Université Paris-Saclay
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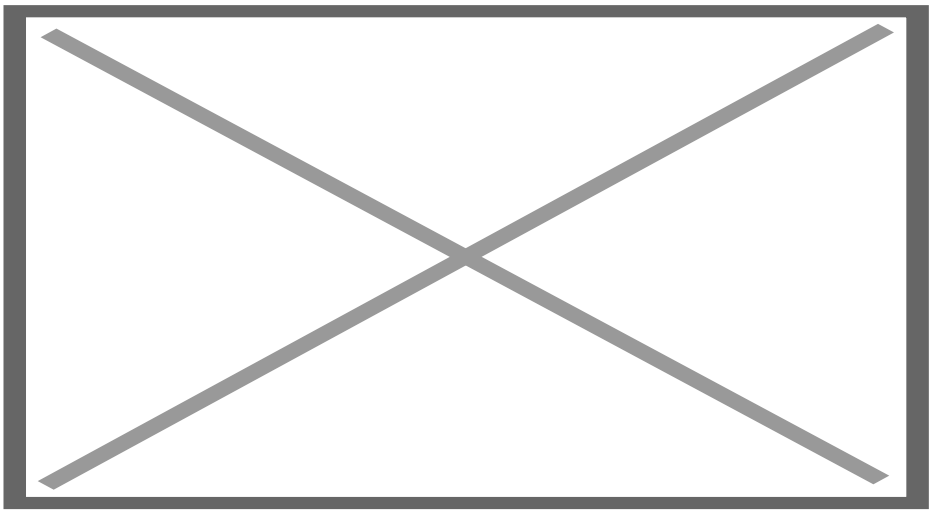
M1 Design research

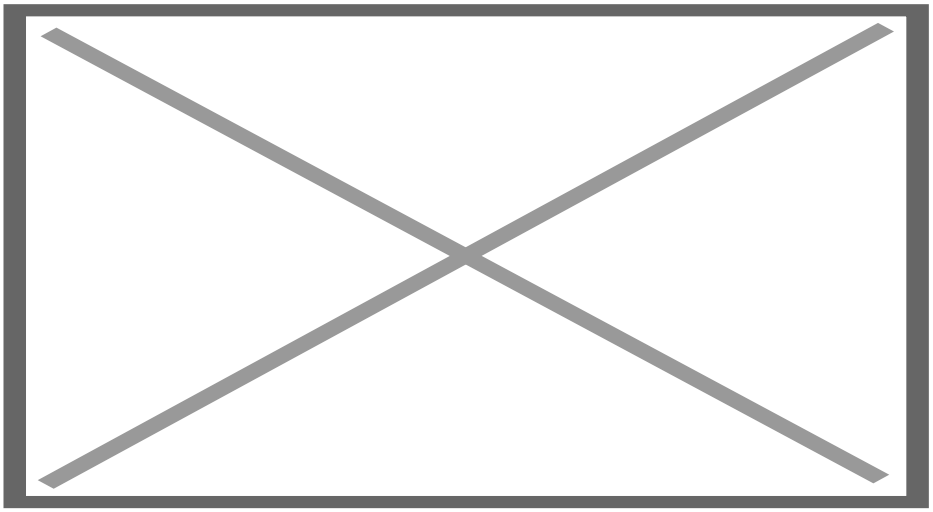
Master's degree
Specialisation Design
Enrolment type
Formation initiale
Formation continue
Language(s) of instruction
English
French

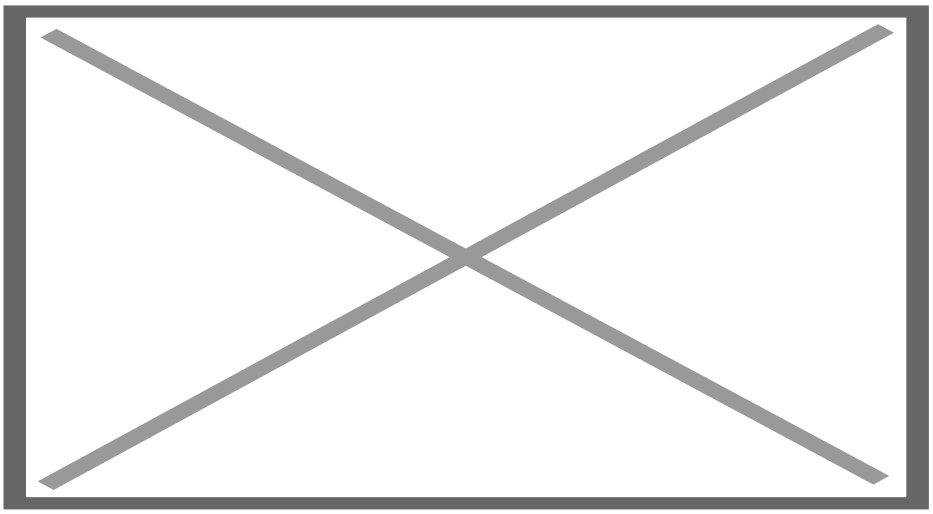
Master in practice-based design research

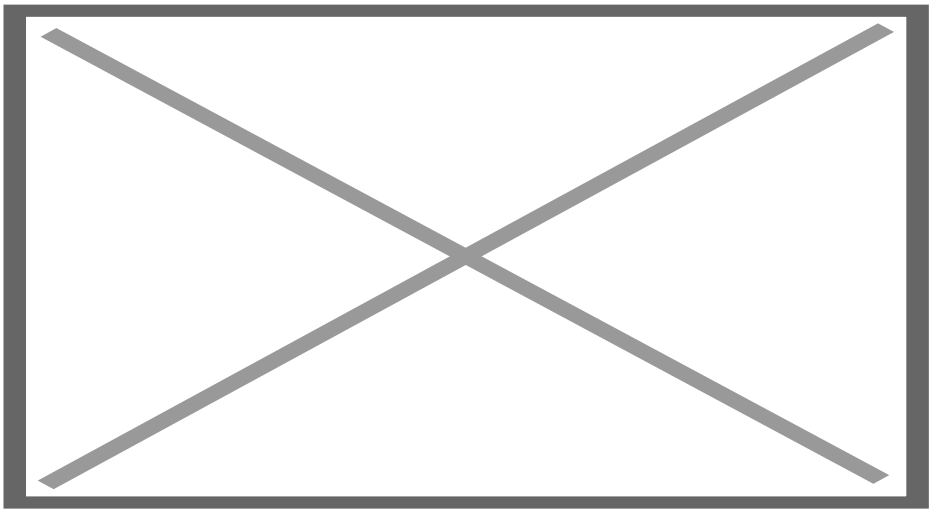
Design at Paris-Saclay University is approached from a multidimensional perspective that integrates skills in the humanities, technology, and heritage management. Students are trained to think about design not only in aesthetic or functional terms, but also in terms of its social, cultural, and historical impact. This includes training in the history of objects in their societal context, conservation and design techniques, and how design can contribute to the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage and help address contemporary societal challenges, particularly through the use of proven and speculative methods.

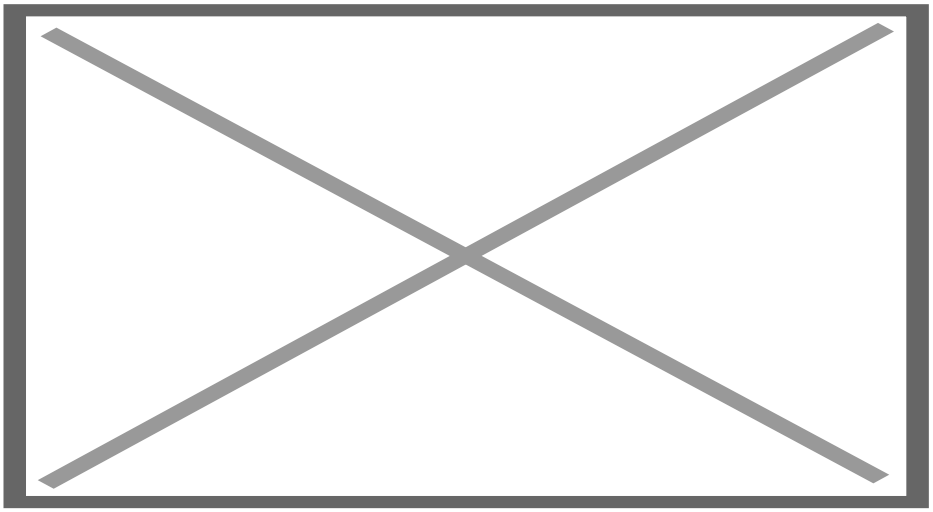
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Information

- Overview
- Application requirements
- Schedule

Présentation

Skills

? Design research project skills: development of practice-based research projects;

? Mobilise craftsmanship and specialised skills, including the use of new technologies and the transmission of design knowledge;

? Formulate sound hypotheses and develop critical thinking skills, drawing on methodological, historical, sociological, philosophical and critical practical approaches;

? Produce high-quality work, both in terms of documentation and design, with particular attention to the communication and presentation of results,

? Demonstrate writing skills, in particular through logical progression of arguments, relevance of references and examples cited, explanation of methods used, and clear presentation of results, with an impactful introduction and conclusion;

? Master information literacy, ensuring the quality of the bibliography, sources, captions, and careful use of tables or figures when necessary.

Objectives

The objective of the Master 1 ‘Research in Design’ programme is to encourage students to question contemporary lifestyles through design projects and research.

In the first year, students are trained ‘by and for research’ through practical learning of the main design tools and concepts, workshops, internships, etc.

This Master's programme enables students to acquire the essential skills to become a design researcher: collecting information, designing, experimenting, coding, representing and publishing.

- in workshops, studios, work placements, etc.
- and around the essential skills of a future designer-researcher: documenting, modelling, experimenting, coding, representing and publishing. The aim of the second year of the Master’s in Research in Design is to continue the training of the designer-researcher, giving priority to learning how to use the tools of research and to research through practice and the development of a single issue.

Débouchés

Career prospects

After a Master's or Master's + PhD: researcher or lecturer
After a Master's + PhD: researcher or lecturer

Further Study Opportunities

PhD

Admission

Admission Route

Arts

Capacity

Available Places

16

Target Audience and Entry Requirements

The entry profiles for this programme are:

- Students trained at the French Ministry of National Education's school of applied arts or the Ministry of Culture's art and design school at L3 (undergraduate) level at least
- or students in undergraduate-level design courses or other creation/design fields.

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

List of post-secondary school studies mentioning exclusively the year, course, institution, average grade and your grade or distinction.

Motivation letter.

Portfolio.

témoignant de projets de design stricto sensu (c’est-à-dire à l’exception de l’architecture)

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

Curriculum Vitae.

dont une d’un designer praticien

Additional supporting documents

Certificate of French (compulsory for non-French speakers).

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	dist lea co
Philosophy1	3	Semester 1	20						
Charger le détail									
Critical histories of design	3	Semester 1	15						
Charger le détail									

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	dist lea co
Research writing	4	Semester 2	15						
Charger le détail									
Introduction to qualitative research and social sciences	3	Semester 2	9						
Charger le détail									
Studio project 3	10	Semester 2		75					
Charger le détail									

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	dist lear cou
Prototyping studio	3	Semester 1	15	30					
Charger le détail									
Studio project 1	4	Semester 1		60					

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	dist lear cou
Charger le détail									
Studio project 2	4	Semester 1		60					
Charger le détail									
Interaction Design	4	Semester 1	24	24					
Charger le détail									

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	di le c
Digital prototyping	2	Semester 1	12	12					
Charger le détail									
Recherche documentaire	2	Semestre 1	15						
Charger le détail									
Processus, outils et trajectoires	2	Semestre 1	15						
Charger le détail									

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	distan learni cours
English	3	Semester 1		12					
Charger le détail									

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class
Interdisciplinary laboratory Internship	10	Semester 2		280				
Charger le détail								

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	distan learni cours
English	3	Semester 2		13					

Subjects	ECTS	Semester	Lecture	directed study	practical class	Lecture/directed study	Lecture/practical class	directed study/practical class	distanc learni cours

Charger le détail

Teaching Location(s)

GIF SUR YVETTE
PARIS 04
PARIS 11
PALAISEAU

Contact

- **Claire BRUNET**

  ENS Paris-Saclay

http://www.universite-paris-saclay.fr/formation/master/design/m1-recherche-en-design