The Master’s program in Communication Systems offers a unique education emphasizing the interplay of mathematics, computer science and electrical engineering. It covers fields like wireless communications, networking and mobility, internet computing, information security or signal processing and includes minors such as space technology.
Olivier Roy:
“I had told myself: ‘well, one thing I am sure of is that these concepts will never be useful’. Fifteen years later, I have to admit that I use them on an everyday basis to develop novel medical imaging technologies that will, one day perhaps, save lives.”

Patricia Pérez:
“The high level of demand of the classes teaches us to surpass ourselves and to go beyond obstacles imposed by some constraints.”

GroupStreamer: to sing from the same song sheet

Party organizers finally have a neutral friend, which helps them in the difficult choice of which music to play. GroupStreamer is a smartphone app that works as a mediator between organizers, DJ and guests. Once the app is installed, the DJ creates a group and invites other guests to join it. Each participant’s playlist is scanned. The tool analyses every song and save the ones that appear more often. Lucas Maystre designed and developed this tool from A to Z for his Master project.


“After the Fukushima reactor fallout, empowering people to take their own readings was a reaction to the outstanding lack of transparency. The first prototype was ready to go after less than one week of work. We now lend out DIY portable Geiger-counters and then post the data online. The bGeigie takes level readings with geographical coordinates and records the information on a standard SD card. Then users upload this information to our website and we make this data available for all,” explains Robin Scheibler who launched the whole initiative named Safecast.

The program includes a compulsory 8-week internship which can be extended to 6 months and combined with the Master’s thesis.

Students may choose a 30 ECTS specialization in:
A  Computer engineering
B  Data analytics
C  Foundations of software
D  Cyber security
E  Networking and mobility
F  Signals, images and interfaces
G  Software systems
H  Wireless communications
I  Computer science theory
J  Internet information systems

Or a 30 ECTS minor included in the 120 ECTS.
Recommended minors with this program:
• Biocomputing
• Biomedical technologies
• Computational science and engineering
• Management, technology and entrepreneurship
• Space technologies

Instead of a minor, students may opt for a Teaching specialization (30 ECTS at the Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud).

Career prospects
The EPFL Innovation Park, literally two steps away, is home to numerous R&D laboratories from international companies such as Cisco, Logitech, Credit Suisse or Nitto Denko. Such companies closely collaborate with the researchers from the School of Computer and Communication Sciences IC. The EPFL Innovation Park is the springboard for plenty of start-ups, most of them stemming from the IC School.

It only takes an average of 10 weeks to find one’s first job in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Moreover, many graduates in the ICT field receive a job offer during the last semester of their training. Companies like Facebook, Google and Microsoft have even begun recruiting directly on campus.

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