

école nationale supérieure
d'architecture
de versailles





The ENSA-V National School of Architecture of Versailles, is a higher education state school under Ministry of Culture and Communication supervision (in charge of Architecture and Heritage). The ENSA-V ranks among the 20 state colleges that offers higher education in the field of architecture and enables its students to obtain their State Diploma in architecture at the close of a five-year course.

Its primary goal is to train architects capable of exercising a range of professional practices and ready to accomplish new assignments in order to meet the ecological and sociological intricacies of the surrounding world.

A privileged situation within a cultural and academic environment in full expansion

Of the six schools in the Paris region, the ENSA-V boasts a privileged geographic situation. Situated within the heart of Versailles, opposite the palace, the school is in the direct vicinity of the capital but also close to the peripheral urban fabric, at the crossroads between urbanization and the rural world.

This location opens up a wide range of fields of investigation by offering hands-on access to existing urban sites as well as to sites undergoing extensive change or indeed even still entirely virgin.

The School is located within the buildings listed on the historical register of the 'Petite écurie du Roy and the Maréchalerie' of the Château de Versailles estate. The 'Petite écurie' offers a multi-functional platform on the second floor, featuring project rooms, classrooms, a workshop, IT rooms and photo lab, amphitheatres and admin offices.

The 1st floor features two big 350 m² workshops open to students of all years on a permanent basis. On the ground floor, a huge arched nave has been fitted out as the school library.



RENOVATED AND EXTENDED PREMISES

The fitting out of the Maréchalerie and the Forge carried out by the architects A. Beckmann, F. N'Thépé, and F. Vialet in 2005, has equipped the school with a cafeteria, a 250-seat auditorium, classrooms and seminar rooms, research labs, a « modelling » area and a vast room for workshops. Interior renovation has also been carried out in the 'Petite écurie' by J. Moussafir (admin, information point), A. Robain and C. Guieysse (south staircase rooms).

Approximately **1109** students,
104 international students,
469 BA students of which **151**
 enrolled as 1st-year students in 2015
426 MA students of which 60 are on
 a long studies abroad programme,
145 State Diploma graduates in
 2015,
97 teachers (architects, town
 planners, engineers, visual artists,
 historians, sociologists ...),
60 administrative, technical, workers'
 and services staff.

KEY FIGURES

An area of **11 500 m²**
 (Petite écurie : **8 000 m²**,
 Maréchalerie-Forge : **3 500 m²**),
 a research lab, a school library,
 a **181**-seat amphitheater, a **250**-seat
 auditorium,
 an IT area (1 open-service room
 and 3 classrooms), **3** workshops for
 students open on a permanent basis,
2 exhibition areas (the Rotonde, the
 Forge), a contemporary arts center,
1 digital workshop, **1** models
 workshop, **1** international classroom,
1 basketball court, **2** cafeterias.

Teaching architectural and urban project integrating topics in relation with social matters

The ENSA-V encourages the intensive practise of architectural projects while developing issues inherent to architecture in the fields of constructions, towns and territories.

Teaching architecture implies teaching theoretical knowledge of projects and cannot be reduced to teaching a know-how. The knowledge of the subject field includes a know-how. That is why the school is at once a site for reflection, production and creation which entails a multiplicity of disciplinary approaches as well as a diversity of manipulation and modelling scales. This multiplicity and diversity is implemented both with the help of a wide range of facilities (independent student workshops, modelling areas, classrooms and seminar rooms, an auditorium...) as well as a variety of working rhythms. These pedagogical facilities enable the transfer of knowledge while building on the knowledge in the subject area.

A pluridisciplinary training course that prepares students for the wide range of jobs in the architecture

The course in architecture is made up of three academic cycles (BA, MA, PhD) and is broken up into semesters in order to encourage inter-university cooperation and student exchanges with other European schools.

The course features teaching the theory and the practice of architectural and town planning projects to which 4 subject fields are associated: architectural technical sciences, history, human and social sciences and artistic culture. The built-in interdisciplinarity of the project enables students to grasp complex realities.

THE PROJECT without excluding other courses, holds a central position within the course. It is broken down into two projects during the course of the BA :

The long project (10 to 13 weeks of coursework and seminars) which focuses on coursework and individual corrections under the supervision of a teacher on a common syllabus ;

The project studio (1 to 5 weeks) which involves grouping students into teams and giving them a privileged meeting space

INTERNSHIPS

Three compulsory ones :
 ■ 15-day «Building site» internship during the 2nd semestre ;
 ■ One-month «first experience» internship during the 4th semester ;
 ■ Two-month full-time end-of-course internship.

THE FIRST CYCLE: 3-YEAR COURSE

leads to a **BA in architecture (Diplôme d'Etudes)**.

Foundation course in architectural culture, understanding and implementing architectural projects and designing processes .

Using their ever improving skills, students are able to orient themselves towards other vocational training courses such as vocational BAs which enable them to enter the job market.

THE SECOND CYCLE: 5-YEAR COURSE

leads to an **MA in architecture**.

The goal is to enable students to apprehend the complexity of scales and contexts involved in architectural projects while developing their autonomy and sense of critical analysis.

It aims at preparing students for the different professional modes of practice as well as for research in architecture. At the ENSA-V, the second cycle is broken up into sets of themes: «Type, transformation and constructive cultures», «Intensive towns, edifices and urban fabric», «Experimental processes», «Technology and project management».

THE THIRD CYCLE: 8-YEAR COURSE

leads to a **PhD in architecture**.

HMONP

Habilité à l'exercice de la maîtrise d'oeuvre en son nom propre, (HMONP, accreditation to work as project manager). There are two possibilities to obtain accreditation to work as project manager for holders of an MA (state diploma). Graduates can :

■ either validate their professional experience by going through the process of «**accreditation for work experience, (VAE)**», after having exercised for approximately two years in an agency. Candidates must also undergo a theoretical training course of which the syllabus is defined by an assessment commission based on the candidate's experience,
 ■ or go through a 6-month process of **professional immersion (mise en situation professionnelle, MSP)** within an agency and complete their accreditation process by attending theoretical, practical and technical courses at the ENSA-V.

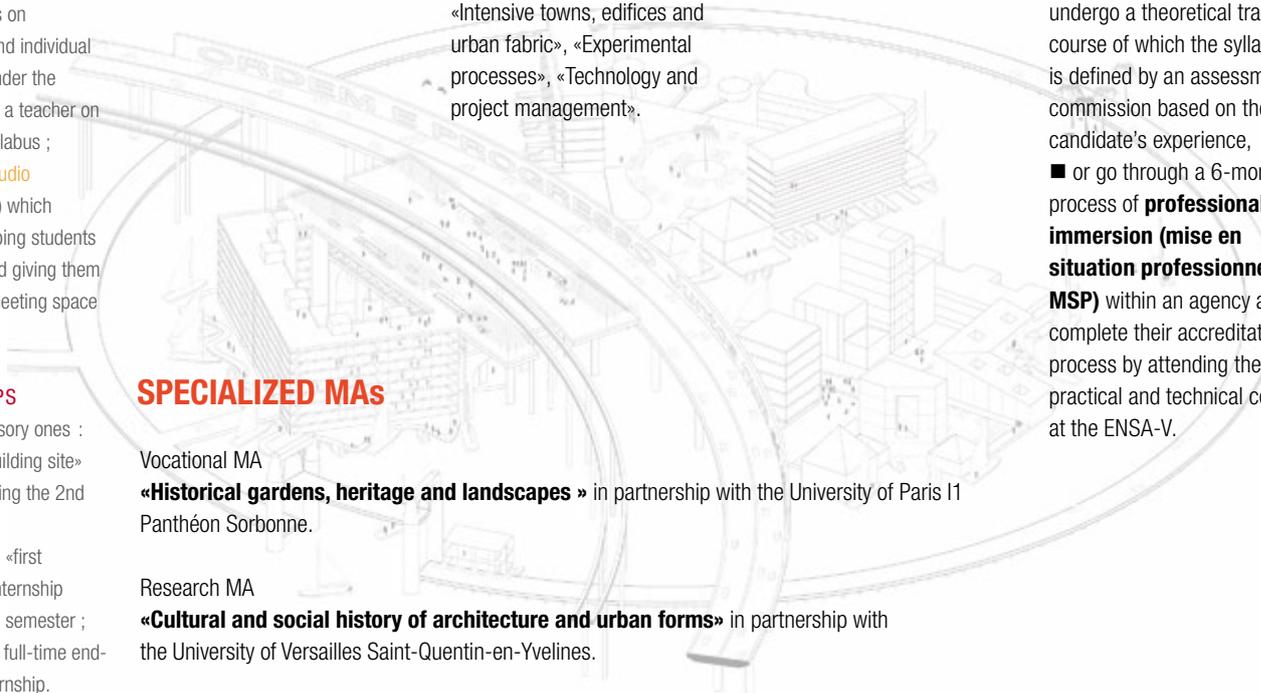
SPECIALIZED MAs

Vocational MA

«**Historical gardens, heritage and landscapes** » in partnership with the University of Paris I1 Panthéon Sorbonne.

Research MA

«**Cultural and social history of architecture and urban forms**» in partnership with the University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines.



A school open to foreign universities to encourage research and the circulation of architectural culture

INTERNATIONAL

The school offers international exchange programmes with 19 countries and with 33 colleges or faculties.

These exchange programmes are widely supported by teachers and offer students the possibility to study abroad for a year (4th year). Or else, these programmes give students the opportunity to carry out a 4th or 5th-year project over a shorter period of time.

As of their second year, short-term trips to Europe give students the opportunity to discover other hands-on perceptions of ancient and contemporary architecture. Language teaching, necessary to prepare for these exchanges, is given as of the first year.

Dual master program Tonji/ Versailles

«**Ecological Metropolis**» will be the name for the Dual master program between the college of architecture and urban planning at Tongji university and ensa-Versailles. It will be opened at the start of the academic year 2014/2015 with a group of 12 students (6 caup/Tongji and 6 ENSA-V).

After 2 years (one in France and the other in China) and the defence with success of the projet de fin d'études(Pfe) and the master thesis, they will be holders of a master diploma awarded by the 2 schools.

A GREAT NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

Argentina : Buenos Aires, Cordoba

Austria : Vienna

Belgium : Brussels, Liege

Brazil : Rio de Janeiro P45, Sao Paulo

Canada : Montréal

China : Shanghai (double master)

Estonia : Tallinn

Germany : Berlin, Mainz, Munich

Greece : Athens

Israël : Bethleem P45

Italy : Milan, Palerme, Rome, Venice

Japan : Kyoto

Morocco : Casablanca P45

Portugal : Lisbon, Porto

Romania : Bucharest

Senegal : Dakar P45

Spain : Barcelona, Valladolid, Madrid

Sweden : Stockholm

Thailand : Bangkok P45

Turkey : Istanbul P45

United Kingdom : Glasgow

RESEARCH

Being a higher education public school, the ENSA-V has a long tradition of research that dates back to 1973 with the creation of the research laboratory, Ladrhaus.

This laboratory has recently regrouped all its researchers into a single laboratory, the **LéaV** (Laboratoire de l'école d'architecture de Versailles), for which approximately thirty researchers and thirty PhD students are currently working. They have set up partnerships with the universities of Versailles, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (UVSQ) and Paris I-Panthéon-Sorbonne and also work closely with many national and international scientific communities.

The school is a member of PRES Universud Paris, the higher education research branch, and has a long-standing partnership with the doctoral school, CRIT of the UVSQ.

LéaV researchers work for four thematic teams : AM:HAUS (new trends in the field of modernisms – history, architecture, urbanism, societies), CAT (culture, architecture, technique), ICADD (innovation, design, architecture and sustainable development), Re-MAP (research, metropolis, architectures, policies).

Director : Catherine Bruant

CIRCULATION OF ARCHITECTURAL CULTURE

On top of its pedagogical activities, the school partakes in the cultural life of the community by organizing conferences and exhibitions on a regular basis.

The 'Manèges' house conference-debates and invite key figures (including an artist) to exchange their points of view on a given topic pertaining to architecture.

The Maréchalerie's contemporary art center organizes three exhibitions during the year with the possibility of meeting the artists.

The school library organizes « Rencontres autour d'un livre » (Encounters about a book).

For a number of years, the ENSA-V has led an awareness campaign on architecture with the support of partnerships with the Education Offices (Rectorat) of the Yvelines, the Councils of Architecture, Urbanism and Environment (CAUE), the DRAC of Ile-de-France and student associations.

The school cherishes privileged cultural relations with the town of Versailles (Mois Molière) and local institutions : the Château (« Versailles Off »), the Regional Conservatory, the Center of Baroque Music and the Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines theater.



Since 1979 - 2012 - Briqueuses collectives. Dimensions variables. Installation in situ. Centre d'art contemporain de Versailles, Versailles. En partenariat avec la Maréchalerie Bertrand Lenoir. Crédits photo : AURÉLIE MOULÉ. Courtesy de l'artiste et Galerie Bertrand GRIMONT.

PUBLICATIONS

FabricA

Yearly magazine that contains a digest of research studies carried out by LéaV PhD students.

Student Yearbook

Financed by the school and created by the student association Archibooké, the bilingual French-English yearbook is a yearly collection of work produced by ENSA-V students.

First year entrance

Candidates stemming from all fields of study, holders of all types of baccalauréats (A-levels, high-school diploma), or candidates holders of a French or foreign diploma giving them the equivalence of a baccalauréat.

■ French or European candidates

The pre-enrollment procedure consists in an on-line pre-enrollment accompanied with a record and an entrance exam (for the pre-enrollment procedure, browse the Internet site www.versailles.archi.fr as of February).

■ Foreign candidates (non-european)

Residing abroad :

Browse the Internet site on the Center for studies in France, the 'Centre des études en France' (CEF) corresponding to country of residence (www.nomdupays.campusfrance.org) or get a school dossier from the French embassies in the cultural services department for those countries not concerned by the Center for studies in France (Centre des études en France, CEF).

Residing in France :

Pre-enrollment procedure and yellow file to download from the internet at : www.archi.fr/ECOLES/index.html#formulaire.

Pre-requisite: mastery of spoken and written French. A language assessment is organized in February

Accreditation for work experience (VAE)

This concerns those candidates whose studies, diplomas, professional or personal experience can be validated in view of entering on of the cycles of studies in architecture.

File to collect in February/March and must be returned completed before April (proof of postmark).

Mid-May, the work experience or personal accreditation validation commission examines files and notifies candidates by post (partial exemption from studies or not, years or cycles).

Candidates must pay a fee of 37 € corresponding to file processing expenses by sending a cheque to «l'agent comptable de l'ENSAV» enclosed with the file.

Transfer

Transfers are only possible following acceptance by the school requested. Transfer dossiers must be handed in as from April to the school where the student initially comes from.

Enrollment fees

In 2014/2015 :

369 euros for the BA,

506 euros for the MA,

+207 euros for student social security fees

Information

■ BA-MA : inscription@versailles.archi.fr

■ MA in Historical Gardens : francois.grelley@versailles.archi.fr

■ MA in Social and Cultural History of Architecture : francois.grelley@versailles.archi.fr

The architect's line of business

Architects can carry out many different types of missions that range from designing and building buildings, assisting in project management to intervening in town planning and the territory. Architects must master representation in space, they must be capable of designing an architectural project and of executing it. Their job may entail having to work with engineers, landscape architects, town planners, economists, sociologists and visual artists.

Commissions in architecture

Architects can be commissioned by private individuals, company managers, institutional owners such as insurance agencies as well as realtors and property developers.

The State, local communities, semi-public companies or council housing organisms generate an important part of commissions in the fields public facilities, schools and hospitals.

Different modes of exercise

Architects are generally self-employed although more and more groupings of professional companies occur. Architects can also be employed by the State or by local communities. They can be employed by architecture agencies, town planning agencies, interior decoration agencies, design agencies, engineering design offices, building industry companies and town and country planning companies.

Workshops

The three workshops open to students of all years are work places full of emulation and social interaction.

Resources

- The school library (18500 works, 380 French and foreign periodicals, a map library, a video library, a photo library) has an on-line catalog.
- A photo lab to photograph student and teacher productions.
- IT : 3 classrooms, 1 self-service room, around 600 students are helped financially to obtain a laptop. Wifi connection throughout the school.
- Photocopying : self-service photocopiers available in the workshops and the school library. Duplication of administrative and pedagogical documents.

Associations

- The student association offers many activities (conferences, exhibitions, outings, a cinema club, theater, trips, sailing...) and is in charge of a cooperative.
- Architec'Tonic publishes internship and job opportunities that meet the requirements of the school training course.
- L'Assaut vert is an association dedicated to the question of sustainable architecture.
- La grande mousse, a band association for cultural and festive occasions.

Catering

- Brasserie La Forge managed by the Crous.
- K'Fet (in the 'Petite écurie') run by a student association



House 1-12 cities @ ENSA-V 2016

GETTING THERE

Train station Versailles Rive Gauche (Paris Invalides RER C)

Train station Versailles Rive Droite (Paris Saint-Lazare)

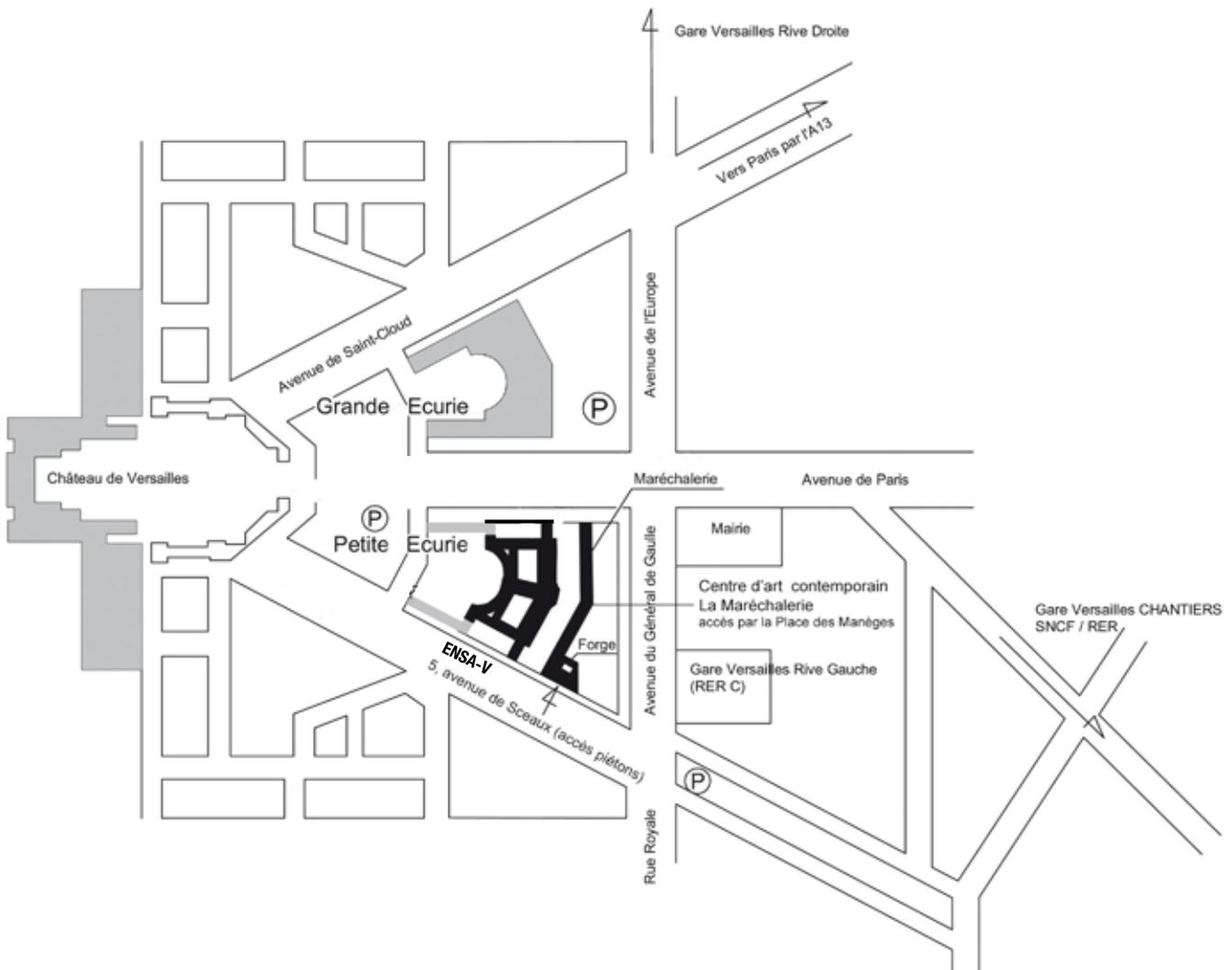
Train station Versailles Chantiers (Paris Montparnasse)

Bus 171 departing from Pont de Sèvres

Motorway A13 or A86, exit Versailles Château

Car parks : one at the Château (Place d'Armes) and one off Avenue de Sceaux

Car park at the Maréchalerie (for students who have a badge)



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