



# EUROPEAN PROJECT SEMESTER

School of Engineering of Vilanova i la Geltrú  
TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF CATALONIA

September, 2007



Escola Politècnica Superior  
d'Enginyeria de Vilanova i la Geltrú  
UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA

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*In the future engineers must be able to:*

- ✓ *Work in interdisciplinary teams.*
- ✓ *Operate internationally.*
- ✓ *Speak foreign languages.*
- ✓ *Cooperate with people of different cultures.*
- ✓ *Communicate well.*



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*The European Project Semester programme meets the new social needs and demands of companies by helping students to develop the following skills:*

- ✓ *Teamwork in international and multidisciplinary groups*
- ✓ *Project work and project management*
- ✓ *Communication*
- ✓ *Leadership*
- ✓ *Lifelong learning*
- ✓ *Professional responsibilities*
- ✓ *Critical thinking*



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## What is the European Project Semester?

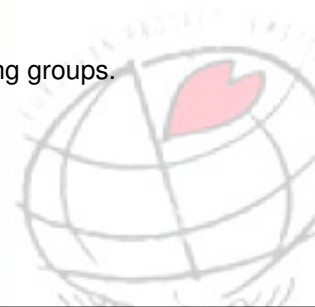
The EPS is a one-semester course designed to train undergraduates in their final year to work in international teams on real-life projects that have been proposed by companies

- ✓ One-semester long / 30 ECTS.
- ✓ Uses project-based learning (PBL) in an international scenario.
- ✓ In English.
- ✓ Multicultural and multidisciplinary working groups.
- ✓ Develops communication skills.



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## EPS Structure (I)

The EPS has two complementary parts :

- 1) Project work: under the guidance of an academic tutor, an international team of 4 to 6 students will work on a real multidisciplinary engineering project proposed by a company. Projects will be developed **from a sustainable and human technology point of view**.
- 2) Intensive seminars: a short intensive programme with practical workshops about topics related to project management.



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## EPS Structure (II) – the project work

- It is an assignment that is set by companies. The project should be multidisciplinary, and it should take the students no more than 10 weeks to complete. The language of communication is English.
- Students have a workspace at the university with access to facilities such as computers, telephones and laboratories, although students benefit greatly from the project if they are able to visit the companies involved.
- Two coaches are assigned to each group: a university coach and a company coach. The university coach deals with the process of the project-based work, and meets with the group on a weekly basis. The company coach is more concerned with the content of the project. If necessary, the group will meet with the company coach on a regular basis.



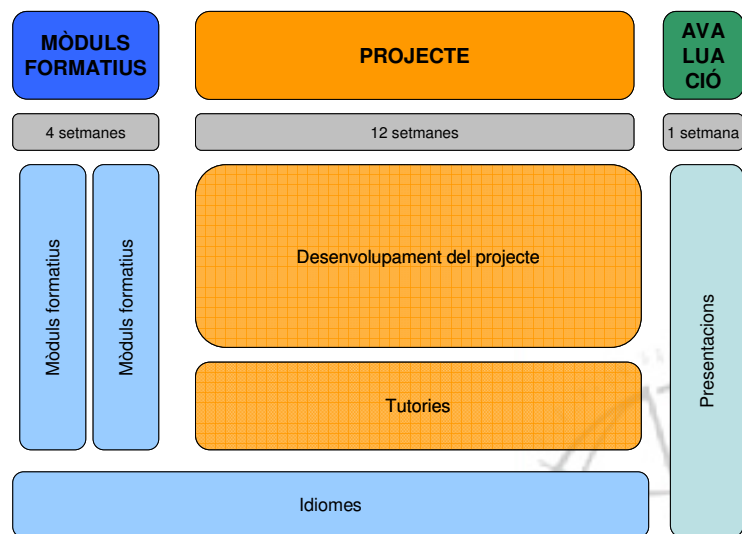
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## EPS Structure (III) – the seminars

Course	Teacher	Department
English Language	Elisabet Arnó Carmen Rueda	PE
Communication skills		
Teambuilding		
International Marketing	Ariadna Llorens	OE
Human Technology	Pere Ponsa	ESAI
Sustainability and business	Marta Domingo	EPSEVG
Sustainable Technology	Jordi Segalàs	MF
Spanish language and Catalan culture	SLT	UPC
Project Management Systematic Innovation	Vicenç Perisi Andreu Catala LSI	EE ESI LSI

## EPS Structure (IV)



## Academic Recognition

Universities wishing to send students on a European Project Semester (EPS) programme should ensure that the EPS is acknowledged **as part of their curricula**.

The semester is a recognized **30-credit unit course** in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The work involved amounts to 20 credits and intensive seminars cover the remaining 10.

## Assessment

Marks are derived from the following sources:

### **The Project**

An individual, oral presentation.

The technical content of the report.

The communication value of the report.

The teamwork. Supervisors assess the quantity and quality of the teamwork in each group, and students in each team agree to divide the marks according to each student's individual contribution. This must be done before the examination.

### **The study programme**

An evaluation of student participation in the study programme's courses and various assignments.

## Who can apply?

Students from different engineering backgrounds at the EPSEVG and from all over Europe (and even from outside Europe).

Students from a wide variety of disciplines are welcome, even those with a background in business or marketing.

Up to 30 students.

The EPS programme focuses on international teamwork, and therefore it is important for students to have a **solid academic background**. Participants will therefore be required **to have completed at least four semesters** and **a good command of English**.



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## Why EPS?

The European Project Semester (EPS) is a **strategic project** of the School of Engineering of Vilanova i la Geltrú in order to:

- a) To meet the new challenges of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
- b) To improve the global quality of teaching
- c) To differentiate and to be competitive with other Spanish universities
- d) To promote mobility and increase the number of exchange students.
- e) To introduce a multidisciplinary approach to enhance cooperation between the departments

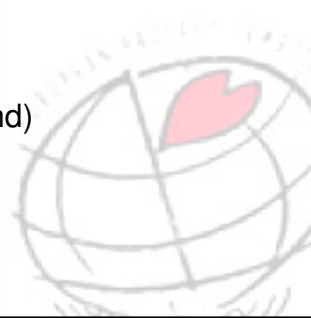


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## European universities offering EPS

- Copenhagen University College of Engineering (Denmark)
- Technical University of Valencia (Spain)
- Avans Hogeschool (The Netherlands)
- Oslo University College (Norway)
- Fachhochschule Kiel (Germany)
- Technical University of Lodz (Poland)



# THANK YOU!!

[www.epsevg.upc.edu/eps](http://www.epsevg.upc.edu/eps)

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