



(Paris, July 9th, 2013) – The Ecole Centrale Paris will be offering the Research Track (ECPR), a curriculum of excellence based on the sciences and research, at the start of the 2013 academic year. It is addressed to students who are passionate about science and wish to discover the world of research through progressive learning linked to their Centralian engineering cursus.

The Research Track is based on piloting a research project over three years at one of the 8 Centrale Paris Research Centre laboratories and teams. It will allow about twenty, pre-selected students to follow a more advanced scientific cursus and become players in the School's Research Centre.

Like students in an apprenticeship (i.e. following the engineering cursus whilst receiving block-release training), ECPR students will undertake a three-year engineer training cycle. Whilst piloting a research project, they will discover and then acquire expertise in a subject for scientific research, developing their knowledge of experimental techniques, theoretical approaches and digital simulation, skills in oral and written communication and in teamwork.

In the first year, students will be offered complementary and more detailed training in the scientific core subjects (math, thermal sciences, physics, biology, engineering, information sciences). From the end of January, one day will be devoted to their project every week. This will increase to two days per week in the second year. The international study trip will be selected based on its coherence with the project, either in a university for additional teaching or in a scientific laboratory which is a partner of the host team at Centrale Paris. In the third year, the end-of-studies six-month full time engineering internship will allow them to complete their project.

At the end of this three-year track, the ECPR Label will be awarded in addition to the Centrale engineering degree, as proof of the student's implication in the world of research. The ECPR Label validates this expertise for those who wish to undertake a doctoral thesis (15% of students continue their studies with a doctoral course), or to join a company's R&D center.

The objectives of the Research Track are to:

- train engineers capable of developing strong links between academic and company research, a guarantee of success for innovation;
- offer a track adapted to students who are passionate about sciences;
- lead students naturally towards a doctorate, a degree known for both leadership in major, international company projects and its value for an academic career;
- familiarize students with the world of research, helping them to build a comprehensive, professional network for themselves.

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