



IDENTIFYING DATA

Room Acoustics

Subject	Room Acoustics			
Code	V05G300V01635			
Study programme	Degree in Telecommunications Technologies Engineering			
Descriptors	ECTS Credits	Choose	Year	Quadmester
	6	Optional	3rd	2nd
Teaching language	Spanish			
Department				
Coordinator	Sobreira Seoane, Manuel Ángel			
Lecturers	Cardenal López, Antonio José Sobreira Seoane, Manuel Ángel Torío Gómez, Pablo			
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General description	Architectural acoustics, develops the fundamental theoretical principles of the architectural acoustics, in the fields of room acoustics and acoustic isolation. The aims of the subject are: provide a sufficient theoretical background that allow the understanding of the behaviour of the sound filed in rooms; define the parameters that allow to evaluate the acoustic quality of rooms; develop the techniques of design that allow to optimise the acoustic behaviour of rooms; detail the parameters that allow to evaluate the acoustic isolation in buildings and introduce the problematic of the calculation of the acoustic insulation in the buildings and building elements.			

Competencies

Code	
B2	CG2: The knowledge, comprehension and ability to apply the needed legislation during the development of the Technical Telecommunication Engineer profession and aptitude to manage compulsory specifications, procedures and laws.
B5	CG5: The knowledge to perform measurements, calculations, assessments, appraisals, technical evaluations, studies, reports, task scheduling and similar work to each specific telecommunication area.
C36	CE36/SI3 The capacity to implement projects at places and installations for the production and recording of audio and video signals.
C37	CE37/SI4 The ability to carry out acoustic engineering projects related to: acoustical isolation and conditioning of rooms, loudspeaker installations, specification, analysis and selection of electro acoustical transducers, measurement, analysis and control of radio vibration systems, environmental acoustics, submarine and acoustical systems.

Learning outcomes

Expected results from this subject	Training and Learning Results	
Knowledge on the theoretical fundamentals of room acoustics.	B2	C36
Ability to analyse the acoustic behaviour of rooms and identify acoustic problems.	B5	C37
Capacity to design solutions to acoustic problems in rooms.		
Capacity to write expert technical reports on room acoustics measurement test and analysis.		
Ability to check and assess the acoustic quality of rooms.		
Capacity to design different kind of rooms matched to the specific acoustic requirements (recording studios, control rooms, conference rooms and classrooms).		

Contents

Topic	
Introduction	Basic concepts in acoustics. Acoustic power, sound pressure, sound intensity. Levels and decibels.
Statistical theory in acoustics.	Average sound pressure in rooms. Reverberation time: Sabine and Eyring equations.

Absorbents and Acoustic Diffusers.	Porous absorbing materials. Membrane and Helmholtz resonators. Acoustic diffusers.
Wave theory in rooms.	Three dimensional wave equation. Resonant frequencies and resonant modes in rooms. Modal density. Frequency response of rooms. The influence of dimension relations and frequency response.
Geometrical theory.	Method of the virtual image. Reflections in flat surfaces. The acoustic behaviour of curved surfaces
Acoustic design of rooms.	Descriptors of room acoustics. Echoes in rooms. Focalization effects in rooms. Acoustic behaviour of audience: seat dip. Geometrical design of rooms. Design of conference rooms and classrooms. Recording studios: LEDE and Non-Environment design techniques.
Acoustic insulation.	Introduction to the acoustic insulation. Acoustic isolation of single panels. Insulation of double walls. Introduction to the flanking transmission evaluation in buildings. Noise control in buildings.

Planning

	Class hours	Hours outside the classroom	Total hours
Tutored works	7	28	35
Practice in computer rooms	12	9	21
Previous studies / activities	0	15	15
Master Session	19	38	57
Troubleshooting and / or exercises	2	10	12
Short answer tests	2	8	10

*The information in the planning table is for guidance only and does not take into account the heterogeneity of the students.

Methodologies

	Description
Tutored works	The students will have to develop and write a report on three small projects: 1. Design and building Helmholtz and membrane resonators. 2. Design and acoustic measurements on scale models. 3. Software to calculate acoustic reflectors and diffusers Through this methodology the general competencies CG2, CG5 and the specific competency CE36 and CE37 are developed.
Practice in computer rooms	During practical sessions, the student will learn the use of software to measure and analyse the impulse response of rooms. Through this methodology the general competencies CG5 and the specific competency CE36 and CE37 are developed.
Previous studies / activities	The students must study and prepare with the sources of information given before the lectures and the practical sessions. Through this methodology the general competencies CG2, CG5 and the specific competency CE36 and CE37 are developed.
Master Session	Lectures will be given, developing the main theoretical concepts of the subject. Through this methodology the general competencies CG2, CG5 and the specific competency CE36 and CE37 are developed.

Personalized attention

Methodologies	Description
Master Session	Lectures are developed within a continuous interaction framework, where students can answer questions delivered by the teacher. They could also solve their particular doubts during the sessions.
Tutored works	Tutored works are developed in small working groups. The works are followed during meetings between the groups and the teacher. In those meetings the students can interact and ask their questions to the teacher.
Practice in computer rooms	In practical sessions, each student must solve his/her own tasks. The teacher will be available during the session to solve any problem/question or doubt the student may have.

Assessment

Description	Qualification Training and Learning Results

Tutored works	Tutored practical project, with the delivery of a final report. The learning aims containing the development of the ability to develop projects are assessed through this practical tutored works.	35	C36 C37
Practice in computer rooms	Practical tasks, solved in a computer lab with specific acoustic software.	15	B2 B5
Troubleshooting and / or exercises	Written examination, solving calculation problems. Evaluation of the learning aims, mainly in those aspects related to "know how to carry calculations out" in the field of room acoustics.	25	B5
Short answer tests	Short answers related to the theoretical content of the subject. Evaluation of the knowledge of regulations in the matter of room acoustics.	25	B2

Other comments on the Evaluation

Following the guidelines of the degree, two systems of evaluation are offered: continuous assessment (recommended) and a final examination. Evaluation with only a final examination will be only allowed in situations in which it is impossible to follow the system recommended.

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT:

In order to be qualified following the continuous assessment process, the student will have to attend at least to the 80% of the programmed activities. The continuous assessment will be based in the evaluation of practical task, projects and two tests. Once a student has signed a document of agreement with the process of continuous assessment, the final degree will be obtained by the application of the criteria described below, even though a student could miss some of the tasks or tests involved in the process.

The final grade will be obtained from the weighted sum of the grade obtained in the following tasks with the given weights:

1. Tutored works: The students will deliver three reports on tutored works during the weeks 5th, 9th and 14th. The total weight of tutored works on the final grade is 35 %.
2. Reports of practical tasks (Weight: 15 %).
3. Short answer tests : A short answer tests is scheduled around the 6th week. (25 % of the final grade)
4. A second examination, containing problems and exercises is scheduled on the official scheduled date at the end of the semester.(25 % of the final grade)

Tutored works are developed in groups. The final grade will be weighted taking into account the results of a cross assessment survey. To consider as "satisfactory" the contribution of each student to the group a minimum grade of 2 over 5 points is established.

The students have to show good skills in all the learning outcomes, therefore, four points over a ten points scale must be obtained in all the learning outcomes evaluated during the continuous evaluation process. The final grade will be obtained through the addition of the grades obtained during the process with the weights given before. At least five over ten points should be obtained to pass the subject. The second test, will be performed before the final examination.

FINAL EXAMINATION

A final examination in the official date scheduled and officially published is available for all the students.

1. Students following the continuous evaluation process, will have the chance to improve their grade. Those students that did not reach the minimum grade required for the practical tasks, should deliver those jobs required for the teachers on the official scheduled date for the final examination.
2. The final examination is also available for those students that for some reason could not follow the continuous evaluation assessment process. In this case the final examination will consist in two short answer tests, and some additional questions related with the practical tasks and projects.

The subject is assessed in a 0 to 10 points scale and it is considered "passed" if the final grade obtained is equal or greater than 5.

SECOND CALL:

There is scheduled date in July for a final examination retake, for those students that either dropped out during the semester or failed. Prior the examination, a student can choose to follow the continuous assessment or the final examination. In the former selection, the grades obtained in the projects and practical tasks will be taken into account and the student will only answer to the short answer tests. If the later, (final examination), the student will have also to answer a full examination as described before. The conditions former described for the Continuous Evaluation assessment are kept in this second call.

Sources of information

Higini Arau, **ABC de la acústica arquitectónica**,

Phillip R. Newell, **Recording Studio Design**, 3,

Lothar Cremer, **Principles and applications of room acoustics**,

Heinrich Kuttruff, **Room Acoustics**, 5,

Recommendations

Subjects that continue the syllabus

Advanced acoustics/V05G300V01933

Legislation and noise measurement techniques/V05G300V01934

Subjects that it is recommended to have taken before

Fundamentals of Sound and Image/V05G300V01405

Fundamentals of Acoustics Engineering/V05G300V01531
