous work that helps to put in context the work that is intended to be carried out in the laboratory. The laboratory activity itself is carried out in groups of two students and allows student to experiment with certain aspects developed in the subject.

Through the course project, students will practice problem-based learning. The project will provide students with the opportunity to develop a solution to a realistic engineering problem, without placing too many restrictions on the chosen solution. The writing of the memory and the presentation of the project at the end of the course allows working the oral and written communication skills.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

At the end of the Communication Systems course, with a focus on wireless networks, the student will be able to:

- Contrast different wireless network system solutions for a given application
- Design wireless network protocols for different OSI layers
- Classify wireless network architectures
- Interpret about past / future evolution of wireless networks
- Analyze a wireless communication channel
- Explain the different components of wireless communication systems.

It is advisable that the student has taken the subject of Communication Networks, since the basic knowledge of networks explained in this subject is required.

STUDY LOAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours large group</td>
<td>36,0</td>
<td>24.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self study</td>
<td>90,0</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours small group</td>
<td>24,0</td>
<td>16.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total learning time: 150 h

CONTENTS

1. Wireless network fundamentals

Description:
Types of wireless networks:
WLAN, WPAN, WWAN, LP-WAN, Mobile Networks
The evolution of communication systems
Main processes of a communication system: modulation, channel coding, propagation of radio signals, etc.

Related activities:
All the relevant ones.

Full-or-part-time: 35h
Theory classes: 8h
Laboratory classes: 6h
Self study: 21h
2. Medium access control for wireless networks (ENG)

Description:
Random access techniques: ALOHA, CSMA
Collision avoidance techniques: CSMA/CA, RTS/CTS

Related activities:
All the relevant ones.

Full-or-part-time: 20h
Theory classes: 6h
Laboratory classes: 2h
Self study: 12h

3. Mobile Networks

Description:
Evolution of mobile networks
Fundamental concepts: Cells, handover, frequency reuse, ...
The future: 5G, 6G

Related activities:
All the relevant ones.

Full-or-part-time: 35h
Theory classes: 8h
Laboratory classes: 6h
Self study: 21h

4. Wireless Local Area Networks (WLAN)

Description:
Standards: WiFi/IEEE 802.11
Alternative WLAN technologies

Related activities:
All the relevant ones.

Full-or-part-time: 30h
Theory classes: 6h
Laboratory classes: 6h
Self study: 18h
5. Wireless personal area networks (WPAN)

Description:
Bluetooth
IEEE 802.15.4, ZigBee
NFC/RFID

Related activities:
All the relevant ones.

Full-or-part-time: 15h
Theory classes: 4h
Laboratory classes: 2h
Self study: 9h

6. Low Power Wide Area Networks (LP-WAN) (ENG)

Description:
LoRA
SigFox
NB-IoT

Related activities:
All the relevant ones.

Full-or-part-time: 15h
Theory classes: 4h
Laboratory classes: 2h
Self study: 9h

ACTIVITIES

1. Lectures

Description:
In the lectures, the theoretical aspects of the subject will be developed. We will serve teaching methods of cooperative learning and active learning. These methods will allow interaction among the students, and between the student and the teacher.

Specific objectives:
At the end of these activities, the student will be able to:

• Design wireless network protocols for different OSI layers
• Interpret about past / future evolution of wireless networks
• Analyze a wireless communication channel
• Explain the different components of wireless communication systems

Material:
Recommended bibliography
Published teaching material

Delivery:
Regular quizzes will be conducted, which will contribute proportionally to the QUIZ variable.

Full-or-part-time: 36h
Theory classes: 36h
2. Study of the contents

Description:
The study of the contents is the individual and/or collective activity that leads to understand and assume the knowledge, vocabulary and techniques that are part of the contents of the subject.

Specific objectives:
At the end of these activities, the student will be able to:

• Contrast different wireless network system solutions for a given application
• Classify wireless network architectures

Material:
Recommended bibliography
Published teaching material

Full-or-part-time: 60h
Self study: 60h

3. Laboratory classes

Description:
Laboratory practices will be carried out in groups of two people. The student will have the statement of the practice a priori published in Athena. The laboratory will have a computer equipped with the necessary software to simulate communication systems. At the same time, it will have the necessary hardware to experiment with commercial digital devices. The teacher will monitor the evolution of the students.

Specific objectives:
Upon completion of these activities, he / she may:

• Evaluate different wireless network system solutions for a given application
• Develop wireless network protocols for different OSI layers
• Analyze a wireless communication channel

Material:
Information on the practice to be carried out.
Laboratory equipment and/or PC’s.
Recommended bibliography.
Published teaching material.

Delivery:
Before carrying out the practice, the students will do an individual prior study for the practice to be done. During the session the achievement of the objectives of each laboratory session will be assessed taking into account the degree of understanding of the work demonstrated for each student. At the end of each practice, each group will give the practice teacher a file explaining the work done and the knowledge gained. The evaluation in these activities defines the LAB variable in the overall grading.

Full-or-part-time: 24h
Laboratory classes: 24h
4. Term project

Description:
The project consists of the implementation and testing of a communication network solution with the objective announced during the course. This activity is carried out in groups of two and also involves writing an exposition of the project in the last class of the course.

Specific objectives:
At the end of these activities, the student will be able to:

- Develop and evaluate wireless network system solutions for a given application
- Design wireless network protocols for different OSI layers
- Analyze a wireless communication channel
- Explain the different components of wireless communication systems

Material:
Project statement
Report example

Delivery:
1. The project report.
2. The source code resulting from the project.
3. A presentation in the last class of the course.

Full-or-part-time: 20h
Self study: 20h

5. Exams

Description:
At the end of the course, a final globalizing test of the acquired knowledge will be carried out.

Specific objectives:
At the end of these activities, the student will be able to:

- Contrast different wireless network system solutions for a given application
- Interpret about past / future evolution of wireless networks
- Classify wireless network architectures
- Explain the different components of wireless communication systems
- Assess wireless network protocols for different OSI layers
- Analyze a wireless communication channel

Material:
Exam
The compilation of the entire course

Delivery:
The final exam score defines the variable FIN

Full-or-part-time: 10h
Self study: 10h

GRADING SYSTEM

The final grade for the course will be obtained as follows:

Final grade = 0.30 * QUIZ + 0.20 * PRJ + 0.25 * LAB + 0.25 * FIN
EXAMINATION RULES.

All activities are compulsory.
If any of the activities of the subject are not carried out, it will be graded with zero.
The completion of laboratory activities is a necessary condition to pass the subject.
The dates, formats and other delivery conditions that are established will be mandatory.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:

Complementary: