

Communication Systems

Code: 104537
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2503743 Management of Smart and Sustainable Cities	OB	2	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: english (eng)
Some groups entirely in English: Yes
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Sergi Robles Martínez

Prerequisites

The subject is selfcontained.

Objectives and Contextualisation

Smart cities require a large amount of data to improve city services and the quality of life of their citizens in general.

For such data sets to be accessible and usable by any type of solution of a smart city, it is required that high-capacity and high-performance communication systems are in place. These systems will utilize up-to-date transmission protocols that guarantee the data flow to be fast, reliable and secure.

The fundamental objective of this subject is to provide the student with a good basis about underlying principles of communication systems with special emphasis on the scalability and interconnectivity

Competences

- Design platforms of management, integration of public and government services applying technologies and systems of sensorization, acquisition, processing and communication of data.
- Generate innovative and competitive proposals in professional activity.
- Measure the technological infrastructure necessary to respond to the needs of cities, understanding the interactions between technological, social and operational aspects of cities.
- Prevent and solve problems, adapt to unforeseen situations and take decisions.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.

- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
- Work cooperatively in complex and uncertain environments and with limited resources in a multidisciplinary context, assuming and respecting the role of the different members of the group.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse and evaluate distinct network technologies for the various communicative needs among the elements in a smart city.
2. Choose the most suitable wireless communications standard for each application.
3. Conceive communication systems for intelligent cities capable of connecting all components.
4. Design and develop computer solutions that allow citizens access to distributed-management platforms and integrated services.
5. Generate innovative and competitive proposals in professional activity.
6. Prevent and solve problems, adapt to unforeseen situations and take decisions.
7. Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
8. Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
9. Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
10. Work cooperatively in complex and uncertain environments and with limited resources in a multidisciplinary context, assuming and respecting the role of the different members of the group.

Content

1. Introduction to communication systems and networks
2. Part A. Fundamentals of network protocols
 - Networking protocols
 - End-to-end protocols
 - Application protocols
 - Advanced networking protocols
3. Part B. Fundamentals of communication systems
 - Introduction to Information Theory
 - Elements of a communication system
 - Taxonomies of communication systems
 - Examples of relevant standards of communications

Methodology

The teaching methodology will be scheduled as follows:

- 1) Weekly sessions of two hours for theoretical content.
- 2) Weekly sessions of one hour for applied exercises

3) Laboratory sessions for monitored practical (project-based/hands-on) work.

There will also be team activities that students will do on their own as part of continuous evaluation.

The UAB virtual platform (Campus Virtual, <https://cv.uab.cat/>) will be used for communication between teachers and students.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Practical sessions	12.5	0.5	3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 2
Weekly lecturing sessions	25	1	3, 9, 8, 7
Weekly practical sessions	12.5	0.5	1, 5, 6, 2
Type: Supervised			
Reports	12.5	0.5	4, 6, 9, 8, 10
Team work	12.5	0.5	1, 7, 10, 2
Type: Autonomous			
Solving practical exercises	23	0.92	5, 8
Study of contents	25	1	1, 3, 9, 8, 7

Assessment

The evaluation of the subject will be by continuous evaluation as follows

- A. Comprehension questionnaire on the theoretical content of the network
- B. Comprehension questionnaire on the theoretical content of the system
- C. Delivery of reports on the execution of practical sessions of the networking part.
- D. Delivery of reports on the execution of practical sessions of the systems part.

The evaluation of the numerical grade will be weighted as follows: A 25%, B 25%, C 25%, D 25%.

Students who have been assessed a minimum of 2/3 of the assessment of the subject can opt for a recovery process.

The recovery process will consist of an additional questionnaire for points A and B, and a second delivery period.

There will not be differentiated treatment for students who repeat the subject.

The final grade will appear as "Not Evaluable" only when the student has not participated in the evaluation process.

Final grade with honors according to UAB policy (free matriculation fee) will be granted to those students who, having passed the subject, obtain a grade of A or B.

Notwithstanding other disciplinary measures deemed appropriate, and in accordance with the academic regulations in force, assessment activities will receive a zero (0) whenever a student commits academic irregularities that may alter such assessment. Assessment activities graded in this way and by this procedure will not be re-assessable. If passing the assessment activity or activities in question is required to pass the subject, the awarding of a zero (0) for disciplinary measures will also entail a direct fail for the subject, with no opportunity to re-assess this in the same academic year. Irregularities contemplated in this procedure include, among others:

- the total or partial copying of a practical exercise, report, or any other evaluation activity;
- allowing others to copy;
- presenting group work that has not been done entirely by the members of the group;
- presenting any materials prepared by a third party as one's own work, even if these materials are translations or adaptations, including work that is not original or exclusively that of the student;
- having communication devices (such as mobile phones, smart watches, etc.) accessible during theoretical-practical assessment tests (individual exams).

- talk to other student during the individual practical or theoretical tests.
- copying or trying to copy from other students during the individual practical or theoretical tests.
- using or trying to use written material related to the subject during the individual practical or theoretical tests when they have not been explicitly allowed.

When a student is involved in any evaluation irregularity, the final mark of the course will be the lowest value considering 3.0 and the weighted average of the grades (and no compensation is thus possible).

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Reports	Reports	2	0.08	9, 8, 7
Tests	Tests	25	1	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 2

Bibliography

Class notes.

Basic references:

D.E. Comer (2005). Internetworking with TCP/IP, 5th Edition. Prentice Hall.

Supplementary references:

G. Tomsho (2011). Guide to Networking Essentials, 6th Edition. Cengage.

W. R. Stevens (1993). TCP/IP Illustrated, Volume I. Addison-Wesley.

A.S. Tanenbaum (2002). Computer Networks, 4th Edition. Prentice Hall.

W. Stallings (2004). Comunicaciones y redes de computadores, 7a Edición. Pearson Prentice Hall.

N. Barcia, C. Fernández, S. Frutos, G. López, L. Mengual, F.J. Soriano, F.J. Yáguez (2005). Redes de computadores y arquitecturas de comunicaciones. Supuestos prácticos. Pearson Prentice Hall.