

Welcome

Organizational Meeting on Monday April 1st, 12 pm to 1 pm. Location to be announced. Email me your schedule, if you cannot attend.

Intense training in oral expression including pronunciation, vocabulary, listening comprehension and fluency. Lectures and discussions focus on scientific French.

PREREQUISITE:

- 3 years of French in High School, or 2 years at Caltech.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Undergraduates planning to attend the International Exchange Program at Ecole Polytechnique in the fall term of their senior year.
- Graduate students enrolled in the GALCIT Dual Master Program with Ecole Polytechnique.
- Undergraduate and graduate students who go to CERN under the SURF program.
- Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the NSF REU program run by Michigan.
- Caltech professors and postdocs intending to spend time in France.
- Any Caltech students interested in scientific French.

CLASS ORGANIZATION:

- A 25-minute presentation by a French-speaking guest scientist on his or her area of expertise. The lecturers are Caltech Professors, JPL, Ecole Polytechnique or other French Institutions Scientists.
- A 15-minute question and answer session.
- A 45-minute discussion of the assigned article connected to the speaker's talk.
- The guest speakers are chosen to match the students' majors (astronomy, physics, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, math etc.)
- The articles are selected from French scientific magazines. They develop the students' vocabulary and give an opportunity to expand on the discussion.
- Lecturers and topics change every year. Students can enroll in the course more than once.
- Students are required to do a presentation of their SURF research OR any scientific topic they like.
- The class is only offered P/F and meets for 90 minutes twice a week.