France’s Leading University for Social Sciences
Since its creation in 1871, Sciences Po has been France’s preeminent university for the social sciences. Its alumni include a Secretary General of the United Nations, four Managing Directors of the International Monetary Fund, numerous corporate leaders, 10 of France’s last 18 Prime Ministers, and the three most recent Presidents of the Republic.

Sciences Po has long outgrown its French roots, and is open to the world. Today, some 40% of our 10,000 students are international, from 130 countries.

The education we offer is emphatically outward looking. We seek to provide students with the essential tools that will enable them to make sense of a complex world. Our goal is to open minds and develop critical thinking.

Many of our classes are taught in French, but it’s possible to study entirely in English.

As a fully-fledged research and teaching university, Sciences Po is focused on excellence, and demands the highest standards from faculty and students alike. We offer a three-year undergraduate program that includes a year abroad at one of our 350 partner universities. There are more than 20 Masters degree programmes, which are designed to prepare graduates for the professional world, and a flourishing doctoral school.

We offer dual degrees with international partners including Columbia University in New York, the London School of Economics and Fudan University in Shanghai.

Sciences Po is known in France for its promotion of equal opportunity in higher education, and we have an array of scholarships for both French and non-French students.

When he spoke at Sciences Po in 2010, one of the dozens of famous visitors we host every year, the British politician Lord Mandelson described us as “an elite school that isn’t elitist.” That’s an excellent way of putting it.
Undergraduate studies

Focus on Excellence

The three-year undergraduate programme at Sciences Po consists of two years in France followed by a compulsory year abroad, either studying at one of our 350 partner universities, or working as an intern.

In France, we have seven campuses, each of which has a distinct geographical focus: North and South America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. These multicultural campuses are gateways to the world of tomorrow, and each has its own distinct identity.

The core undergraduate curriculum common to all campuses features political science, economics, history, international relations, law and sociology. We also offer numerous elective courses in the humanities.

Language instruction has an important role. French and English are the most commonly used languages at Sciences Po, both in the classroom and outside, but we offer classes in a total of 17 languages, ranging from Korean to Hungarian, Chinese, Hindi, Russian and Portuguese.

For the third year abroad, students get to choose where they would like to go, and we do our best to honour one of their top three choices. Our university partners rank among the best in the world.

We set high standards. Students need a strong academic record to get in to Sciences Po, and the workload is deliberately taxing.

It’s worth the effort: Sciences Po graduates are highly prized by international recruiters.

Dual BA with Columbia University

› Innovative four-year programme with carefully coordinated curriculum
› Two years in France followed by two years at Columbia in NY
› An international education that is both broad and deep
› On graduation, two degrees from two top institutions, a dual passport to success.

Exchange Students

More than 1,200 students study at Sciences Po every year on exchange programmes
› One or two semesters
› Classes in French or English
› In Paris or on one of our 6 regional campuses

Partner universities:
Oxford, Cambridge, McGill, Harvard, Princeton, MIT, Tsinghua University, Waseda, Humboldt Universität, Colegio de México, Bocconi, Copenhagen Business School, University of Cape Town…

“Our education focuses on the major challenges facing society, and on innovative responses to those challenges.”
Hervé Crès, Sciences Po’s director of studies (in photo)
Each of our seven undergraduate campuses has its own identity, forged by its geographical focus. Everyone loves Paris, of course, but the six campuses outside the capital are located in provincial towns where the cost of living is lower, the quality of life is high and where affordable housing is readily available. All have a lively mix of culture and language and a strong sense of community.

“The Sciences Po helped me shape a certain way of thinking, a certain way of learning, so that regardless of the type of new challenges life forces me to face, I am always equipped.”

Blandine Pons, investment manager East Asia
Dual degrees

Sciences Po and some of our partner universities offer a number of dual Masters degrees. They include:

- London School of Economics
- Freie Universität Berlin
- Saint-Gall University
- Bocconi University
- MGIMO
- Columbia University
- Georgetown University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Fudan University
- Peking University
- Keio University

“PSIA offered us the opportunity to interact directly with influential policymakers and key personalities on the international scene.”

Elena Loredana, international affairs student.

Masters Programmes:

- Master in Judicial and Legal Careers
- Master in Economic Law
- Development Practice
- Environment, Sustainable Development and Risks
- Environmental Sciences and Policy
- Human Rights and Humanitarian Action
- International Development
- International Economic Policy
- International Energy
- International Public Management
- International Security
- European Affairs
- Public Affairs
- Corporate and Public Management
- Economics and Public Policy
- Finance and Strategy
- Human Resources Management
- Communication
- Journalism
- Marketing and Studies
- Governing the Large Metropolis
- Regional and Urban Strategies
- Urban Planning

Programmes in English:

- Development Practice
- Environmental Sciences and Policy
- Human Rights and Humanitarian Action
- International Development
- International Energy
- International Public Management


Sciences Po has four graduate schools — the Paris School of International Affairs, the Law School, the Journalism School and the School of Communication — and a total of more than 20 Masters programmes. Each consists of four 13-week semesters, three of which are spent studying at Sciences Po and a fourth that is spent in an internship or at one of our partner universities. Some programmes are in French, others are in English and a number require both languages.

“Sciences Po is a magnificent partner”

Lee C. Bollinger, president of Columbia University

Careers

Sciences Po graduates are highly sought after by employers, both in the private and public sector.

- 39% are recruited before they graduate
- 87% find a job within six months of graduation

The most common professions for Sciences Po alumni are:
- Financial services
- Consulting
- Marketing and communications
- International relations and security

- 30% of our alumni work outside France

Sciences Po Graduates on the Job Market

Class of ’09

80% full employment
10% internships
10% other

At Sciences Po’s innovative Medialab, our researchers and students seek to introduce advanced digital mapping techniques to the world of social sciences.


Sciences Po has a strong track record of obtaining competitive external funding, including grants from the European Research Council and financing from the French national research agency. Recipients of ERC grants include research vice president Bruno Latour and economics professor Jean-Marc Robin.

“Sciences Po is committed to a new research dynamic, and is mobilizing its entire staff to meet the challenges of the contemporary world.”

Bruno Latour, vice president of Sciences Po, head of scientific research

Research at Sciences Po

Doctoral Programme
The doctoral school at Sciences Po offers Ph.D programmes in law, economics, history, political science and sociology. These are five year integrated programmes, starting with a two year Masters degree and followed by three additional years for the doctoral dissertation. Sciences Po also offers joint Ph.Ds with Columbia University and the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies in Cologne.

- 5 doctoral programmes
- 450 students
- 60 PhDs awarded every year

A Research University
Since 1945, Sciences Po has been a driving force in the development of research in the social sciences. We have 11 research centres with a total of more than 200 researchers that focus on both applied and fundamental research. Five of these centres are associated with the CNRS (the French National Centre for Scientific Research). Our head of research is Bruno Latour, a renowned sociologist who is a pioneer of science studies.

http://sciences-po.fr/recherche/

At Sciences Po’s innovative Medialab, our researchers and students seek to introduce advanced digital mapping techniques to the world of social sciences

Student life

Activities

Students can find a broad array of cultural, sporting and other extra-curricular activities at Sciences Po. More than 60 student associations, ranging from politics to philanthropy, provide opportunities for students to meet and share their passions. The Student Sports Association organizes more than 30 sports including boxing, handball, soccer, salsa, fencing, and swimming.

Events

Leading figures from politics, business and academia regularly make presentations or participate in conferences at Sciences Po. Recent visitors have included CEOs of Google and Michelin, U.S. Gen. David Petraeus, Prime Minister Salam Fayyad of the Palestinian National Authority and Kofi Annan, former UN general secretary (photo below).
ADMISSIONS

Undergraduates
Sciences Po has an international application procedure for students who obtained a French baccalaureate abroad, or an equivalent foreign secondary school diploma. Candidates must submit a written application to be selected for an interview. These take place in 70 cities worldwide and focus on motivation, achievements and future plans, as well as on academic performance.

Graduates
The international graduate admissions procedure is open to applicants who have completed their university education in an institution outside of France and have obtained an undergraduate level degree or a Masters level degree. The academic qualifications and profile of candidates are evaluated, as are their language skills.

TUITION FEES

Students whose tax residence is in the European Union pay fees according to a sliding scale, from €0 to €9 300 per year for undergraduate programmes and up to €13 000 for graduate programmes. The amount depends on income and household size.

Students whose tax residence is not in the European Union pay fees of €3 360 per year for the undergraduate programme and €13 000 per year for graduate programmes.

FINANCIAL AID

Several financial aid and scholarship programmes are available. Non-European students may be eligible for:

- Sciences Po Boutmy scholarships for both undergraduate and graduate programmes
- Eiffel scholarships for graduate programmes only, funded by the French government

STUDENT HOUSING

Housing is readily available for students at one of the 6 undergraduate campuses outside Paris. Finding affordable housing in the French capital is more of a challenge, but Sciences Po’s housing information office can help. It posts various housing offers in conjunction with the Student Activities Association and advises students on how to rent apartments in France.


10 000 students
40% of students are non-French and come from 130 different countries
21% hold scholarships, including 26% of French students.

In the library, 1 million books and periodicals and 40 databases

Faculty and research

- 11 research centres
- 3,400 lecturers with a background in academics, business or public administration
- 50 visiting professors every year from all over the world

Programmes and teaching

- 4 Professional Schools and more than 20 Masters degrees
- 17 foreign languages taught
- 146,000 hours of classroom teaching every year