Incoming Student Handbook

2018/2019
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.
**EHES LOCALISATION**

**In Paris:**

54 boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris (Head office, administration: registration office/SIMI).

105, boulevard Raspail - 75006 Paris (seminars)

96 boulevard Raspail - 75006 Paris

48, boulevard Jourdan - 75014 Paris (seminars of Paris school of Economics and Institut Jean Nicod)

**In 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

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR**

- **1st semester: from October to late February.**
  Welcome Day (international students): October 8th (to be confirmed).

- **2nd semester: from March to June.**

**Holidays (no lectures):**


STEP OF REGISTRATION

**Before the mobility**

1. Master students are registered in a Master degree (according to the agreement or the field of research). Phd Students at EHESS are free to choose the seminars and are integrated in a research center (according to the field of research).

   You can find description of our offer online.
   - Master degree
   - Phd degree
   - Research centers

2. Fill your learning agreement: it has to be signed by the referent of your university. Learning agreements are not mandatory for the application. It can be signed at the arrival.

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 for non EU citizen: consult [Campus France](https://www.campusfrance.org) in your country.

6. Health Insurance: ask for the European Health insurance card (Erasmus+ students). You can have a health insurance with EHESS (French student insurance companies).

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 each semester. It’s not mandatory but highly recommended to attend it.

2. If you can’t attend the welcome meeting, please contact the SIMI to have a registration appointment. As exchange student, you will have to pay only 5,10 euros for the health center (mandatory for all students).

3. A professor will be in charge of your mentorship during your stay. Contact your mentor (‘tuteur’) by email to ask for an appointment.

4. To register at a seminar, please contact by email the professor in charge (you can also register during the 1st seminar).

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

Course catalog:

You will find all seminars (about 1200 seminars) on our online catalog. The update for the next academic year is made by July.

You can search a lecture according to:

- master degree;
- Cultural area;
- Keywords.

Master students:

You will be registered in a Master degree according to your research field or the bilateral agreement settled with your home university. You can have access to the others seminars, but you need to take at least 2 lectures in your EHESS Master degree.

PhD Students:

EHESS PhD students don’t pass exams. If you need to obtain ECTS during your stay, please choose seminars opened to Master students. Please inform the SIMI prior to your arrival.

ECTS

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):

- 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 annuals. “Bimensuels annuels” seminars worth 6 ECTS if you attend the entire year. It worth only 3 ECTS for a semester.

Your learning agreement has to be signed by your home university. 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 96 bd Raspail, offers FLE Courses (French for foreigners) applied to the social sciences. Free of charges.
General information about 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>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>acceptable</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 à 13</td>
<td>Good</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 à 15</td>
<td>Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 et plus</td>
<td>remarquable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A+</td>
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STUDENT LIFE

Disability

If you have special needs, don’t hesitate to inform the SIMI. EHESS can provide you individual assistance.

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 application procedure in our website (“Se loger”).

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-Berchon - 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/](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/addresses-logement](http://www.campusfrance.org/fr/ressource/addresses-logement)

PSL Housing: [https://pslhousing.ehess.fr/fr/ehess/](https://pslhousing.ehess.fr/fr/ehess/)

Housing Anywhere: [https://housinganywhere.com/](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 EHESS research centers has an academic library. Student can have access to specialized documentation.
More information: 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 INFORMATION

### 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.
- Upon your arrival, you have to register your permit:

### Cost of living (2015)

![Cost of living map]

Montant établi en fonction des loyers moyens (Locservice.fr), des tarifs des transports, d’un solde fixe pour l’alimentation, les charges, les livres, le téléphone et les loyers (OVE) et des aides financières directes à destination des étudiants (chèque santé, chèque vacances et chèque d’aide au logement). Cette étude comprend les quinze plus grandes villes étudiantes et cinq villes issues d’un panel réalisé par l'UNEF (Brest, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, Tours, Orléans et Metz).

Source : UNEF

### Useful links:

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