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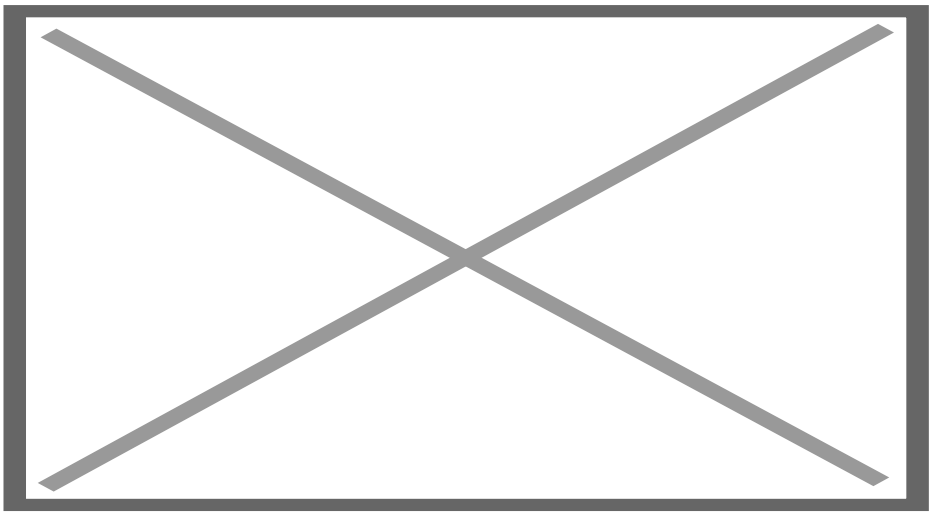
M1 Transition vers la soutenabilité

Master's degree
Specialisation Science de la durabilité
Language(s) of instruction
French

The Master’s in Transition to Sustainability (M1) trains students in social sciences and environmental studies to actively support the ecological transition. Highly interdisciplinary, it addresses sustainable development, planetary boundaries, and environmental management, covering economics, sociology, anthropology, natural sciences, law, and research methodology. All courses are taught in French, requiring a strong command of the language.

This program builds on the research themes of the renowned laboratories at Université Paris-Saclay (notably CEARC on the UVSQ campus), both in the field of ecological economics and in interdisciplinary studies. Ecological economics and interdisciplinary studies are now recognized as the most promising fields for addressing collective-action challenges related to contemporary issues of inequality and environmental degradation, and for building a future in which these issues no longer arise.

Télécharger la fiche détaillée
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Information

- Overview
- Application requirements
- Schedule

Présentation

Skills

At the end of this program, graduates are able to analyze, evaluate, and support ecological transition processes in a variety of professional contexts. In this framework, they are capable of:

- mobilizing and producing highly specialized knowledge,
- contributing to transformation in professional contexts,
- developing solutions and recommendations that meet sustainable development objectives,
- analyzing sustainability challenges from multiple disciplines and across different spatial scales.

Objectives

The Master’s in Transition to Sustainability (M1) trains professionals to mobilize theoretical, methodological, and practical knowledge to understand and act on complex environmental, social, and economic challenges. All courses are taught in French, so a strong command of the language is required.

By the end of the year, students will be able to:

- Understand the history, political foundations, and evolution of sustainable development, analyze environmental, social, and economic conditions, and evaluate the diversity of theoretical and practical approaches to sustainability.
- Develop a multidisciplinary perspective on the interactions between biodiversity, food, agriculture, society, and the environment, and communicate and debate critically with both the public and professionals from diverse fields.
- Critically analyze economic systems, assess the impacts of human activities on ecosystems, and consider sustainable development pathways, including growth, alternative indicators to GDP, and ecosystem services.
- Master the fundamentals of environmental, ecological, and international political economy, development theories, and public policies, and use economic instruments to inform environmental policy choices.
- Rethink the links between human resources, corporate social responsibility (CSR), and sustainability, analyzing employment quality, well-being, inequalities, and the impacts of public policies and management practices.
- Study the role of mobility and transportation in sustainable territorial planning and propose strategies adapted to urban, rural, or regional contexts.
- Understand ecosystem functioning, biodiversity, biogeography, conservation biology, and human impacts, and analyze culture-environment interactions through anthropology and indigenous knowledge.
- Apply sociology to environmental issues and conduct field research on citizen, associative, or entrepreneurial initiatives.

- Design and carry out qualitative and quantitative field surveys, anticipate and manage difficulties, plan data collection, and limit bias.
- Grasp the systemic dimension of environmental risks and propose territorial risk management strategies (floods, droughts, fires, heatwaves, pandemics, etc.).
- Use participatory practices to integrate citizen participation into social, climatic, or health risk management.
- Develop an interdisciplinary approach to health and well-being, analyzing links between living environment, social justice, pollution, and territorial resilience.
- Master environmental law and its application (principles, actors, sanctions) and communicate in English on environmental sciences.
- Design and carry out a research project or internship, write a rigorous thesis or report, and develop autonomy, clear expression, and collaborative work skills.

Débouchés

Career prospects

After a Master's + PhD: researcher or lecturer
Engineering firms specialising in environmental impact assessments
Project Manager / Researcher in biodiversity and sustainable development
Project officer sustainable development
Project officer environment
Environment / Biodiversity Officer
Project and territorial development officer
Project and regional development officer / manager
Research officer in sustainable development
Research officer environment
Technical, economic, strategic, and environmental research officer
Project Manager
Business ethics and CSR Consultant
CSR Manager / Officer

Further Study Opportunities

2nd year Master’s

Calendar

Start of programme (indicative date)
01/09/2026
End of programme (indicative date)
30/06/2027
Admission

Admission Route

Public Administration
Law
Economics
Management
Economics and Management
Economic and social administration
Political Science
Health and Social Sciences
Humanities
History
Art history and archaeology
Geography and planning
Sociology
Psychology
Educational sciences
Philosophy
Social sciences
Human sciences, anthropology, ethnology
Information-communication
Mathematics and computer science applied to human and social sciences
Mathematics
Physics
Chemistry
Physics, Chemistry
Life Sciences
Earth Sciences
Life and Earth Sciences
Electronics, Electrical Energy, Control
Mechanics
Civil Engineering
Health sciences
Science and Technology
Engineering Sciences
Geography
Cultural studies
Undergraduate double degree Mathematics - Physics

Capacity

Available Places

Target Audience and Entry Requirements

The M1 in Transition to Sustainability is intended for students who have completed three years of higher education, with an overall average well above 12/20. Given the interdisciplinary nature of the program, degrees from all academic disciplines may be considered.

This Master’s combines action and research: a strong motivation for the challenges of sustainability transition and environmental management is therefore essential. Successful completion of the program requires full proficiency in French and good English skills, necessary for accessing readings and scientific publications.

Période(s) de candidature

Inception Platform

From 15/01/2026 to 16/03/2026

MonMaster Platform

From February 17th to March 16th, 2026

To find out which platform you should apply through, please see the Masters' applications and enrolment page.

Supporting documents

Compulsory supporting documents

Motivation letter.

All transcripts of the years / semesters validated since the high school diploma at the date of application.

Curriculum Vitae.

Additional supporting documents

VAP file (obligatory for all persons requesting a valuation of the assets to enter the diploma).

Supporting documents :
- Residence permit stating the country of residence of the first country
- Or receipt of request stating the country of first asylum

- Or document from the UNHCR granting refugee status
- Or receipt of refugee status request delivered in France
- Or residence permit stating the refugee status delivered in France
- Or document stating subsidiary protection in France or abroad
- Or document stating temporary protection in France or abroad.

Programme

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class
Méthodologie (quanti/quali) de travail de terrain	3	Semestre 2	21					
Charger le détail								
Economie Politique internationale	3	Semestre 1	24					
Charger le détail								
Santé et bien être	3	Semestre 2	21					
Charger le détail								
Etude du risque	3	Semestre 2	21					
Charger le détail								
Epistémologies et éthiques de l'environnement et du développement	3	Semestre 2	21					
Charger le détail								
Economie de l'environnement	3	Semestre 1	21					
Charger le détail								
Sustainability Science 2: Methodological Issues in Sustainability Research and its Implementation	3	Semester 2	18					
Charger le détail								

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class
Sustainability Science 1: Sustainable Development — Historical and Political Perspectives, Current State, and Diversity of Approaches	3	Semester 1	18					
Charger le détail								
Political ecology	3	Semester 1	21					
Charger le détail								

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class
Introduction au droit de l'environnement	3	Semestre 1	27					
Charger le détail								
Economie des territoires et mobilité	3	Semestre 1	21					
Charger le détail								
Sociologie de l'environnement et du développement	3	Semestre 2	21					
Charger le détail								
Responsabilité sociétale, durabilité et bien-être	3	Semestre 1	21					
Charger le détail								

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class
Pratiques participatives	3	Semestre 2	21					
Charger le détail								

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class
Economie écologique	3	Semestre 2	21					
Charger le détail								
Anthropologie du développement et de l'environnement	3	Semestre 1	21					
Charger le détail								
Ecologie et écosystèmes	3	Semestre 1	27					
Charger le détail								

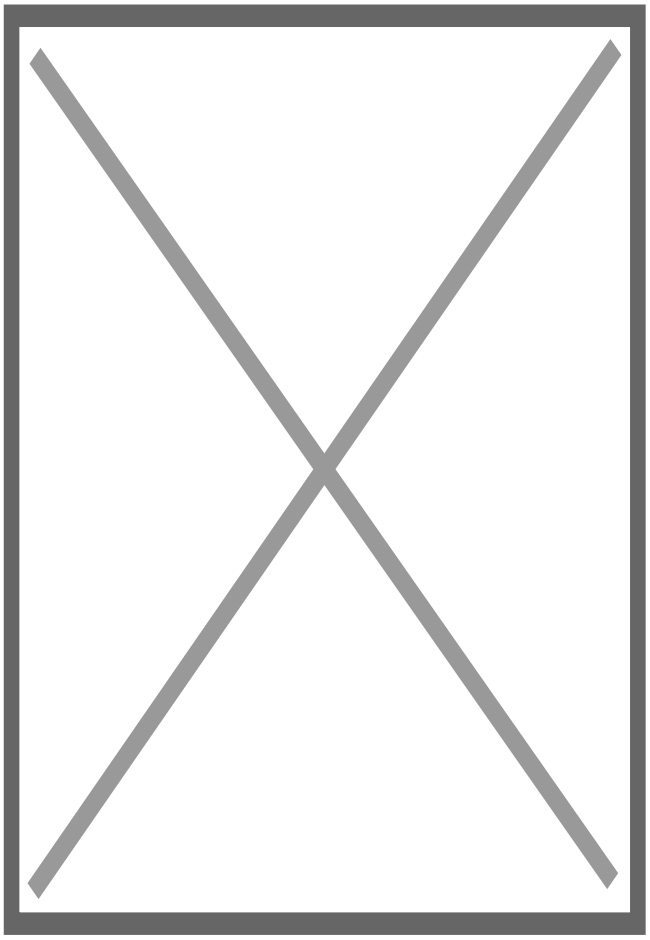
Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	dista learn cou
Anglais approfondi thématique	3	Semestre 1	21						
Charger le détail									
TS1/DD1-Stage ou mémoire de recherche	9	Semestre 2							
Charger le détail									

Teaching Location(s)

ORSAY
MONTIGNY LE BRETONNEUX
SCEAUX
GUYANCOURT

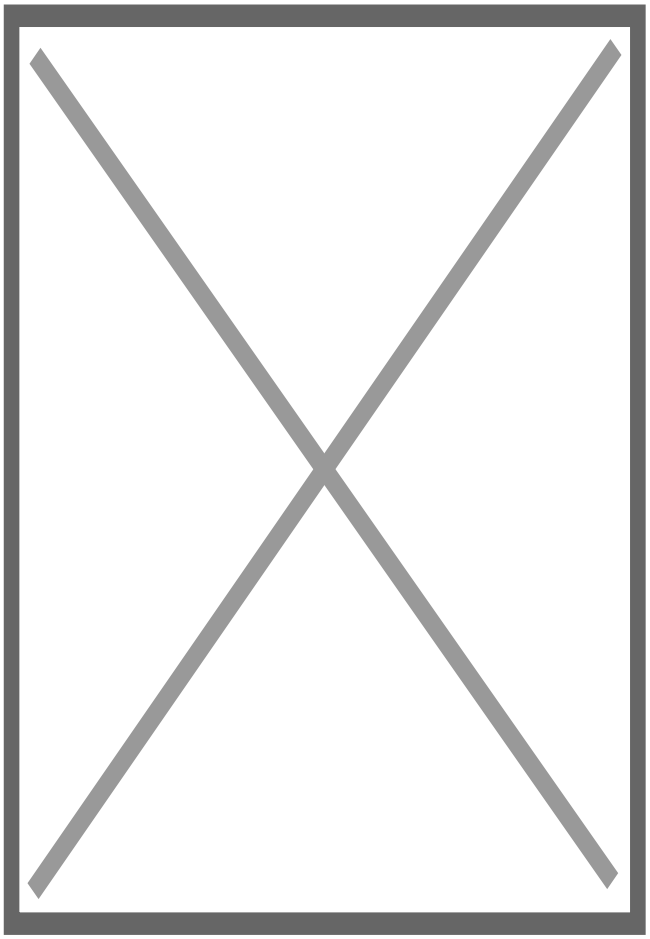
Training campus

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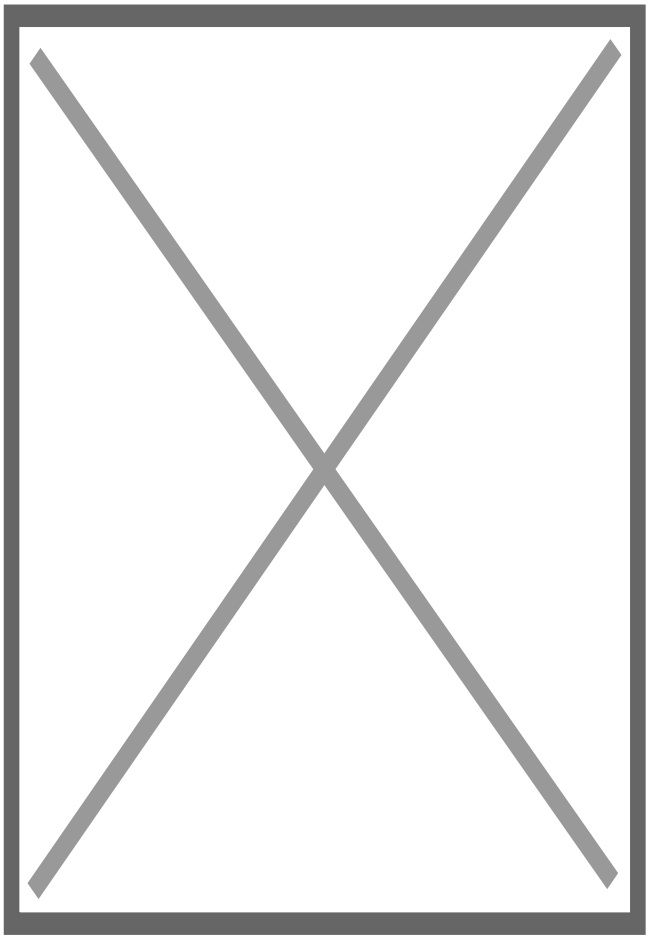
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RER B Orsay ville ou Bures-sur-Yvette
Voir
Library
Community center



Sceaux Fontenay

Sceaux
Bus 194, 294, 390, 395
RER B Robinson
Voir
Student restaurant (CROUS)
Student residence
Library



Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines

Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines
Bus 5103, 5150, 5198, 7807
RER C Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines
Voir
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Contact

- **Mateo CORDIER**

http://www.universite-paris-saclay.fr/formation/master/science-de-la-durabilite/m1-transition-vers-la-soutenabilite