Our innovative all-English 2-week summer program is open to a maximum of 20 students from all over the world (in 2019 India, Denmark, Spain ... and of course France!).

Students from all disciplines are welcome. The minimum required level is 1st year of College or 1st-year university-level.

Professors, researchers and professionals lead you through this cross-disciplinary program to analyze and understand mountain environments.

Because Grenoble is at the crossroads between 3 mountain ranges and its region includes some of the highest territories in the French Alps, it’s an ideal place to welcome those curious for mountain environments and research topics.

The course’s core topic is Climate change in mountainous areas. From this perspective, our faculty develop insights from the Life sciences, Civil engineering and Land-resources management fields and underline the interrelations between human societies and the mountains.

Both in-class and on the field, learn how the Alps arose, how the plants and living beings in general adapt to change.

The program is hosted partly in Grenoble and in the Oisans mountains. Accommodation is in 2-persons dorms or in shared bedrooms.

Some courses include intermediate-level hikes at high altitudes - 2000m –that require a good physical condition.

The program also counts social events (guided tours, discovery of local customs and products, etc.) to make the experience even tastier.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

OPENING SESSION

General information
Quick course overview & Introduction of participants
Questions and Answers

TOPICS¹

– UNDERSTANDING THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT –
Notions of geology + The valley seen from the Bastille fort
Geological transect on the way – Field observations & Hikes (max. 800m elevation, +/- 5 hours)

– PLANTS & ANIMALS –
Meet an Écrins National Park Guard & Scientist
The University Botanical Garden

– MEASUREMENTS –
Global warming & Atmospheric measures on mountains
Designing Geographic Information for Mountains

¹ The list of topics is subject to slight changes.
– GLACIERS –
State and fate of Glaciers – the “Ice Memory” Heritage project
Effects of climate change on high mountain permafrost
Climate and environmental impacts on snow and ice

– WATER –
Pollution of water reservoirs
Rivers for navigation and for energy

– RISK MANAGEMENT –
Why and how climate change affects avalanche hazard
Landslides – Risk management
Another type of mountains – Managing a volcanic crisis

CLOSING SESSION
Presentation of students’ projects
IPCC2 perspectives, predictions and pathways to hope

TAKE YOUR HIKING BOOTS & A DEEP BREATH - COME LEARN AND HIKE!

2 The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.