

ARRIVAL GUIDE 2026/2027 for exchange and visiting students

BEFORE ARRIVAL...

ADMISSION

ADMISSION OF EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Exchange students must be nominated by their home institution, according to the conditions and number of places of the bilateral agreement. More info > [Exchange Students](#)

ADMISSION OF VISITING STUDENTS

ETSAB offers vacancies for those students who want to spend a semester or a full academic year studying Architecture at ETSAB, but belong to foreign universities without any specific exchange agreement with our school. More info at > [Visiting Students](#)

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

ETSAB strongly recommend having at least a B1 level of Spanish before arrival.

Incoming students are not required to submit a proof of Spanish or Catalan language skills, however partner universities should take that into consideration for nomination.

LEARNING AGREEMENT

Our university UPC is connected to the Erasmus Without Papers platform for the online processing of the Learning Agreement with European partners.

Please, follow our indications on [How to prepare your LEARNING AGREEMENT \(Before the Mobility\)](#)

This first version of the LEARNING AGREEMENT will be provisionally signed by ETSAB International Office (or validated online via EWP-Erasmus Without Papers when possible) and IT DOES NOT IMPLY A RESERVATION OF THE CHOSEN COURSES. The availability of subjects and class groups will only be known at the moment of enrolment and changes are very likely to happen.

Once the enrolment at ETSAB is fully completed (including changes periods in September & January) ETSAB International Office will sign or validate online via EWP the EXCEPTIONAL CHANGES in the LEARNING AGREEMENT (Table A2) accordingly.

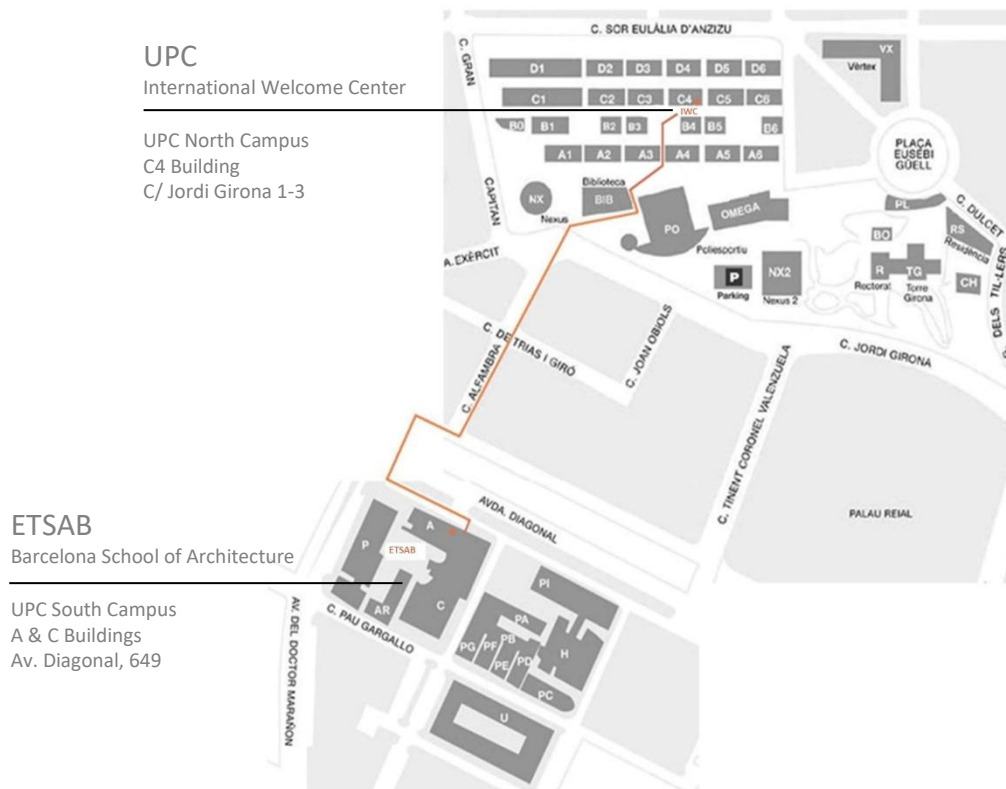
ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2026/2027 – ARCHITECTURE ETSAB (GARqEtsab)

<i>ETSAB Orientation activities</i>	(mandatory)	3 & 4 September 2026
<i>ETSAB enrolment</i>	(by appointment)	8-9-10 September 2026
<i>UPC Orientation Week</i>	(optional)	hybrid activities: online + face to face - to be confirmed –
AUTUMN TERM [GARqEtsab]	<i>Classes:</i> <i>Christmas Holidays:</i> <i>Exams:</i> <i>Intensive courses:</i>	7 September 2026 to 22 December 2026 <i>[23 December 2026 to 6 January 2027]</i> 7 to 19 January 2027 25 to 29 January 2027
SPRING TERM [GARqEtsab]	<i>Classes:</i> <i>Easter Holidays:</i> <i>Exams:</i> <i>Intensive courses:</i>	1 February 2027 to 31 May 2027 <i>[20-29 March 2027]</i> 7 to 18 June 2027 (+ 21-29 June 2027) 21 to 28 June 2027

ARRIVAL IN BARCELONA...

First steps for 2026/2027 incoming exchange and visiting students

UPC DIAGONAL CAMPUS MAP: ETSAB AND UPC INTERNATIONAL WELCOME CENTER LOCATION



AT UPC (International Welcome Center):

September 2026 > contact IWC-UPC

The **International Welcome Center of Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya** is the reception office for international students coming to any UPC campus. It is compulsory to contact them within the **first 10 days** of your arrival in Spain.

UPC International Welcome Center will give you information and guidance about legal procedures for your stay in Spain. (Visa, residence permits, NIE-Foreign Identification Number, etc.)

Important for everybody but essential for students from non-European Union countries!

Besides, they will offer welcome packs with info about accommodation in Barcelona, language courses, sports and other university facilities.

UPC INTERNATIONAL WELCOME CENTER

Universidad Politècnica de Catalunya – Barcelona Tech

North Campus UPC, C4 Building (*Telecos Square*)

C/ Jordi Girona, 1-3,

BARCELONA, SPAIN

Tel: +34 93 401 69 37

email: students.international@upc.edu

www.upc.edu/sri

Office hours:

<https://www.upc.edu/sri/en/bureau/where-we-are>

(dates to be confirmed) > UPC ORIENTATION WEEK (optional)

The **Orientation Week** (OW) is an optional activity organized by **UPC International Welcome Center**. It includes an institutional welcome, essential information on legal procedures, an overview of the main UPC Services that may help students during their stay, introductory workshops and some social/cultural activities.

The calendar and format of OW 2026 Fall semester edition is still to be confirmed. You will receive information via email directly from UPC International Welcome Center.

-- DON'T MISS ETSAB'S WELCOME AND ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES FOR PARTICIPATING IN OW UPC!

AT ETSAB (Barcelona School of Architecture):

Upon arrival in September, incoming students should bring with them:

/ Curriculum vitae / graphic Portfolio / mandatory INSURANCE / Proof of Enrolment at home institution /

ETSAB CHECK IN & ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES

ETSAB International Office will assist you for the registration process and provide updated academic information and useful tips about Barcelona School of Architecture and its facilities.

ETSAB INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura de Barcelona

Av. Diagonal, 649 1st floor

08028 BARCELONA

Tel: +34 93 401 63 45

email: mob.etsab@upc.edu

www.etsab.upc.edu

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, from 10.30 am to 13:30 pm. * Closed in August

3 September 2026 > ETSAB academic orientation & welcome meeting > (attendance is mandatory) | 11:00am | Sala de Graus |

An informative session with an overview of ETSAB Architecture Degree subjects and courses' academic contents.

+ meet your ETSAB academic advisor (optional)

Exchange Students

(Erasmus+, UPC-Europe, SICUE, America Latina, USA, Canada, Australia and Asia Exchange Programmes)

We will indicate you how to contact your ETSAB academic advisor for orientation about courses to enroll. It is recommended to bring a portfolio with samples of your work (print or digital) plus an updated academic transcript of records to show to your tutor for guidance.

Visiting students:

You will have a meeting with your academic advisors before enrolment, and they will guide you in the process of choosing courses to attend according to your academic profile.

4 September 2026 > ETSAB Check-in, info meeting & guided tour (attendance is mandatory) | 10:00am (ENG) or 12:00pm (ESP) | Sala de Graus |

Check-in and an explanation about the academic documents (list of courses, timetables and groups, enrolment form), useful tips about ETSAB and a quick guided visit around the school to getting to know its facilities.

Two sessions: ENGLISH / SPANISH > Meeting point at the School lobby 15 minutes before the start of each session

7 September 2026 > START OF CLASSES AT ETSAB

GArq Architecture courses will start on Monday September 7th.

8-9-10 September 2026 > ETSAB ENROLMENT

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Where? | At ETSAB International Office.
International Relations Staff will help you to enrol in the courses you are interested in. |
| When? | Each student will be assigned an enrolment appointment (a certain day & time)
The enrolment order will be announced upon arrival in September |
| How? | more details upon arrival in September |
| What? | You will enrol courses for the full year -fall and spring semesters- unless you just come for a semester. |

(11 September 2026 closed for local Holiday)

(24 September 2026 closed for local Holiday)

ETSAB STUDY PROGRAMMES

Get an overview of ETSAB Study Programmes and check the Academic Offer for incoming mobility students.
More info > [Study at ETSAB](#)

ETSAB ACADEMIC OFFER FOR INCOMING MOBILITY STUDENTS

Incoming exchange and visiting students will enrol courses of ETSAB's Degree in Architecture Studies
GArcEtsab GRADO EN ESTUDIOS DE ARQUITECTURA

Composed by 300 ECTS = 270 ECTS compulsory subjects + 24 ECTS elective subjects + 6 ECTS TFG
5 years / 60 ECTS credits per academic year
1 ECTS = 25-30 hours (50% contact hours at class / 50% self-study hours)

See [GArcEtsab Curriculum](#) | See [GArcEtsab Syllabus](#) | See [GArcEtsab Course Schedules](#)

Spanish and Catalan are the languages of instruction at ETSAB. A limited number of courses are given in English: some elective subjects and specific groups of some Design Studios and most Compulsory Courses of the 3rd year.

Besides, **MBLandArch** courses are available for some Erasmus+ and EMiLA Landscape exchange students, only when specified in the Bilateral Agreement (please check [ETSAB exchange partners list](#)).

Note: the Bachelor's Degree in Landscape Architecture courses are NOT available for these students.

Other ETSAB's study programmes (MArcEtsab, MBArch or MBDesign) are NOT included in Exchange Bilateral Agreements.

NEW! Exceptionally, some MBArch elective courses taught in English may be offered **ONLY TO THOSE EXCHANGE STUDENTS WITH MORE THAN 180 ECTS** already achieved in their previous Architecture studies.

-Not applicable to Visiting students nor SICUE-

ENROLMENT CRITERIA FOR INCOMING MOBILITY STUDENTS:

You may enrol GRADO EN ESTUDIOS DE ARQUITECTURA course units, according to these conditions:

- **COMPULSORY subjects from 1st to 5th year:** You may enrol at any subject of your interest. You will have to choose the semester (many subjects are offered in both semesters), although the availability of places in a particular group (different class schedules) will only be known at the moment of enrolment
 - ¡! STUDIO COURSES > Maximum per semester:
 - 1 Architectural Design Studio (*Bases para el Proyecto/Proyectos/Taller Temático*)
 - +1 Urban Planning Studio (*Urbanística*)
- **ELECTIVE subjects:** Many of them **have limited number of places** (for both mobility and regular students). While reserving a percentage of places for exchange/visiting, **we cannot guarantee its availability for all students**. Please consider several options in your choice, because only at the moment of your enrolment you will know if there are still places available or not.
 - ! SEMI-INTENSIVE & INTENSIVE electives > Maximum ONE per semester
 - ! Elective courses schedule may overlap with compulsory courses
- **Final Thesis Project (TFG) is not open** to incoming Exchange/Visiting student
- **Number of credits:**
 - EXCHANGE/VISITING student: It is recommended to take no more than 5-6 subjects (24-30 ECTS) per semester
 - VISITING student: According to UPC regulations, you are allowed to enrol a maximum of 60 ECTS credits

