



ECTS at CPE Lyon

ECTS was initially set up in 1989 as a credit transfer system in the framework of the Erasmus programme. It aims to facilitate student mobility and inter-university cooperation through an enhanced transparency and comparability of study programmes, course units and individual student curricula. It has become an essential tool for the creation of the European Higher Education Area and ECTS credits have come to be the basic components for elaborating and managing degree programmes. Recently ECTS has developed into a credit accumulation system and so the acronym ECTS stands for European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System.

History of ECTS at CPE Lyon

- 1992-1995: Participation of CPE Lyon in the ECTS pilot project for subject area 13.3 – Chemistry.
- 2006: General implementation of ECTS at CPE Lyon as a means to reaffirm its policy of pursuing quality and to have a student centred approach of the learning process. Enhancing the transparency and quality of the information on programmes, courses and student curricula facilitates:
 - orientation of the student within his or her degree programme (choosing of learning activities and outcomes)
 - student and teaching staff mobility
 - management of teaching activities (programmes, contents and evaluation)
 - coherence of the degree programmes, taking into account the workload of the student
 - academic recognition and inter-university cooperation in Europe and beyond.
- May 2007: CPE Lyon was awarded the "European Quality Label" by the Agence Europe Education Formation France for Erasmus student mobility.

Allocation of credits

Each of the engineering diploma course activities is awarded credits. Credits are a numerical value which expresses the total workload that a student needs to accomplish in order to meet the objectives in terms of learning outcomes of that activity.

A credit not only represents the contact hours of the subject concerned but also the time spent in work placements, library research, study and exam preparation, laboratory activities, etc. The engineer diploma programme comprises 270 credits for coursework and practical classes and 50 credits for work placements and the final year project.

At CPE Lyon, one credit corresponds to approximately 26 hours of work. Each module has a value of 3, 6 or 9 credits. An academic year of study is estimated at 1560 hours of work and counts as 60 ECTS credits. The credits for the year 3 work placement (5 credits, 1 month) and the student engineer placement (15 credits, 3 months), which take place during the summer 'vacation' period, are attributed in addition to the 60 credits of years 3 and 4. In particular, this is because in year 4 the students are working a full 12 months (over 2000 hours) as shown in the table below. The 30 credits of the final year project (6 months) are counted as part of the 60 credits of the final (fifth) year of study. It is emphasised that CPE Lyon does not simply convert the number of contact hours into credits, but bases the number of credits on the overall student workload. This workload is evaluated through student and teaching staff surveys and validated by a teaching committee consisting of teaching staff and students.

Year	7th Sept	20th Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	15th Jun	30th Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept
3	Semester 5 (30 ECTS)						Semester 6 (30 ECTS)						Industrial placement (Min. 1 month) (5 ECTS)		
4	Semester 7 (30 ECTS)						Semester 8 (30 ECTS)						Industrial placement (3 months) (15 ECTS)		
5		Semester 9 (30 ECTS)						Semester 10 (30 ECTS)							

Grading scale

Each examination is marked on a scale of 0 to 20. There are at least two evaluations for each module. To be awarded the credits for a module the student must obtain an average mark of at least 10 for the evaluations of that module. For each module, the students obtain a grade (A, B, C, D, E, F) according to the ECTS grading scale. This scale appears on the transcript of marks.

To validate a semester, a total of 30 credits must be obtained. To validate an academic year of study, a total of 60 credits must be obtained.

ECTS institutional co-ordinator

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For any matter related to courses, ECTS credits and the Learning Agreement at CPE Lyon, students should contact Catherine Ponthus.