

Call for Candidates

2017

SACRe Doctoral Program

The Sciences, Arts, Création, Recherche (SACRe) doctoral program is open to all candidates holding a master-level degree from any higher education institution, whether established artists or researchers.

They will pursue an education within Paris Sciences et Lettres Research University (PSL).

They may benefit from a doctoral contract or a grant for a period of three years.

After the defense of their doctoral thesis, they will be able to obtain the title of Doctor of the university PSL.

This Call is open to international candidates and has no age limit.

1. Overview

Exploring the common ground between research and the arts; enabling artists in various creative fields and researchers to work and invent together: This is the mission of the SACRe doctoral program.

The program is a result of the cooperation between six institutes: five major national *grandes écoles* for arts— *Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique* (CNSAD: national theatre academy), *Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris* (CNSMDP: national music and dance conservatory), *Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs* (ENSAD: national decorative arts academy), *Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Métiers de l'Image et du Son (La Fémis)*: national film academy), *Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts* (Beaux-Arts : national fine arts academy) — and the *Ecole Normale Supérieure* (ENS). These institutes are all members of PSL Research University.

The objective of SACRe is to facilitate the emergence and development of projects that associate art and research and that are original in both their methods and their results. Encompassing multiple domains, as indicated by the name of the doctorate (SACRe: sciences, arts, design, and research), this truly interdisciplinary doctoral program brings together **artists**, designers, and performers, as well as **researchers** in the sciences, humanities, and social sciences, thus inculcating a close articulation of thought and sensitivity.

The SACRe doctorate places the creation of works of art within the heart of a research environment, strictly associated with a critical approach based on potentially diverse academic fields.

The doctoral program SACRe :

- for artists, in the creation of works, closely associated with a reflexive approach based on various theoretical and scientific fields ;
- for theorists, in the production of a written thesis.

2. Terms of the doctoral program

Thesis direction

The thesis management (HDR) may preferably be chosen from among SACRe / Laboratory members (EA 7410), or one of the laboratories attached to the 540 doctoral school, and will include an artist also preferably from the EA 7410 or to one of the laboratories attached to the ED 540.

The list of members is available on the [ED 540 website](#) and at this [address](#).

The program proceeds for three years, as follows:

- Specific instruction is conducted in the SACRe arts schools or conservatories. Each institution arranges the type of reception, the organization, and the functioning of the program for the doctoral students.
- Specific instruction to be chosen from the doctoral school 540 offer (more information on the [website of the ED 540](#))
- A general SACRe seminar aiming to explore the links between research and creation for all doctoral students admitted to the program.

The program includes mandatory annual assessments and annual presentation of each student's work. It also seeks to help students develop their portfolios and to prepare them to defend their theses. In addition, the seminar includes conferences, meetings, or visits linked to the range of disciplines covered by SACRe.

Doctoral students are invited to participate in the development of publications, study days, and public events, as well as conducting activities in partnership with others. In second year, students are encouraged to spend a semester abroad; PSL attempts, logistically, to help make this possible.

Financial aid and offers related to the program

Doctoral students admitted by PSL receive doctoral contracts that provide them with an allocation during three years, the legal duration of the program; postponement of thesis defense beyond the legal duration of three years is only possible under exceptional circumstances and, if approved, does not grant the right to prolong the doctoral contract or the financial aid.

The amount specified in the doctoral contract is 1,684.93 euros gross per month (amount in force since 1 July 2010).

Under certain conditions, doctoral students can benefit from specific aid to mount events related to their doctoral project: support for artistic production (works, exhibitions, concerts, etc.) and scientific activities (colloquies, publications, etc.).

Thesis characteristics and defence and issuance of the SACRe Doctorate in the Arts

The SACRe doctorate is primarily for creative work by students from schools for the arts. It is the culmination of three years of research to obtain a Doctorate in Art. The thesis consists jointly of works of art in the different formats and media proper to each discipline and of a portfolio. The latter highlights the sources, experiences, research, and other practices, whether artistic or not, that have influenced the work. It provides a well-reasoned and critical reflection on the work accomplished during the three years of the thesis. Its form is defined based on the characteristics and approaches specific to each discipline and is matched to the candidate's personal work, with the approval of the thesis directors.

The thesis defense for doctoral candidates in the arts is based on the presentation of the works completed for the doctorate in diverse forms (exhibition, performance, concert, projection, event, or prototype) and the portfolio.

The thesis defense for theorists is based on the presentation of the written thesis. Practical work carried out within the specific framework of this Ph.D.

In both cases, on successful completion of the public defense, the national Ph.D. diploma is issued by PSL.

3. Conditions for admission and application process

Conditions for admission

Candidates must meet university admission requirements and hold a five-year higher education diploma:

- French national master's degree
- French or foreign degree conferring the grade of master
- French or foreign master's equivalent diploma

Candidates in the arts must be able to present a portfolio as evidence of a real artistic practice.

Candidates must not currently be enrolled in another doctoral program.

There is no age limit for candidates.

Candidates may not apply more than three times.

Application process

The admission process takes place in two phases.

Candidates first apply to the partner institute of their choice depending on their type of project:

- CNSAD, national theatre academy (*Conservatoire national supérieur d'art dramatique*) <http://www.cnsad.fr>
- CNSMDP, national music and dance conservatory (*Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Paris*) www.conservatoiredeparis.fr
- ENS, (*École normale supérieure*) www.ens.fr
- ENSAD, national decorative arts academy (*École nationale supérieure des arts décoratifs*) www.ensad.fr
- La Fémis, national film academy (*École nationale supérieure des métiers de l'image et du son*) www.femis.fr
- Les Beaux-Arts, national fine arts academy (*École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts*)
Exceptionally Les Beaux-Arts will take no applications in 2017.

The website for each institute specifies the application process and the list of supporting documents required.

The availability date of application forms and the deadline for submission follow the academic calendars of each institute, but fall within the following range:

from Monday 3 April to Monday 22 May 2017 midnight

On completion of a selection process, each institute decides on the eligibility of successful candidates. Definitive admission is then announced by the PSL plenary jury, after reviewing the applications and the eligibility reports for candidates prepared by each institute. The final results will be published on the PSL website in mid-September 2017.

On admission, dual registration at one of the conservatories or academies as well as at PSL, is required to participate in the program (payment of tuition fees only to the school or conservatory concerned). PhD students preparing their thesis at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris are registered only at ENS.

For more information:

on the PSL website, click [here](#)

on the PSL Collège doctoral website, click [here](#)

on the websites of the six institutes

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