Incoming Student Handbook

2016/2017
PRESENTATION OF EHESS

The Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) is a public research institution for graduate studies in the social sciences. Its aim is primarily the transmission and teaching of research in this field through up-to-date research. At the forefront of contemporary research in the social sciences, classes are structured around seminars in which each professor presents his or her own work in progress. The emphasis is on the practical side of research leading to theoretical and methodological elaborations. Professors and students work together in order to question and redefine the conventional or the current boundaries of the various disciplines in the social sciences. The tradition at EHESS is to achieve a dynamic balance between specialisation and interdisciplinary as well as between the individual and collective approach of research. This tradition began with the founding of the celebrated “Annales school” by Marc Bloch, Lucien Febvre and Fernand Braudel, who renovated history by borrowing the concepts and methods of other disciplines, such as economics, anthropology and sociology.

Since then the circulation of theoretical innovation has worked the other way round, while other disciplines were added: demographics, archaeology and geography, law and political studies, linguistics and psychology, philosophy and cognitive sciences, together with mathematics (with a view to formalise the social sciences). Another meaningful addition was the development of area studies, from Africa and North and South America to Europe, Asia and the Arctic regions. While the current academic debates over the significance of the area studies vs. the “global” view actively cross each sub-field of the social sciences at EHESS, the School maintains a tradition of scholarship in terms of foreign languages, histories and cultures, and offers an open, interrelated triple-pronged approach of the social sciences: research objects and themes are studied from the angle of the disciplines, or from that of the area studies, or they form the starting point of research. These approaches are articulated within a variety of research teams and research networks. They also shape the various domains of the Graduate School and of the Master cycle.

In addition to the historical Parisian location, EHESS has developed branches and scientific associations in Lyon, Marseille and Toulouse. Thanks to a constantly updated tradition of international academic partnerships, research and teaching at EHESS are closely connected to a large number of universities and research institutions around the world. Guest scholars are regularly invited in order to present their current work. The international programme also benefits from the international links woven within the sister institution of EHESS: the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme (MSH).

In accordance with the traditional of international co-operation, the School’s policy is to foster the European and international dimension of the Doctoral school and to develop the new Master cycle in a similar perspective stressing European links. The EHESS welcomes students at the level of master or in its doctoral school. The master degree is a prerequisite to continuing in the Phd program.

The principal research and teaching activities are carried out in the following disciplines: history, sociology, anthropology, economics, demographics, geography, law, archaeology, psychology, linguistics, Cognitive sciences, philosophy, and mathematics.

In some areas of knowledge, it cooperates with other institutions for awarding master and doctoral degrees.

The list of the doctoral sections (for the PhD) and the list of the “mentions” (defining the master in social sciences) are available on the EHESS’s web page: https://www.ehess.fr/fr/formations

3234 students registered in 2014-2015
19 Masters and 22 specialties
13 doctoral Programme (Phd)
More than 1000 seminars
Strong international dimension: 52% of Phd students comes from foreign countries,
36.3% of the Master Students
EHESS LOCALISATION

In Paris:

190-198 avenue de France - 75013 Paris (Head office, administration : scolarité/SIMI)

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
STEP OF REGISTRATION

Before the mobility

- Fill your learning agreement: it has to be signed by the referent of your university.
- Estimate your budget: you will need by **1000 euros a month** to live in Paris.
- Find an accommodation in Paris is not easy: don’t wait!
- Visa application if necessary: consult Campus France in your country or French Embassy.
- Health Insurance: ask for the European Health insurance card. You can have a health insurance with EHESS (French student insurance companies)
- Liability insurance is mandatory! If you already have one (available in France!), please ask for a certificate in English or French.

Upon your arrival

- Please contact the SIMI to have a registration appointment. Documents requested: 1 ID photo and 5.10 € cash. A student card will be issued.
- Contact your mentor (‘tuteur’).
- Contact the secretary of Master/PhD programme to choose your seminars.
- If needed, register for the French language courses for foreigners applied to social sciences.

Before leaving

- Contact SIMI to obtain your certificate of stay.
- Contact masters’ secretary or professor to obtain your transcripts. SIMI can help if you’re not register only in one Master programme.
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](https://www.ehess.fr/fr/%C3%A9tudiants-en-situation-handicap)

Libraries

Computing: Student 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.

![Library](image)

Paris

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

Marseille

EHESS-Marseille accomodate the Center of documentation in Social Sciences. Student can have direct access to 10 000 documentary resources. Online Catalog: [http://shadyc.ehess.fr/](http://shadyc.ehess.fr/)

Toulouse

You can have access to all academic libraries of university. For more information, please contact the secretary of the Center of social anthropology: [bcousin@ehess.fr](mailto:bcousin@ehess.fr) -05 61 50 24 30 - Maison de la recherche de l’Université Toulouse le Mirail- 5 avenue A. Machado - 31058 Toulouse.

French language courses


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 programme 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 programmes, 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 programme. 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.

**Application at EHESS:**

- 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 = 6 ECTS (semester)

**French Grading system/ECTS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Système de notation française</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NP</td>
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<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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</table>
PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS ABOUT LIFE IN FRANCE

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:

Cost of living (2015)
Health and Insurance

You have to obtain **before your arrival**:

- European health card if you come from Europe,
- private insurance certificate, available in France during your all the period of study in France (in French or English)

For all stay longer than 3 months, and age under 28, it’s mandatory to be covered by the French students Health Insurance programme. You can obtain the insurance directly during your registration at EHESS (Price: 215€ in 2015/2016)

Upon your arrival in France, you have to obtain a liability insurance, mandatory for all students. You can request it to the French students insurance companies (LMDE or SMEREP): annual cost between 17 and 30 €.


54 boulevard St Michel 75006 Paris. On Saturday (9h30 am to 5h30 pm) multilingual assistance.

When you register, you pay 5.10€ for preventive medicine. You can have access to the “Centre universitaire des Sts Pères (SIUMPPS Paris Descartes) » :

![SIUMPPS Paris Descartes](image)
Accommodation

We recommend you to anticipate: accommodation is a real issue in Paris! Please contact the SIMI if you need assistance.

Few useful addresses:

- Paris
  - CROUS (Centre régional des œuvres universitaires et scolaires)
    39 avenue Georges-Bernanos - 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

- Marseille
  - CROUS (Centre régional des œuvres universitaires et scolaires)
    3 place Victor Hugo - 13331 Marseille cedex 3
    www.crous-aix-marseille.fr - logement.marseille@crous-aix-marseille.fr

- Toulouse
  - CROUS (Centre régional des œuvres universitaires et scolaires)
    58 rue du Taur - 31070 Toulouse Cedex
    ☏ 05 61 12 54 00
    www.crous-toulouse.com

For all France: https://www.adele.org/
% online accomodation offer.

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

Accomodation 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

Contact:

SIMI/DEVE
Valérie BEAUDOIN
simi@ehess.fr
+33(0)1 49.54.26.93
190 avenue de France 75013 (Métro Quai de la Gare)

Useful links:

- http://www.campusfrance.org/fr
- http://etudier-en-france.fr/ blog de Campus France
- http://www.etudiantdeparis.fr/ : infos pratiques, évènements
- http://ixesn.fr/ : International exchange Erasmus student network