Master's degree in Advanced Telecommunication Technologies

The master's degree in Advanced Telecommunications Technologies (master's degree website) is a joint project of the Barcelona School of Telecommunications Engineering (ETSETB) and the Castelldefels School of Telecommunications and Aerospace Engineering (EETAC). The programme offers a broad selection of optional credits that are organised by concentration but also provide enough flexibility for students to create their own profile. On this master’s degree, you can choose one of the concentrations proposed by the schools (technical and technological specialisation at the ETSETB or cross-disciplinary courses at the EETAC) or build your own specific profile by selecting the optional subjects you are interested in at each school.

GENERAL DETAILS

Duration and start date
1 academic year, 60 ECTS credits. Starting September

Timetable and delivery
Mornings and afternoons. Face-to-face

Fees and grants
Approximate fees for the master’s degree, excluding other costs, €1,660 (€2,490 for non-EU residents).
More information about fees and payment options
More information about grants and loans

Language of instruction
English

Location
Barcelona School of Telecommunications Engineering (ETSETB)
Castelldefels School of Telecommunications and Aerospace Engineering (EETAC)

ADMISSION

General requirements
Academic requirements for admission to master's degrees

Specific requirements
Direct admission:
- Bachelor’s degree in Telecommunications Science and Technology
- Bachelor’s degrees that qualify the holder to practise the profession of technical telecommunications engineer:
  - bachelor’s degrees in Audiovisual Systems Engineering, Electronic Systems Engineering, Telecommunications Systems Engineering, and Network Engineering
- Degree in Telecommunications Engineering (pre-EHEA qualification)

Places
40 in September; 20 in February

Pre-enrolment
Pre-enrolment closed (consult the new pre-enrolment periods in the academic calendar).

How to pre-enrol

Enrolment
How to enrol

Legalisation of foreign documents
All documents issued in non-EU countries must be legalised and bear the corresponding apostille.
Professional opportunities
Designing, managing and executing projects in the field of telecommunications engineering, including projects related to:

- Radio, fibre-optic and copper-cable communications systems.
- Computer networks, the internet, local area networks (Ethernet, Wi-Fi).
- Audiovisual content distribution systems: voice networks, video and television distribution networks, and streaming and peer-to-peer (P2P) networks.
- Mobile phone networks.
- Radionavigation, positioning systems (GNSS).
- Artificial intelligence systems based on structured data (textual information) and unstructured data (video, speech).
- Electronic circuits and components: microprocessors, devices (routers, switches, etc.), sensors, actuators, transducers.
- Analogue and digital electronic technology: electronic instrumentation, medical electronics, consumer electronics, control systems, robotics, automation, etc.
- Microtechnology and nanotechnology.
- Applications in bioengineering, telemedicine, e-commerce platforms, smart cities, sensor networks, smart homes, green computing, cloud computing, etc.
- Management and administration of telecommunications companies, including both firms oriented towards planning and design and those involved primarily in the execution of engineering projects.
- Freelance work as an adviser and consultant in the field of telecommunications engineering.
- Sales engineering.
- Public administration: as a member of the statutory or contractual staff of a technical unit of any public administration (in the European Union, Spain, autonomous communities and cities) in the areas of telecommunications and ICT innovation.
- Research, development and innovation: research at public or private centres, or in the RDI departments of large companies.
- Teaching at public and private universities.

Competencies

Generic competencies

Generic competencies are the skills that graduates acquire regardless of the specific course or field of study. The generic competencies established by the UPC are capacity for innovation and entrepreneurship, sustainability and social commitment, knowledge of a foreign language (preferably English), teamwork and proper use of information resources.

Specific competencies:

- Select and use—in telecommunications applications and services such as monitoring and management of network operations, analysis and interpretation of audiovisual data, and design and verification of microelectronic circuits—a variety of automatic learning techniques and build systems that use such techniques for decision making (including autonomous decision making).
- Analyse software-managed complex systems in the area of telecommunications and its applications, such as software-defined radio systems, coding and decoding standards for audiovisual content, and firmware for embedded electronic systems.
- Design and build applications and services in the area of telecommunications based on object-oriented software, in both static and iterative development frameworks, such as software-defined radio systems, coding and decoding standards for audiovisual content, and firmware for embedded electronic systems.
- Design and implement, in the area of telecommunications and its applications, projects that are economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally friendly.
- Integrate telecommunications engineering technologies and systems of a general nature in broader, more multidisciplinary contexts, such as automobiles and mobility, bioengineering, telemedicine and smart cities.
- Individually produce, and present and defend before an examination committee, an original work consisting of an engineering project of a professional nature in the field of information and communication technologies that draws on and demonstrates the competencies acquired on the master’s degree.
The master’s degree in Advanced Telecommunications Technologies, which is taught by the ETSETB in conjunction with the EETAC, is worth 60 ECTS credits and is taught entirely in English. It can be taken full-time or part-time and is designed in such a way that it can be adapted to the needs of students, who have a great deal of flexibility when it comes to choosing courses.

The basic structure is the following:

- 15 ECTS credits for compulsory subjects that are cross-disciplinary and the content of which may be useful in a whole range of ICT specialisations.

- 33 ECTS credits for optional subjects in various ICT areas.

- 12 ECTS credits for the master’s thesis.

Non-curricular placements can be taken alongside the subjects of the master’s degree. In the case of the ETSETB, you will find the information by clicking on the link Work placement, and a list of companies with which it has had agreements in recent years by clicking on this link. In the case of the EETAC, the information is here.

Mobility is possible but has certain limitations. You can take all the subjects over two semesters at the UPC and carry out your master’s thesis at another university in the third semester. Because abroad master’s theses are rarely worth just 12 ECTS credits, it is common for students to carry out a master’s thesis of more than 12 ECTS credits on a mobility programme, even though the UPC will only recognise 12 ECTS credits. If you click on the link Mobility stays you will find the information for the ETSETB; if you click on the link Mobility you will find the information for the EETAC.

Because the master’s degree has many optional subjects, they are grouped into pathways that allow students to concentrate on a particular area of ICT. If students take one of these pathways, the ETSETB or the EETAC issues a certificate stating that they have taken this concentration. The certificate has no legal validity but it can be attached to your curriculum to demonstrate your knowledge of this area.

Each pathway consists of three or four recommended pathway subjects and one or two optional pathway subjects. The
The certificate is issued to students who pass 25 ECTS credits for subjects in the pathway, regardless of whether these are recommended or optional.

The subject Introduction to Research I (RES1) may be included in the credits for a pathway if the topic of the project lies within the area of knowledge of the pathway.

If students' bachelor's degrees insufficiently prepared them to take the pathway they have chosen, they will be asked to take additional subjects in the pathway, which, in general terms, should not mean that they take more than 60 ECTS credits on the master's degree. The academic committee of the master's degree is responsible for analysing students' academic background and proposing bridging courses.

The master's degree can be taken without following a pathway; in this case, students take 33 ECTS credits in an unrestricted choice of optional subjects.

At the EETAC, optional subjects are worth 3 ECTS credits and this allows students to take the required 33 ECTS credits. At the ETSETB, optional subjects are worth 5 ECTS credits, so students can take seminars, which are optional subjects worth 3 ECTS credits that are taught in an intensive format once the examination period at the end of each semester has ended. Two seminars cannot be taken at the same time, but more than one can be taken over the course of the master's degree. Therefore, at the ETSETB there are various ways of completing the 33 optional ECTS credits.

- 6 subjects worth 5 ECTS credits and 1 seminar worth 3 ECTS credits. Students have 60 ECTS credits when they get to the end of the master's degree.

- 5 subjects worth 5 ECTS credits and 3 seminars worth 3 ECTS credits. Students have 60 ECTS credits when they get to the end of the master's degree.

- 7 subjects worth 5 ECTS credits and no seminars. Students have 62 ECTS credits when they get to the end of the master's degree.

Compulsory subjects are taught at the EETAC and the ETSETB at the same time and every semester (twice a year). Optional subjects are taught at just one school and just once a year, whether in the autumn semester or the spring semester. The pathways are also taught at just one school.

Cross-disciplinary pathways (EETAC)

- 5G Networks

- Internet of Things

Communications pathways (ETSETB)

- Antennas, Microwaves and Photonics for Communications and Earth Observation

- Wireless Communications
- Optical Networks

Networks and Communication Protocols pathways (ETSETB)

- Network Engineering

Multimedia pathways (ETSETB)

- Multimedia Processing

Electronics pathways (ETSETB)

- Integrated Systems

- Instrumentation and Sensors

- Micro- and Nanotechnologies for Energy Management

**Electives (33 ECTS)**

- Entrepreneurship for world challenges (5 ECTS)
- Software Architecture (5 ECTS)
- Machine Learning (5 ECTS)

**Master Thesis (12 ECTS)**

**Master Compulsory**

- Machine Learning from data (MLEARN)
- Software Architecture (ARQSOFT)
- Entrepreneurship for world challenges (EWOC)

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