



Incoming Exchange Students 2026-2027

School of Computer and
Communication Sciences IC

- Schools: IC, STI, ENAC, SB, SV
- Colleges: CDM, CDH
- In each school:
 - labs (research)
 - sections (teaching)
- IC sections: SIN (Computer Science) and SSC (communication Systems)
- Each section has its own study plans (curriculum)

- Administrative questions:
 - Student Services Desk & Student Exchange Office
 - Please follow instructions already received

- Academic questions (Learning Agreements):
 - Academic Exchange Advisor: gil.regev@epfl.ch

EPFL Website for Incoming Students

Coming to EPFL

Exchange semester or year

Master's project or other lab project

Excellence Research Internship

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

Studying abroad

International outreach

Coming to EPFL

EPFL has an extended network of partner universities throughout the world. By welcoming many international students, the School offers the opportunity to discover new horizons, widen perspectives and benefit from outstanding facilities.



Most of the questions I receive are answered in these pages

- <https://www.epfl.ch/education/international/en/coming-to-epfl/semester-courses/faq/>
- <https://www.epfl.ch/education/international/en/coming-to-epfl/semester-courses/studies/>

Please read before sending me questions.

Partner Universities

Conditions

Preparation of the application

Application procedure and deadlines

Studies

At your arrival at EPFL

Useful information

Frequently asked questions

Contacts

Frequently asked questions

1. Courses: conditions, calendar, prerequisites, languages
2. Courses: registration, exams and study plan
3. Project in a lab (semester or full time project)
4. Transcript of records
5. Accommodation
6. Health Insurance
7. Finances / SEMP Scholarship
8. Administrative formalities upon arrival at EPFL
9. Extension of studies at EPFL
10. Studies at EPFL without an exchange agreement with EPFL

1. Courses: conditions, calendar, prerequisites, languages

- 1.1 What level of French/English is required to study on exchange at EPFL?
- 1.2 Where can I find EPFL's Academic Calendar?
- 1.3 Are courses taught in French or English?
- 1.4 I am having trouble finding the courses that are possible for me to take during a specific semester, where can I find this information?
- 1.5 When will the courses for the academic year of my exchange

Partner Universities

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Studies

Bachelor courses in English

Master courses in English

At your arrival at EPFL

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Frequently asked questions

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Studies

- Course description 2026-27
- Restricted courses
- Study plans and rulebooks 2026-27
- Courses in English
- UNIL Courses
- Language Course
- Academic calendar and course registration
- Exams
- Transcript of records

- Exchange students can take any course, bachelor's and master's
- Exceptions
 - Some restricted courses
 - MGT courses (MTE section)

EPFL About Education Research Innovation Schools Campus Q

Education International Coming to EPFL Exchange semester or year Conditions

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Conditions

You must have been **selected** by your home university, which has to be a **partner institution** of EPFL.

We expect that you register for a minimum of **20 ECTS credits** (European Credits Transfer System) per semester. The study plan must contain a majority of courses from the section in which you have been nominated. One French course of 3 ECTS during the semester can count towards the 20 ECTS.

An exchange to attend courses at EPFL is authorized for **one semester or a full academic year**. The exchange cannot exceed two semesters.

It is recommended to have **good command of French and/or English (level B2)**. Bachelor classes are taught in French and to some extent in English. The **offer** varies from one section to another. **Master** courses are mainly taught in **English**.

No language certificate is required for an exchange at EPFL. However, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have sufficient knowledge of French and/or English to follow the courses.

Restricted courses/projects

Courses and projects **here**, as well as limited places courses are not open to exchange students in 2024-25 (SHS courses and 1st year subjects excepted).

Access to courses in **Management of Technology (MTE)** and **Financial Engineering (FE)** is also limited for exchange students and subject to special conditions. To find out more, please visit the **Studies** page in this section, under "restricted courses".

Restricted courses

<https://www.epfl.ch/education/international/en/coming-to-epfl/semester-courses/conditions/>

MTE website

Exchange students Conditions

EPFL distinguishes between two types of exchange students:

- **Students Exchanging in MTE**
- **Other Exchange Students:** These students, who are exchanging in other sections at EPFL or at UNIL, are permitted to take a maximum of **2 Management of Technology (MGT) courses**, provided these courses are part of the study plan of the section they are exchanging in.

As an exchange student, you will be able to take courses as part of the MTE program. Please note that there are conditions and limitations imposed on exchange students depending on your situation.

Students exchanging in the Management of Technology (MTE) section

Rules for students who exchange ▼
in the MTE section

Students exchanging in other EPFL sections or students HEC-UNIL

Rules for students who exchange ▼
in another section of EPFL or students HEC-UNIL

CS Study plan

Networks out of control (Cours biennal) COM-512 / Section SC Grossglauser, Thiran	EN	-	• Courses: 2h • Exercises: 1h	• Data Analytics • Networking and Mobility • Wireless Communications • Internet Information Systems • Foundations of Computing	Summer session Written	6
Number theory II.d - Cryptography (Pas donné en 2025-26) MATH-489 / Section MA	EN	-	• Courses: 2h • Exercises: 2h	• Cyber security - SP	Summer session Written	5
Optional research project in computer science II CS-596 / Section IN Buck, Gaudin	EN	• Individual project: 2h	• Individual project: 2h		Winter/Summer session During the semester	8
Project management and risk analysis MGT-427 / Section MTE Weiser	FR	• Courses: 2h • Course based project: 1h	-		Winter session During the semester	4
Secure hardware design (Pas donné en 2025-26. This course is a "depth" for Cyber Security master program and Cyber Security minor.) CS-447 / Section IN	EN	-	• Courses: 2h • Course based project: 4h	• Cyber security	Summer session During the semester	6
Student seminar: security protocols and applications (This course is a "depth" for Cyber Security master program and Cyber Security minor.) COM-506 / Section SC Vaudenay	EN	-	• Courses: 2h	• Cyber security - SP • Foundations of Computing • Cyber security	Summer session During the semester	3

Semester Projects

- Individual work, supervised by an assistant or a prof
- 8, 12 or custom credits
- Fall or spring
- Topics: see the sections' web page
- First step: get in touch with the contact person (Professor)
- Register only once you have the ok of the lab

- Once you are registered for the course, you are registered for the exam.
 - <https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/rules-and-procedures/faq/registering-courses-exams-register/>
- Withdrawal from examination: before 20.11.2026 (10 weeks)
Check the academic calendar.
 - <https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/rules-and-procedures/faq/registering-courses-exams-withdraw/>
- Some courses/projects can be without withdrawal, «sans retrait» (There is a 'warning' when you register on IS-Academia).

- All exams must be taken at the same time and in the same place as all other students.
- A possible exception to take the exam at your home university is only possible if the EPFL professor agrees and provided that the demand is officially filed within the first 2 weeks of the semester.

To do now

- If you're still looking for courses, use epfl's search engine:
<https://search.epfl.ch/?filter=courses>
- «Try» the courses you are interested in
- Obtain the ok of your home university
- Check the deadline for course registration in the academic calendar and withdrawal
- Read your emails @epfl
- Signature of Learning Agreements if needed: by email