

Course guides

250499 - TFM - Master's Thesis

Last modified: 06/10/2020

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Civil Engineering
Teaching unit: 751 - DECA - Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Degree: MASTER'S DEGREE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING (PROFESSIONAL TRACK) (Syllabus 2012). (Project subject).
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Academic year: 2020 **ECTS Credits:** 25.0 **Languages:** Catalan, English, Spanish

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: MIGUEL ANGEL ESTRADA ROMEU

Others: MIGUEL ANGEL ESTRADA ROMEU

DEGREE COMPETENCES TO WHICH THE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTES

Specific:

8210. Once they have obtained all the credits required by the curriculum, students will have to write, present and defend an original piece of individual work to a panel of examiners. This piece of work must be a comprehensive civil engineering project of a professional standard that synthesises the skills acquired in the master's degree course.

Transversal:

8561. TEAMWORK: Being able to work in an interdisciplinary team, whether as a member or as a leader, with the aim of contributing to projects pragmatically and responsibly and making commitments in view of the resources that are available.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The TFM will be developed under the supervision of a faculty member of the Civil engineering School of Barcelona. Therefore, student must require the necessary interviews with the supervisor to ensure the proper development and quality of the work. In case the TFM is presented and defended at a foreign university within the framework of mobility agreements signed by the Civil engineering School of Barcelona, the student must find a supervisor at the host university.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

Specialization subject in which knowledge on specific competences is intensified.

Knowledge and skills at specialization level that permit the development and application of techniques and methodologies at advanced level.

Contents of specialization at master level related to research or innovation in the field of engineering.

PROMOTION AND MANAGEMENT OF ENGINEERING PROJECTS: The ability to identify and study society's needs and to transform these needs into infrastructure and services projects. The ability to write, develop and implement a project using knowledge of basic subjects and technologies; decision-making abilities; the ability to meet the needs for which it is designed; the ability to assess the social and environmental impact of the technical solutions adopted; and the ability to assess the funding and material and human resources needed to carry it out.

CONTENTS



TFM

Description:

Work load

The estimated workload of TFM is 4 months full time. The development of TFM will always be guided by a supervisor. The supervisor will be always a professor of the Civil Engineering School of Barcelona when the TFM isn't developed within an exchange program at a foreign university. This supervisor must perform a function of student guidance and advice throughout the process, from the moment of topic selection. It is also responsible for authorizing or not the presentation of TFM in a panel of examiners. Only after the approval of his/her supervisor, the student can submit the TFM project. Additionally, the student may have an external supervisor (from the professional field, out of the University).

Description

1. Type of TFM

The TFM may include:

- * An engineering project, basic or constructive
- * A technical study
- * A research project

In either of these modes, it is necessary that the topic of TFM has a clear connection to civil engineering and the subjects studied in the master. It has to be an original work of the student.

2. TFM documents

Students must write a report whose structure depends on the type of TFM. This report can be written in Catalan, Spanish, English or French. The use of other languages must be approved by the Head of Studies.

2.1 Engineering Project

If TFM is a construction project, the TFM documents should include: 1. Report and Annexes 2. Maps 3. Terms of Reference 4. Budget. In this case, it will be appreciated that the project is complete in all its documents and that the student has applied knowledge of various branches of civil engineering, showing a wide overview of constructive development and the integration of constructive solution in the territory. Apart from the technical proposal, an economic sustainability study and the execution plan of the work should be addressed.

If TFM is a basic project, the documentation should include: 1. Report and Annexes 2. Maps 3. Terms of reference (may not exist) 4. Budget (there will be at least an economic assessment). The basic perspective of this TFM makes it unnecessary to reach details in all documents (as in a construction project), but requires more effort on specific aspects of this TFM as alternative studies or economic studies.

2.2 Technical Study

If TFM is a technical study, the report must contain at least the following chapters: 1. Executive Summary 2. Description of the subject of study 3. State of the art 4. The analysis and / or the proposed solution 5 . The conclusions.

2.3 Research Project

If TFM is a research project, the documents must contain at least the following points: 1. Summary 2. Introduction and Objectives 3. State of the art 4. Methodology 5. Results 6. Conclusion 7. References. It should emphasize the novel research contributions in the field.

Specific objectives:

TFM objectives are:

- * Provide an overview of the concepts addressed in the degree, which allows to integrate knowledge from different branches of civil engineering.
- * Stimulate creativity, originality, innovation, entrepreneurship and ability to face challenges and solve problems.



* Deepen important capabilities of a Civil engineer, such as preparing studies, decision making, research, work planning, oral and written presentation, etc.

Full-or-part-time: 2h 24m

Laboratory classes: 1h

Self study : 1h 24m

GRADING SYSTEM

The grading of TFM will be based on an assessment of written documents and oral presentation about the objectives, results and conclusions of TFM to a panel of examiners. The panel will consist of three professors of the School that after the public presentation of TFM assigns a grade based on the following criteria:

Thesis content

- * Originality and innovation (30% of global mark)
- * Comprehensive / integrative / interdisciplinary scope (30% of global mark)

Thesis report

- * Quality of written report (20% of global mark)

Thesis defense

- * Clarity of oral presentation (10% of global mark)
- * Performance in debate with the panel (10% of global mark)

In the case of performing the TFM within a mobility agreement in a foreign university, the final mark will be given by the host university if the work has done individually and has been presented to a panel of at least three faculty members. If these requirements are not met, the student must present and defend TFM in the Civil Engineering School of Barcelona.

EXAMINATION RULES.

Students have two periods for the TFM submission and defense: February and July. Students must submit the TFM report in digital format with electronic signature (via e-secretaria). Moreover, students should provide a list of the main contributions ("highlights") with a written and graphic summary of TFM in the Open Courseware portal.

The TFM will be defended in public session with a panel of three professors from the Civil Engineering School of Barcelona. Students will have approximately 20 minutes to proceed to the oral presentation of the objectives, results and conclusions of TFM. After the presentation, the jury will start a debate with the student, answering some questions about the development and content of the TFM. In the TFM defense room, a computer and a projector will be available to display graphic documents (Microsoft Powerpoint or other).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:

- Escola de Camins. Normativa acadèmica del Màster de Camins, Canals i Ports en tot allò referent al TFM (capítol 5).