Incoming Student Handbook

2017/2018
A School Dedicated to the Social Sciences

Since 1947, the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (the EHESS - the School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences) has pioneered innovative methods and ideas that have contributed to the evolution of the humanities and the social sciences.

An interdisciplinary approach, global outlook and esprit critique are cornerstones of the EHESS philosophy, one that has supported the undertakings of some of the most well-known French scholars, such as Fernand Braudel, Pierre Bourdieu, Jacques Derrida, Claude Lévi-Strauss, Françoise Héritier and Thomas Piketty.

The EHESS is a graduate-only research institution that gathers scholars from all over the world committed to the study of contemporary societies seen within their broadest cultural and historical context. With its high percentage of international students and faculty, the EHESS has created a unique global academic network. With over 1,000 yearly round-table seminars, in which faculty and guest scholars present and discuss their current research with students, the EHESS occupies a central position in French intellectual life.

The EHESS in Facts and Figures

830 researchers and professors
3,000 students, 50 % of which are international
1,700 PhD students
150 visiting professors invited every year from around the world
500 administrative and research support staff
3 affiliate campuses outside Paris (Marseille, Toulouse, Lyon)
40 research centers
1,000 round-table, research seminars
80 thematic and disciplinary specialties taught
65 agreements with universities across the globe
200 PhDs awarded per year
300 joint-supervision agreements
8 academic journals by the Éditions de l’EHESS
700 publications by the Éditions de l’EHESS
An International Venue for Social Sciences Researchers

Since the school’s inception, the EHESS has worked alongside international researchers to study societies all over the world. This collaboration has led to longstanding partnerships with foreign universities and research institutions far and wide. At the EHESS, the spirit of intellectual exchange asserts itself through a unique setup, in which research centers dedicated to broad cultural areas (Asia, Oceania, Russia, the Americas, etc.) collaborate with disciplinary-focused centers (anthropology, history, economics, psychology, etc.) and thematic centers (politics, religion, science, the arts and languages etc.). This framework provides a dynamic and multipronged approach to uncovering the complexities of our social worlds. In order to further uphold its commitment to the circulation of knowledge, the EHESS dedicates significant resources to hosting researchers from abroad, as well as to the mobility of its own faculty and students.

A Unique Academic Experience

At the EHESS, the academic experience is centered on learning how to conduct research by conducting research. This is achieved by means of round-table seminars, which foster direct intellectual exchange between students and professors currently engaged in research inquiries.

The EHESS welcomes students with atypical profiles and trajectories, based on the quality of their research proposals. Most students enrolled at the EHESS will earn a Master in Social Sciences or a PhD. The school also offers its own EHESS diploma, which, upon completion, certifies the acquisition of solid research competences and offers access to the second year of the EHESS Master. No prior school or university qualifications are required to enroll in this program.

Continuing education

The EHESS has developed a continuing education program designed for professionals and for students enrolled in other academic institutions.
EHESP LOCALISATION

In Paris:
54 boulevard Raspail, 75006 (Head office, administration : scolarité/SIMI) : New address!
105, boulevard Raspail - 75006 Paris (seminars)
48, boulevard Jourdan - 75014 Paris (seminars of Paris school of Economics)

Marseille
Centre de la Vieille Charité 2, rue de la Charité - 13002 Marseille - Tél : +33 (0)4 91 14 07 27
More information on : brochure de la mention RCAHS

Lyon
Institut des sciences de l’homme 14, avenue Berthelot - 69363 Lyon Cedex 07 - Tél : +33 (0)4 72 72 65 78
More information on : brochure de la mention

Toulouse
Université de Toulouse Le Mirail - Maison de la recherche 5, allées Antonio Machado - 31058 Toulouse Cedex 9 - Tél : +33 (0)5 61 50 24 30
More information on : brochure de la mention

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

1st semester: from October to late February
Welcome Day (EHESP students): 10th October.
Welcome Day International Students: 2nd week of October (to be confirmed)

Seminars usually begin in late October/early November

2nd semester: from March to June

Holidays (EHESP will be closed):

- Christmas Holidays: From December 23th 2017 to January 08th 2018.
- Spring Holidays: From April 14th 2018 to April 30th 2018.
STEP OF REGISTRATION

**Before the mobility**

1. Choose your Master/PhD program: you can find description of our offer online.
   - Master program: [https://www.ehess.fr/fr/master](https://www.ehess.fr/fr/master)

2. Fill your learning agreement: it has to be signed by the referent of your university. You will find our online course catalog here: [https://www.ehess.fr/fr/seminaires](https://www.ehess.fr/fr/seminaires)

3. Estimate your budget: you will need by **1000 euros a month** to live in Paris.

4. Find an accommodation in Paris is not easy: don’t wait! EHESS can help you (see accommodation section below)

5. Visa application if necessary: consult Campus France in your country or French Embassy. If you need help, please contact convention-titresdesejour@ehess.fr.

6. Health Insurance: ask for the European Health insurance card if you are European citizen. You can have a health insurance with EHESS (French student insurance companies). More information below.

7. Liability insurance is mandatory! If you already have one (available in France!), please ask for a certificate in English or French.

**Upon your arrival**

1. A welcome meeting is organized at the beginning of the year. It’s not mandatory but highly recommended to attend it.

2. Please contact the SIMI to have a registration appointment. Documents requested: 1 ID photo and 5.10 € in cash. A student card will be issued.

3. Contact your mentor (‘tuteur’).

4. Contact the secretary of Master/PhD program to choose your seminars.

5. If needed, register for the French language courses for foreigners applied to social sciences.
How to fill the learning agreement?

You will be registered in one Master or PhD degree according to your research project or the bilateral agreement settle with your home University.

You can have access to the others seminars.

To obtain ECTS, you have to pass the exam. Spend time in Paris is not satisfactory!

The duration of seminars are various, 12 to 75 hours a year (refers to the seminar or programme description: https://www.ehess.fr/fr/s%C3%A9minaires and https://www.ehess.fr/fr/master)

- 30 ECTS = one semester
- 60 ECTS = a year or 200 hours of seminars at EHESS

Master degree: a course unit = 2 hours a week (24 h/semester) = 6 ECTS (semester)

Be careful when you choose a seminar, some are annual. “Bimensuels annuels” seminars worth 6 ECTS if you attend the entire year. It worth only 3 ECTS for a semester.

All our course catalog is available online: https://www.ehess.fr/fr/s%C3%A9minaires

To choose seminars linked with a master/Phd program just select “par critères divers” and “par mention et spécialités”.

Your learning agreement has to be signed by your home university and send with your application documents. You will have the opportunity to change your plan of study at your arrival.

French language courses

http://bdl.hypotheses.org/

Language center (‘bureau des langues’), located in 105 bd Raspail, offer FLE Courses (French for foreigners) applied to the social sciences. Free of charges.

European Credit Transfer (ECTS)

What is it?

ECTS is a credit system designed to make it easier for students to move between different countries. Since they are based on the learning achievements and workload of a course, a student can transfer their ECTS credits from one university to another so they are added up to contribute to an individual’s degree program or training.

ECTS helps to make learning more student-centred. It is a central tool in the Bologna Process, which aims to make national systems more compatible.

ECTS also helps with the planning, delivery and evaluation of study programs, and makes them more transparent.

Why is it needed?

The differences between national systems can lead to problems with the recognition of educational qualifications from other countries and of periods of study taken abroad. Greater transparency of learning
achievements simplifies the recognition of studies done in other countries. ECTS has been adopted by most of the countries in the European Higher Education Area.

**How does it work?**

ECTS credits represent the workload and defined learning outcomes ("what the individual knows understands and is able to do") of a given course or program. 60 credits are the equivalent of a full year of study or work. In a standard academic year, 60 credits would be usually broken down into several smaller components. The use of ECTS at the "third cycle" (or Ph.D. level) varies.

**French Grading system/ ECTS :**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Système de notation française</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NP</td>
<td>No grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>Fail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sufficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>acceptable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 à 13</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 à 15</td>
<td>Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 et plus</td>
<td>remarquable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENT LIFE

Disability

If you have special needs, don’t hesitate to inform the SIMI. EHESS can provide you individual assistance. https://www.ehess.fr/fr/%C3%A9tudiants-en-situation-handicap

Accommodation

We recommend you to anticipate: accommodation can be a real issue in Paris!

EHESS can help you to obtain an accommodation in a student hall (individual room with private bathroom): Résidence Francis de Croisset, Résidence Lepaute and Résidence Fontaine au Roi.

You will find more information about the process in our website ("Vie pratique").

Accommodation financial help:

In France, every student (no distinction about nationality) can have specific financial support for accommodation. This allocation is on case by case basis, estimated with the price of the accommodation and the financial resources of the student. More information on: www.caf.fr

Few useful addresses:

- **Paris**
  - CROUS (Centre régional des œuvres universitaires et scolaires)
    39 avenue Georges-Benanos - 75005 Paris (RER Port Royal)
    ☏ 01 40 51 35 95 - www.crous-paris.fr/article.asp?idcat=AAD

- Cité universitaire internationale de Paris - Service des Admissions
  17 bd Jourdan - 75014 Paris (RER Cité Universitaire)
  ☏ 01 44 16 64 00 - www.ciup.fr

Other useful links:

- https://www.adele.org/
  Online accommodation offer.

  Campus France provides a useful list of accommodations for students, according to the length of the stay: http://www.campusfrance.org/fr/ressource/adresses-logement

PSL Housing: https://pslhousing.ehess.fr/fr/ehess/

Housing Anywhere: https://housinganywhere.com/
Libraries

Students can have access to a computer room in 105, bd Raspail - 75006 Paris. Opening hours from 9 am to 8 pm from Monday to Friday.

Paris

Most of the research center of EHESS has an academic library. Student can have access to specialized documentation.
More informations: https://www.ehess.fr/fr/documentation-et-collections

Marseille

EHESS-Marseille accommodate the Center of documentation in Social Sciences. Student can have direct access to 10 000 documentary resources.
Online Catalogue: http://shadyc.ehess.fr/
PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS

Visa

European and European Economic Area citizens and Swiss citizens don’t need a visa to come in France. For non-UE citizen, a resident permit is mandatory.

- Before leaving, contact Campus France office or French Embassy in your country.
- Upon your arrival, you have to register your permit:

If you need help, you can contact our welcome desk at [invités@ehess.fr](mailto:invités@ehess.fr)

Cost of living (2015)

![Cost of living chart](chart.png)

Useful links:

- [http://www.campusfrance.org/fr](http://www.campusfrance.org/fr)