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 Académique (SAC), Student Exchange Office, BP 1244, sac-exchange-in@epfl.ch
(Luisa Pizzillo, Laura Calderon)

Physics Section Head:
Prof. Cécile Hébert
cecile.hebert@epfl.ch

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

laurent.villard@epfl.ch
021 69 34564
SPC, PPB building,
3rd 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, 29 September 2023, 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:**
  - look at other sections (math, chemistry, mechanical engineering…)

- **Study plans with links to course descriptions:**
  - From the above pages you can navigate to other sections study plans
  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), link to professor contact information

- **Academic calendar:**
Laboratory and projects

- Master: TP IV (PHYS 421- Physics Project I and PHYS 422 – Physics Project II, 8 ECTS each)
  - Research project (1 day /week) in one of the physics laboratories
  - [https://www.epfl.ch/schools/sb/research/iphys/research/](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 19 – December 22, 2023
  - September 29, 2023, last deadline for course registration (*)
  - *November 24, 2023: last deadline for exam withdrawal (*)

- Exam period for autumn semester courses
  - January 15 – February 3, 2024

- **Spring semester**
  - February 20 – June 2, 2024
  - March 3, 2024: last deadline for course registration (*)
  - Semester break: April 8-16, 2024
  - *May 5, 2024: last deadline for exam withdrawal (*)

- Exam period for spring semester courses
  - June 19 – July 8, 2024

- (*) 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)

- If you forget to cancel your registration for an exam, it will count as one failed 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 …
EPFL is a community of around 20,000 people

- Who enrich our community every day with their skills, identities, and differences
- By joining EPFL, we commit to upholding values based on respect and well-being
- To live up to these values EPFL has created the Trust and Support Network
- Easy access through Trust Point
Towards a culture of respect and well-being

- Health days
- Get trained to know how to act and react
  Moodle Promoting respect >>>>>>>>
- Speak up and seek support
  Trust & Support Network (TSN) >>>>>>>>
- Internal entity to file formal complaints
  Respect Compliance Office (RCO)

Everyone has a role to play!
We are all concerned!
Any questions?

All the best for your studies at EPFL!