



IDENTIFYING DATA

Digital Communications

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|---------------------|--|----------|------|------------|
| Subject | Digital Communications | | | |
| Code | V05G301V01414 | | | |
| Study programme | Grado en Ingeniería de Tecnologías de Telecomunicación | | | |
| Descriptors | ECTS Credits | Choose | Year | Quadmester |
| | 6 | Optional | 4th | 1st |
| Teaching language | English | | | |
| Department | | | | |
| Coordinator | Pérez González, Fernando | | | |
| Lecturers | Mosquera Nartallo, Carlos Pérez González, Fernando | | | |
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| Web | http://moovi.uvigo.gal | | | |
| General description | This course covers the fundamentals of modulations that are used in practically all modern communication standards, including digital terrestrial television, WiFi, 4G and 5G mobile communications, digital radio, visible light communications (LiFi). | | | |
| | Contents, teaching and exams are in English. Students may participate in classes and answer to exams preferably in English, but Spanish and Galician are also accepted. | | | |

Training and Learning Results

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|-----------------|---|
| Code | |
| B4 | CG4: The ability to solve problems with initiative, to make creative decisions and to communicate and transmit knowledge and skills, understanding the ethical and professional responsibility of the Technical Telecommunication Engineer activity. |
| B9 | CG9: The ability to work in multidisciplinary groups in a Multilanguage environment and to communicate, in writing and orally, knowledge, procedures, results and ideas related with Telecommunications and Electronics. |
| B12 | CG12 The development of discussion ability about technical subjects |
| C71 (CE71/OP14) | The ability to analyze the physical layer in modern digital communications systems. |
| D2 | CT2 Understanding Engineering within a framework of sustainable development. |
| D4 | CT4 Encourage cooperative work, and skills like communication, organization, planning and acceptance of responsibility in a multilingual and multidisciplinary work environment, which promotes education for equality, peace and respect for fundamental rights. |

Expected results from this subject

| Expected results from this subject | Training and Learning Results | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----|----|
| Acquire the intuition and needed math skills to understand the role played by diversity in improving the provision of communication systems. | B4 B9 B12 | C71 | D2 |
| Handle the necessary tools to understand the different aspects of the physical layer of communications system a system and put them to practice when it comes to simulating, designing or dimensioning. | B4 B9 B12 | C71 | D2 |
| Develop the capability of analyzing the physical layer of current telecommunication systems. | B4 B9 B12 | C71 | D2 |
| Strengthen the capacity to follow a technical class in English. | B4 B9 B12 | | D4 |

Contents

Topic

| | |
|---|--|
| Subject 1: Multicarrier modulations (theoretical-practical contents). | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction.2 Analog and digital OFDM modulations3 Diagram of an OFDM transmitter.4 Effect of the channel on the received signal.5 Diagram of an OFDM receiver.6 OFDM seen as a block process. |
| Subject 2: Equalization, coding and synchronization in multicarrier modulations (theoretical-practical contents). | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pilot carriers.2 ZF and MMSE equalization.3 Zero-padding methods.4 Coded OFDM (COFDM).5 Carrier synchronization algorithms.6 Timing recovery algorithms.7 Channel state information estimation. |
| Subject 3: Advanced digital communications (theoretical-practical contents). | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Convolutional coding.2 Trellis coding.3 Advanced channel coding: turbo and LDPC codes. |
| Subject 4: Applications (practical contents). | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Digital Radio/TV standards.2 OFDM wireless communications standards.3 OFDM cable communications standards.4 OFDM in visible light communications. |

Planning

| | Class hours | Hours outside the classroom | Total hours |
|---|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Laboratory practical | 14 | 57.6 | 71.6 |
| Mentored work | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| Lecturing | 19 | 21.6 | 40.6 |
| Problem and/or exercise solving | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Report of practices, practicum and external practices | 0 | 11.5 | 11.5 |
| Report of practices, practicum and external practices | 0 | 2.9 | 2.9 |
| Essay | 0 | 14.4 | 14.4 |

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

Methodologies

| | Description |
|----------------------|--|
| Laboratory practical | Lab practices will consist in the demodulation of Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) signals. This will allow students to practically implement some of the concepts seen in the lectures: OFDM, demodulations, synch recovery,... |
| Mentored work | Guided work with design considerations for a practical system based on OFDM. |
| Lecturing | The course is structured in four main subjects that revolve around the concept of multicarrier modulations. Each subject will be taught through lectures in the classroom. |

Personalized assistance

| Methodologies | Description |
|----------------------|---|
| Lecturing | The teachers will provide individualized and personalized attention to students during the course, solving their doubts and questions. Doubts will be answered during the master session, or during the office hours. Office hours will be given at the beginning of the course and published in the subject's webpage. Contact: https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/fernando-perez-gonzalez https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/carlos-mosquera-nartallo |
| Laboratory practical | The teachers will provide individualized and personalized attention to students during the course, solving their doubts and questions. Doubts will be answered during the office hours. Office hours will be given at the beginning of the course and published in the subject's webpage. Contact: https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/fernando-perez-gonzalez https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/carlos-mosquera-nartallo |
| Mentored work | The teachers will provide individualized and personalized attention to students during the course, solving their doubts and questions. Doubts will be answered during the office hours. Office hours will be given at the beginning of the course and published in the subject's webpage. Contact: https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/fernando-perez-gonzalez https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/carlos-mosquera-nartallo |

| Tests | Description |
|-------|-------------|
|-------|-------------|

| | |
|---|--|
| Report of practices, practicum and external practices | The teachers will provide individualized and personalized attention to students during the course, solving their doubts and questions. Doubts will be answered during the office hours. Office hours will be given at the beginning of the course and published in the subject's webpage. Contact: https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/fernando-perez-gonzalez https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/carlos-mosquera-nartallo |
| Essay | The teachers will provide individualized and personalized attention to students during the course, solving their doubts and questions. Doubts will be answered during the office hours. Office hours will be given at the beginning of the course and published in the subject's webpage. Contact: https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/fernando-perez-gonzalez https://www.uvigo.gal/es/universidad/administracion-personal/pdi/carlos-mosquera-nartallo |
| Report of practices, practicum and external practices | |

Assessment

| | Description | Qualification | Training and Learning Results | | |
|---|--|---------------|-------------------------------|-----|----------|
| Problem and/or exercise solving | Final exam with short questions on the contents of the subject, that will include also some questions on the projects. Evaluated competences: CG4, CG9, CG12, CE71, CT2. | 20 | B4 B9 B12 | C71 | D2 |
| Report of practices, practicum and external practices | Deliverables for the lab project. Tasks corresponding to tasks associated to a lab project. Deliverables correspond to each of the stages for the Matlab implementation of a simplified OFDM receiver. The weight given to each of these tasks is the following: Task 1 (Demodulation to baseband): 5% Task 2 (Mode detection and temporal alignment): 5% Task 3 (Frequency error correction): 10% Task 4 (Frame synchronization): 10% Task 5 (Channel estimation and equalization - I): 10% | 40 | B4 B9 B12 | C71 | D2 D4 |
| Report of practices, practicum and external practices | Deliverables for the lab project. Implementation in Matlab of a task corresponding to a simplified OFDM receiver. Task 6 (Channel estimation and equalization - II): 10% | 10 | B4 B9 B12 | C71 | D2 D4 |
| Essay | Short report related to one of the digital communications standards/systems that employ the techniques seen in the lectures. The report will consist of the answers to a list of questions that will be handed at the beginning of the course, related to practical design aspects of a digital communications system using OFDM. Evaluated competences: CG4, CG9, CE71, CT2. | 30 | B4 B9 | C71 | D2 |

Other comments on the Evaluation

In those cases in where the student decides not to carry out the continuous evaluation tasks, the final score will be solely based on the exam with short questions of the subject. This applies as well to the second call.

In case of collective reports, the respective contribution of each student must be clearly stated, and the final score will be personalized as a function of such contribution. An interview with the lecturer may be required in order to assess the individual contributions.

Once the student turns in any of the deliverables, he/she will be considered to be following the continuous evaluation track. In any case, he/she can abandon the continuous evaluation in a month's time. Any student that chooses the continuous evaluation track will get a final score, regardless of he/she takes the final exam.

Continuous evaluation tasks cannot be redone after their corresponding deadlines, and are only valid for the current year.

The marks from the continuous assessment tests are kept for the extraordinary opportunity. In the end-of-studies call, the

evaluation will consist solely of a written exam.

In the event of detecting plagiarism or widespread use of AI tools in any of the submitted assignments/tests, the final grade for the subject will be a fail (0), and the teachers will report the matter to the school administration for appropriate action. Additionally, the teachers will report to the school administration any conduct by students that is contrary to ethics, and the administration may take the necessary measures.

Sources of information

Basic Bibliography

M. Engels, Ed, **Wireless OFDM Systems. How to make them work?**, Springer-Verlag,

Antonio Artés, Fernando Pérez González, Carlos Mosquera et al., **Comunicaciones Digitales**, Pearson,

Complementary Bibliography

Ye Li, G.L. Stuber, **Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing for Wireless Communications**, Springer-Verlag,

J.R. Barry, E.A. Lee, D.G. Messerschmitt, **Digital Communication**, Kluwer,

Recommendations