Master's degree in Cybersecurity

The aim of the **master's degree in Cybersecurity** ([master's degree website](#)) is to offer students a solid scientific grounding in the field of information technology security so as to provide society with professionals who are highly specialised in data protection, infrastructure protection and application protection.

**GENERAL DETAILS**

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

**Timetable and delivery**
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
Information on language use in the classroom and students’ language rights.

**Location**
- Barcelona School of Telecommunications Engineering (ETSETB)
- Barcelona School of Informatics (FIB)

**Official degree**
Official degree

**ADMISSION**

**General requirements**
[Academic requirements for admission to master's degrees](#)

**Specific requirements**
English Level B2 is required for admission to the master’s degree and must be demonstrated when you enrol.

**Direct admission**
The following are recommended entrance qualifications for the master's degree:

- Bachelor’s degree in Telecommunications Science and Technology.
- A bachelor’s degree that qualifies the holder for professional practice as a technical telecommunications engineer.
- Bachelor’s degree in Audiovisual Systems Engineering.
- Bachelor’s degree in Electronic Systems Engineering.
- Bachelor’s degree in Telecommunications Systems Engineering.
- Bachelor’s degree in Network Engineering.
- Bachelor’s degree in Electronic Engineering and Telecommunications.
- Bachelor’s degree in Informatics Engineering.
- Pre-EHEA degree in Telecommunications Engineering.
- Pre-EHEA degree in Informatics Engineering.

**Bridging courses**

Exceptionally, applicants with other degrees may be admitted.

The academic committee of the master’s degree reviews these cases and may admit these applicants on the condition...
that they take bridging courses in addition to the 60 credits for the master's degree.

These bridging courses will be subjects on the bachelor's degrees at the schools that teach the master's degree, up to a maximum of 10 ECTS credits.

The number of credits and bridging courses to be taken will depend on the entrance qualification, whether a bachelor's degree or a pre-EHEA degree, and the academic competencies of the applicants, as reflected in their academic records.

Admission criteria
The Academic Committee is in charge of the admission decisions of the candidates. The criteria are: Academic Information (50%), Background and professional experience (40%) and Motivation (10%).

The criteria details follow:

Academic Information:
- Final average grade for the undergraduate degree that provides access to the master's degree
- Ranking of the university issuing the previous degree, using the most common rankings (e.g. ARWU, QS World University, etc.)
- Academic performance on the previous degree

Background and professional experience:
- Suitability of the candidate's previous degree. Holders of bachelor's degrees in disciplines in the field of Computer Science or Telecommunications Science and Technology will be given preference
- Experience in innovation and research projects

Motivation:
- Candidate's resume and motivation letter

Places
40

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

Professional opportunities
- Information and communication technologies.
- Computer programming.
- Public administration.
- Security analyst.
- Security risk specialist.
- Security consultant.
- Digital forensic analyst.
- Ethical hacker.
- Security operations centre (SOC) specialist.
- Chief security officer (CSO) in technology companies.
- CSO in non-technological companies that have IT departments.

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**

- To design applications that have a high added value and are based on information and communication technologies (ICTs) applied to cybersecurity.
- To identify and select the most appropriate tools for detecting and analysing attacks and security incidents according to their nature and the setting in which they occurred.
- To identify and analyse the laws and regulations that apply in matters of cybersecurity and understand the ethical implications of cyber-defence techniques for users’ privacy and how to minimise them.
- To analyse cryptographic key encryption and management protocols according to their robustness from a mathematical perspective.
- To design, implement and operate authentication, authorisation and auditing protocols for information systems such as databases.
- To apply network traffic monitoring and analysis techniques for detecting cybersecurity attacks and investigating incidents.
- To design, develop, detect, analyse and eliminate malicious code that is able to infect and conceal itself within a current operating system.
- To identify and apply techniques for maintaining the security and privacy of distributed applications built on internet protocols.
- To carry out and present and defend before an examination committee an original, individual piece of work consisting of a cybersecurity engineering project that synthesises the competencies acquired on the master’s degree.

---

**ORGANISATION: ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND REGULATIONS**

**UPC school**

- Barcelona School of Telecommunications Engineering (ETSETB)
- Barcelona School of Informatics (FIB)

**Academic calendar**

- General academic calendar for bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees courses

**Academic regulations**

- Academic regulations for master’s degree courses at the UPC

---

**CURRICULUM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>ECTS credits</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIRST SEMESTER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications Security</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blockchain</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity Management</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Protection</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malware</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Security</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Traffic Monitoring and Analysis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SECOND SEMESTER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brief Course on The Mathematics Behind Coding Theory and Cryptography</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity Usecases</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Privacy</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardware Security in Embedded Systems. Primitives, Weaknesses and Countermeasures</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects</td>
<td>ECTS credits</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Security - Authentication and Authorization</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantum Computing and Cryptography</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secure Communications in Fiber-Optic Networks</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securing 5G Fixed Network</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's Thesis</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

December 2021. **UPC. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya · BarcelonaTech**