

PROJECT WORK (BACHELOR / MASTER THESIS) IN THE SCHOOL OF BUILDING ENGINEERING

Erasmus / exchange students are allowed to prepare a bachelor or master thesis with an academic from our School of Building Engineering.

In our programs, a thesis usually has a professional orientation. It should represent a real-life (or simulated) building engineering project. Research-oriented projects can also be accepted, as long as they include a practical case of application.

At UPV, a bachelor or master thesis is normally credited with 12 ECTS. If your home university requires a different number of credits, once you find an academic supervisor at UPV, you can discuss this with him/her and contact our International Services so that we can confirm if it is possible.

There are two possibilities to carry out a thesis project in our School:

- A) Preparation phase only (no final document is submitted at UPV)
- B) Full bachelor or master thesis submitted at UPV, including oral presentation

Full details about both options explained [further below](#)

The choice of which procedure you will follow will have to be discussed with your UPV academic supervisor. Some of them may be inclined towards option B because it is the only way their academic support as thesis supervisors will be officially recognized by UPV in the academic performance indicators for teaching staff.

Finding a bachelor or master thesis supervisor

Erasmus / exchange students must find a thesis supervisor on their own. The International Office cannot do this for you.

Students who apply for admission at UPV for one semester only and who are interested in Bachelor or Master at UPV thesis must find an academic supervisor before the UPV deadline for application (15 may, 15 October) and they must attach an email of pre-approval from a UPV lecturer with their application documents.

Tips to find a bachelor or master thesis supervisor at UPV

- It is not a good idea to contact professors or researchers asking them to offer you a master thesis title or project. Instead, let them know that you are interested in working with them because you have seen their field of specialization (courses they teach, publications, etc.) and you would like to write a thesis in that area as well. The more specific you are about your interests, the better the chances to receive a reply.
- Explain how long you will be staying at UPV, if your home university has any particular requirements, and how exactly you expect them to help you (only some informal consultations for a project that is already underway or defining a new project and guiding you through the whole process)
- Try to be specific and make a clear proposal, but at the same time, show flexibility



- You may find a supervisor by looking at this website, which explains some research lines and field of specialization of teachers in the School of Building Engineering

<https://www.etsie.upv.es/investigacion/lineas-de-investigacion/>

- Another idea is to look at the list of electives in the upper courses of our degrees. The teachers of those courses are normally specialized in that particular area and you may contact them if you are interested in a specific field of building or construction engineering.

TWO POSSIBLE FORMS OF REGISTRATION

Preparation of Bachelor or Master thesis (research and preparation only)

Your work will be judged and graded directly by your UPV academic supervisor. There are no fixed rules concerning what you have to produce and at the end of your stay. It might be just a series of experiments and data collection or a draft document.

Your UPV academic supervisor will sign a template document that will be provided by our International Services, including a brief description of your work, the number of ECTS (based on his/her own calculations), and a grade from 0 to 10. This information will be included in your UPV Transcript of Records as “preparation of bachelor / master thesis”. Additionally, a title or field of specialization may be added.

Full Bachelor or Master Thesis (complete thesis with oral presentation)

You will follow the same procedure as a local UPV (degree student) but you will not receive a UPV diploma. Your work will be formally assessed by a panel of lecturers, different from your thesis supervisor at UPV.

Your home university may or may not accept your UPV grade. Depending on their regulations, you may have to submit the full document and make a second oral presentation and defense in your home university.

In your UPV transcript of records, there will be a line with the credits and a grade for the course (subject) called “Bachelor thesis” or “master thesis” (12 ECTS). If you have previously negotiated a thesis with more credits, the additional credits will be added in a separate line.

The full process includes:

- **Project definition and approval**
 - Student submits project proposal for approval (title, scope and goals, brief description).
 - Project proposal is formally approved by a committee



- **Writing and submitting the thesis**
 - You must write a full and complete thesis document. The document can be written in Spanish, or in English. If written in a different language, you must add a summary and the final conclusions in English or Spanish.
 - You must submit the full Project document, technical annexes and a summary poster via the UPV BSc/MSc thesis application.
 - You must request a date for the oral presentation. There are monthly sessions for thesis defense (except in June or January). Special dates can be arranged for exchange students if they are requested ahead of time.
- **Oral presentation (defense):**
 - You present your thesis in front of a panel of three professors. Your UPV academic supervisor cannot be a member of the committee.
 - If your university is interested, a teacher from your home university can be invited to participate as a member of the thesis committee (in person or remotely).
 - The oral presentation (in Spanish or in English) is typically 20 minutes, plus 10-15 minutes for questions and answers.