



Paris School of Architecture  
**Prospectus**  
2020/21



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## INTRODUCTION

The Paris School of Architecture is an independent institute of architectural education with an international focus based in central Paris.

All courses are taught in English and the school prepares its graduates to operate across Europe and the rest of the world.

The PSA is an entrepreneurial school, teaching students who wish to branch towards a particular specialism of architectural design having completed their undergraduate architectural studies elsewhere, or who are considering establishing their own practice following graduation.

The 2 year post-graduate course of study at PSA offers a bespoke and innovative mode of architectural study reflecting the changing nature of architectural practice. The course is specifically aimed at graduates of 3 year degree courses who wish to use their post-graduate study to specialise in a particular field of architecture.

Members of the school combine their traditional architectural studies with emerging and disruptive subjects and technologies, in which they become specialists.

Located in the centre of Paris, the school is positioned at the heart of Europe in one of the world's greatest international cities.

Continuing this international focus, our programme of study prepares graduates to be leaders in the fields of architecture, construction, philosophy, journalism, and emerging technologies.

The Paris School of Architecture equips its members with the artistic, philosophical, intellectual and technical skills required by industry to produce exceptional future professionals.

Set in the centre of Paris, informed by the European design and construction world, with Master Classes provided by a faculty of leaders in the creative industries from all over the world, the School is deliberately international; producing the next generation of global architectural practitioners.

## 21st Century Professionals

The school was established to offer an alternative route into architecture and associated disciplines in response to the radical changes in architectural practice in the past two decades.

Most schools of architecture follow a pedagogical methodology adopted nearly a century ago that has become less relevant to the realities of architecture today. The Paris School offers a new system, combining core architectural components with emerging professional requirements, better preparing its graduates for work in practice, establishing their own practices, or work in other fields such as property development, construction management, journalism, curatorship, video game design, and virtual reality.

## A European School

The school was founded by practitioners in Paris who work around the EU, who have either taught or graduated from the schools in Europe and the US.

As the English language cements its position as the global lingua franca, and regulatory reform by the European Union brings greater uniformity to architectural practice within the bloc, the need for an anglophone European school in Paris has never been more pressing.

In addition, the school places importance on the study of architectural, legal and construction terminology being pertinent to different jurisdictions to allow graduates to work seamlessly across Europe and the world. This cultural exchange promotes and reinforces the international focus of the school and its pedagogy.

# A New School

In development since 2015 and opening for its first intake in September 2019 the Paris School offers a range of programmes, from undergraduate and graduate study, to distance learning, language study, and summer schools.

The first courses will commence on 23rd September 2019, when the first intake of year 1 students join the school (equivalent to the first year of masters studies).

ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) will apply to the school, the two year course offering a total of 120 Credits. The school is also completing the process of registration with *Répertoire national des certifications professionnelles* who accredit private educational institutions in France.

Our cohort of students will form a critical part of our course development, with a student council with the power to propose additional subjects as technologies and cultures evolve, develop exchange relationships with other institutions, and amend and vote on the school's charter and leadership.



## ACADEMIC LIFE

The pedagogy of the Paris School of Architecture is rooted in testing the complex and divergent issues in which architecture exists through a single, comprehensive, year-long studio project.

Developing a post-graduate architectural project from September until June allows for greater time of research, narrative, representational expression, philosophical engagement, and craft output than found in other institutions with semester-long briefs. Such projects are intellectually demanding, and critically rigorous, with graduates leaving with portfolios with projects of great depth and complexity.

Reinforcing this project-driven pedagogy, are a series of Master Classes, which bring professionals from the worlds of design, law, film, communication, and building procurement. These Master Classes not only serve to impart specialist knowledge, grounded in professional practice, but to feed into the studio project, allowing each student to develop highly individual responses.

Each academic year culminates in the end of year show, a public gallery exhibition of each student's work held in central Paris.

This offers our students the opportunity to showcase their work to family, friends, and potential employers and investors.

Assessments of the year-long studio project are made following a final presentation on the day before the opening night of the end of year show.

Additional assessments on each Master Class are made on a subject by subject basis, depending on the subject in question. All Master Classes must be passed in order to exhibit at the show.

One unique element of the pedagogical philosophy of the School is that we do not implement a grading system, meaning that projects are judged as either a Pass or a Fail. This encourages maximum freedom of expression, and allows students to take risks and innovate. Exceptional studio projects may be awarded a Distinction, as the discretion of the Head of Year.

Students who wish to undertake French language courses during their studies will be able to do so. This will help the student with their day to day activities while they are living in Paris. These will be offered at both beginner and intermediate level.

The PSA studios are equipped as necessary for students to undertake their studio projects, including 3d printing capabilities, laser cutting machines, printers, projectors, and model making equipment.

It is highly recommended that students purchase a laptop computer for the two year period.



## PROGRAMME

The Paris School of Architecture offers a single post-graduate course in Architecture with three distinct pathways.

Upon enrolment, we request that our students select one of the three following pathways:

- Project Management
- Design and Communication
- Disruptive Technology

Through the studio-led culture of the school, students will be taught as individuals, rather than in 'units'. The selection of a pathway allows the student to demonstrate which area of architecture they are most interested in developing, and while students of each of the three pathways will be taught together, their specialism will become apparent through the development of their studio project.

Students in the Project Management pathway will be encouraged to design and produce tangible interventions, rather than a 'paper' project, so they may gain experience in the implementation of architectural designs.

The Design and Communication pathway will focus primarily on the development of architectural representation and the means of communication of complex ideas both to other Architects and to lay people.

Students who select the Disruptive Technology pathway will develop emerging technologies into potential products or enterprises in which study and extrapolation of these technologies can be formed into an architectural application.





## LIFE IN PARIS

Paris offers world-class architectural resources, from galleries, bookshops, making spaces, to examples of the best historical and contemporary architectural design.

### Art & Architecture Foundations

- Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine
- Pavillon de l'Arsenal
- Le Centquatre
- Fondation Cartier
- Palais de Tokyo
- Centre Pompidou
- La Maison de l'Architecture
- Galerie d'Architecture de Paris
- CNEAI (Pantin)
- FRAC (Orléans)

### Art & Architecture Libraries

- Librairie Flammarion du Centre Pompidou
- Le Cabanon
- Librairie Archilib
- Librairie Volume
- Bookstorming Maison Rouge
- Le Genre urbain
- OFR
- Yvon Lambert
- Librairie du Palais de Tokyo
- Artazart
- Librairie de Florence Loewy

### Paris 2019/2020 major events

- Nuit Blanche
- FIAC
- Six Nations Rugby Tournament
- Paris Fashion week
- La nuit des Musées
- Fête de la Musique
- Tour de France
- Paris Plage





## APPLY

Applications for entry into Year 1 (Post-graduate) of the Paris School are now open.

To apply you will require the following information in PDF format to upload to **[www.parisarch.fr/apply](http://www.parisarch.fr/apply)**

1. CV (up to 10mb as a PDF)
2. Portfolio (up to 100mb as a PDF)
3. A short text describing yourself and why you would like to study at the PSA.
4. Application fee of €30

### Application Process:

1. Complete Application Form
2. Pay Application Fee
3. Contacted for Interview
4. Application Outcome
5. Accept your offer
6. Supply of proof of ID and qualifications
7. Enrolment
8. Visa application (if required)

### Application Dates:

For applications for the academic year 2019/20 please see the dates below:

1st January 2019 - Applications open

23rd September 2019 - First Day of Term

There is no closing date for applications, offers will be made on a rolling basis - candidate by candidate. We advise that candidates apply as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. You will receive a response within 2 working days.





## FAQ

Q1. Do I need to speak French to apply?

No knowledge of the French language is required. The school operates in English.

Q2. What are the tuition fees?

The tuition fees for students who begin the first year in 2019 will be €10 109 for each of the two years.

Q3. How do I apply?

To apply, submit your Portfolio and CV online at [www.parisarch.fr/apply](http://www.parisarch.fr/apply)

Q4. When can I expect an admission result?

If selected for a telephone interview, this will be within 2 weeks of your application being submitted. Should your application be successful, your offer letter will be sent shortly afterwards.

Q5. Can I apply as a Transfer Student to the program?

We do not accept transfer students who have not completed at least their undergraduate degree.

Q6. Do I need TOEFL or IELTS to apply for the PSA master's program?

No. Your language abilities will be assessed based on your submitted material and telephone interview.

Q7. What should I include in the Application Motivation Letter?

Your motivation letter should set out why you want to study in Paris, what your specific areas of interest in architecture and design are, which pathway you are most interested in, and what you will bring to the school's uniquely international environment.

Q8. Does Paris School of Architecture offer any Scholarships?

PSA Scholarship provides fee exemption in the second year of studies for one exceptional student. It is awarded based on the work produced in the first year.

Q9. How do I apply for the PSA Scholarship?

Students cannot apply, one will be selected based on their year one output.

Q10. Do I need a Student Visa to study in France?

Students from non-European countries must apply for a student visa at the French Consulate or Embassy in their home country or country of residence.

Q11. How do I apply for a Student Visa?

Upon registration, Paris School of Architecture will provide students with a letter of enrolment (entitled '*Attestation d'inscription*' in French). This enrolment letter is the document required for visa application.

We strongly recommend that students apply for visa as early as possible. Students should also carefully verify with their local French Consulate or Embassy the necessary documentation and requirements for visa application (requirements differ depending on the applicants country of origin).

Q12. What are the estimated living expenses in Paris?

The monthly estimated expenses for a student living in Paris:

Housing: € 500 to € 1,400

Food: € 350 to € 500

Metro (Monthly): € 75.20 Zone 1-5

Miscellaneous: € 250

Q13. Can I work while studying?

International students in France on a student visa can legally work a maximum of 964 hours per year (about 20 hours per week). Please note that part-time work cannot be expected to cover all of your living expenses, but can help provide you with extra spending money.

Q14. How do I find accommodation in Paris?

As Paris School of Architecture is centrally located in Paris, we do not offer on-campus accommodation.

Below is a list of useful websites which can facilitate your search for accommodation:

Easy Roommate  
[www.appartager.com](http://www.appartager.com)

Fusac  
[www.fusac.fr](http://www.fusac.fr)

Immostreet  
[en.immostreet.com](http://en.immostreet.com)

PAP  
[www.pap.fr](http://www.pap.fr)

Parisloc  
[www.parisloc.com](http://www.parisloc.com)

Lodgis  
[www.lodgis.com/en](http://www.lodgis.com/en)

Paris Attitude  
[www.parisattitude.com](http://www.parisattitude.com)

Les Estudines  
[www.estudines.com](http://www.estudines.com)

PSA can not be held responsible for the content of 3rd party websites.