



Alice Calaprice summarizes most of the papers and describes meaningful events surrounding their publication, including Einstein's personal life, his travels, the work of other scientists, social and cultural developments at that time, and national and international events.



**Alice Calaprice** was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1941 to a German father and an Armenian mother. She immigrated to San Francisco with her mother and sister in 1951, and is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley. After moving to Princeton, NJ, in 1970 with her physicist husband and young children, she went to work at the Einstein Archive in 1978 at the Institute for Advanced Study. She copyedited all fourteen currently published volumes of the Collected Papers of Albert Einstein and the accompanying English-translation volumes. During this time, she has written and published a number of Einstein books herself. She editorial achievement for 1995.

# The Albert Einstein Almanac

“In the case of good books, the point is not to see how many of them you can get through, but rather how many can get through to you.”

In 1905 Einstein wrote a paper on what is now known as the special theory of relativity. This paper contained two hypotheses. The first stated that the laws of physics had to have the same form in any frame of reference. The second hypothesis stated that the speed of light was a constant. Later that year Einstein also showed how mass and energy were equivalent. Following an impressive few years of work, Einstein became a lecturer at the University of Bern. In 1909 he finally got a post at a university when he became a faculty member at the University of Zurich. In 1911 Einstein taught at Carl-Ferdinand University in Prague. The following year he returned to Germany to continue his work. In 1916 Einstein published his general theory of relativity. This theory linked gravitation, acceleration and the four dimensional space-time. With this theory he was able to account for the variations in the orbital motions of the planets. He also predicted that starlight in the vicinity of a massive object such as the Sun could be bent. This was confirmed in 1919 during a solar eclipse. This further increased the adulation with which the press viewed Einstein. He won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921 for his work on the photoelectric effect. This work proposed that light be considered as consisting of particles called photons. Einstein further proposed that the energy the photon contains is proportional to the frequency of the radiation.

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**ALICE CALAPRICE**

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Albert Einstein is often cited as one of the most influential scientists of the 20th century. His work continues to help astronomers study everything from gravitational waves to Mercury's orbit. The scientist's equation that helped explain special relativity –  $E = mc^2$  – is famous even among those who don't understand its underlying physics. Einstein is also known for his theory of general relativity (an explanation of gravity), and the photoelectric effect (which explains the behavior of electrons under certain circumstances); his work on the latter earned him a Nobel Prize in Physics in 1921.

The Albert Einstein Almanac takes a look at Einstein's year-by-year output, explains his three hundred most important publications and sitting them into the context of his life, scientific and world history. Concentrating primarily on Einstein's scientific and humanitarian writing,