

---

# Exchange students EPFL Physics Section Welcome

---

Laurent Villard  
Exchange Coordinator  
Physics Section

## Information for new Master students (not as exchange) is given elsewhere:

- Daniele Mari, CE 100
  - Master of Science in Physics
  - Master of Applied Physics
- Andreas Pautz, CE 101
  - Master of Nuclear Engineering
  - Combined EPFL-ETH-PSI

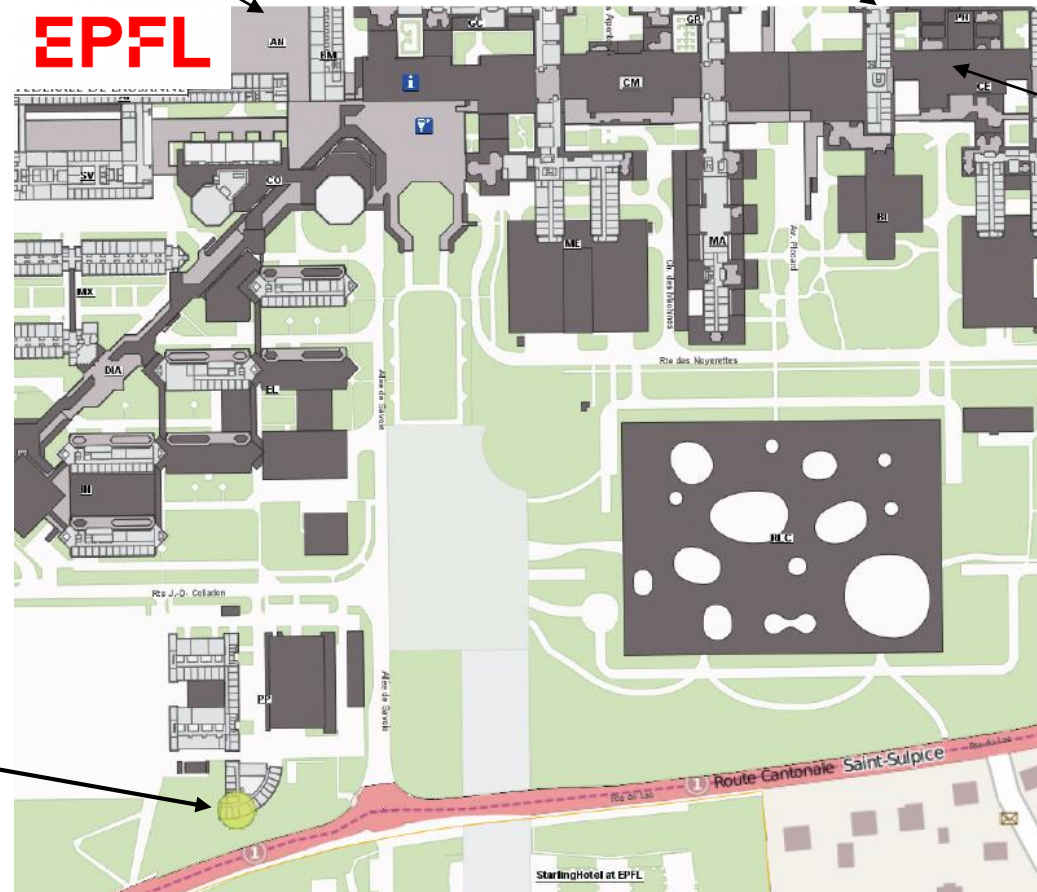
# Contact information

Service Academique (SAC), Student Exchange  
Office, BP 1244, [myriam.schaffter@epfl.ch](mailto:myriam.schaffter@epfl.ch),  
[luisa.pizzillo@epfl.ch](mailto:luisa.pizzillo@epfl.ch), [coralie.link@epfl.ch](mailto:coralie.link@epfl.ch)

Physics Section (SPH)  
[valerie.schaererbusinger@epfl.ch](mailto:valerie.schaererbusinger@epfl.ch)  
021 693 33 00  
PH A2-402

Physics Section Head:  
Prof. Nicolas Grandjean  
[nicolas.grandjean@epfl.ch](mailto:nicolas.grandjean@epfl.ch)

[laurent.villard@epfl.ch](mailto:laurent.villard@epfl.ch)  
021 69 34564  
SPC, PPB building,  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor, no.315



we are here

# Choosing the appropriate courses – information for exchange students

- Your choice of courses must be approved by your *home* institution
- Your home institution is responsible to validate your studies here, on the basis of the results obtained
- The exchange students are submitted to the same rules as EPFL students for the exams, scale for marks, resit, etc. ... but **not** for the choice of courses, **not** for averaging marks within 'blocks' of branches.
- EPFL follows the system of ECTS credits
- Incoming exchange students are allowed, in principle, to participate to any course offered on any Bachelor or Master curriculum of any Section.  
Exceptions: Master in Financial Engineering and Master in Management of Technology, and most Laboratories.
- Do not forget to **register** for the courses you will have selected. Deadline: **Friday, October 1, for the autumn semester**
- Online registration: <https://www.epfl.ch/campus/services/ressources/is-academia/>

# Some useful web pages

## ■ Global view of curricula and study plans:

- [https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/rules-and-procedures/study\\_plans/](https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/rules-and-procedures/study_plans/)
- navigate to Physics Program > Study plan PH 21-22 > download Excel file > thumbnails : Bachelor, Master PH, Master ING PH (applied physics)
- look at other sections (math, chemistry, mechanical engineering...)

## ■ Study plans with links to course descriptions:

- <https://edu.epfl.ch/studyplan/en/bachelor/physics/>
- <https://edu.epfl.ch/studyplan/en/master/physics-master-program/>
- <https://edu.epfl.ch/studyplan/en/master/applied-physics/>

Contain information about the language (FR, EN), the number of ECTS credits, the semester (odd: Autumn; even: Spring), type of exam (written / oral / during the semester)

## ■ Academic calendar:

- <https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/rules-and-procedures/academic-calendar/>

# Laboratory and projects

- Master: TP IV (Physics Lab 4a and 4b)
  - Research project (1 day /week) in one of the physics laboratories
  - <https://www.epfl.ch/schools/sb/research/iphys/research/>
  - Contact the head of lab or your professor to discuss a possible TP IV project (! Limited number of places !)
  - Check with your home University that the proposed project is accepted
- Bachelor:
  - Our EPFL curriculum does not include a 'Bachelor Project'.
  - If your Home University requires you to take one, the procedure is similar as for TP IV above. Tell them that you are looking for a 'TP-IV-like' project, but that you are still at the Bachelor level. Discuss how many ECTS credits such a project will carry.
  - On is-academia, register to the following:
  - **EPFL 301 Specific project for exchange/visiting student.**

# Important dates

## ■ Autumn semester

- September 21 – December 24, 2021
- *Monday September 20 is a public holiday in the Canton de Vaud. No courses. Most shops are closed.*
- October 1, 2021, last deadline for course registration (\*)
- *November 26, 2021: last deadline for exam withdrawal (\*)*

## ■ Exam period for autumn semester courses

- January 17 – February 5, 2022

## ■ Spring semester

- February 21 – June 3, 2022
- March 4, 2022: last deadline for course registration (\*)
- Semester break: April 15-24, 2022
- *May 6, 2022: last deadline for exam withdrawal (\*)*

## ■ Exam period for spring semester courses

- June 20 – July 9, 2022

- **(\*) When you register for a course, you are automatically registered for the exam. If you don't want to sit the exam you have to withdraw from the exam within the indicated deadlines.**

# Exam rules (valid for ALL students)

- You have 2 attempts per course. If you forget to cancel your registration for an exam, it will count as 1 attempt.
- If you fail, you will have to redo the branch at your home University. It is not possible to redo the exam just after or a few weeks after the 1st attempt. In other words: no re-sit possible for you.
- ***As an exchange student, this practically means that you actually have just one attempt...***
- Exam form is either **written** or **oral** during the official exam periods after each semester; or, it can be **during the semester**. This is indicated on the Course Description.
- Exam language is also indicated in the course descriptions. Upon written demand, the teacher can allow the student to reply in English even if the exam language is officially French.



# Institute of Physics @ EPFL

## Group of Physics of Energy and Particles (GPEP): 1 centre + 5 labs :

**Swiss Plasma Center (SPC); Laboratory of Astrophysics (LASTRO); Laboratory for Particle Accelerators Physics (LPAP); Laboratory for High Energy Physics (LPHE); Laboratory for Reactor Physics and Systems Behaviour (LRS)**

## Group of Condensed Matter Physics (GCMP) : 18 labs:

**Quantum Opto-Electronics – LOEQ; Advanced Semiconductors for Photonics and Electronics - LASPE ; Physics of Nanostructures – LPN; Photonics and Quantum Measurements – LPQM; Nanostructured & Complex Matter – LPMC; Electronically Advanced Materials – CREAM; Electronic Spectroscopy – LSE; Nanostructures at Surfaces – LNS; Nanostructured Materials Physics – LPMN; Quantum Magnetism – LQM; etc.**

## Group of Physics of Biological Systems (GPSB) 6 labs:

**Structural Biology and Biophysics – LBBS; Cell Biophysics – LCB; Experimental Biophysics – LEB; Functional and Metabolic Imaging – LIFMET; Physics of Living Matter – LPMV; X-ray Physics - LPRX**

## Group of Theoretical Physics (GTP) : several research units:

**condensed matter physics, statistical physics, biophysics, quantum optics, high-energy particle physics and cosmology. Applied tools range from fully analytical methods to high-performance computing.**

# Before taking up your questions ...

*... an important message*

# What is harassment?

## Psychological harassment or mobbing, a definition

Psychological harassment or mobbing is an unethical or destructive way of reacting to a situation or behaving towards a person.

## Sexual harassment, a definition

Sexual harassment refers to all comments or actions of a sexual nature or other behavior related to a person's gender that are unwanted by the person to whom they are directed, and which adversely affect their well-being.

# EPFL's position about harassment



## Zero tolerance!

- For all types of harassment (sexual, psychological, mobbing, etc.)
- In all situations:
  - student - student
  - student assistant (SA) - student
  - member of the academic staff - student
  - member of the administrative and technical staff - student
  - ... and vice versa

## Possible consequences

- Disciplinary investigation (students) and/or administrative investigation (EPFL staff)
- Sanctions if misconduct is proven

# What to do in those situations?



@ EPFL

- If you witness inappropriate behavior, show your disapproval!  
Inform your class delegate or section
- If you are a victim, if possible, clarify the situation and tell the person concerned what behavior is making you feel harassed
- Speak quickly to someone you trust or to our counselors  
[go.epfl.ch/individual-support](https://go.epfl.ch/individual-support)
- Find out about the support network: [go.epfl.ch/respect](https://go.epfl.ch/respect)

---

# Any questions?

***All the best for your studies at EPFL!***