



École nationale  
supérieure d'architecture  
Versailles

École  
nationale  
supérieure de  
paysage



ÉCOLE  
NATIONALE  
SUPÉRIEURE  
D'ARTS DE PARIS  
CERGY

inp Institut national  
du patrimoine



## Call for applications 2025

Application for enrollment in Master 2  
(second year of a Master's degree)

**Discipline: "Humanities and Creative Industries"**

**Track "Practice-led degree on**

**Heritage and Creation"**

**First application session: from March, 3 to May, 16 2025**

**Second application session: from June, 9 to August, 08 2025**

Applications: eCandidat

<https://ecandidat.cyu.fr/>

### **The application file must include**

- the information form
- the Master's degree project (1 page maximum)
- a cover letter (1 page maximum)
- a curriculum vitae (1 page maximum)

## Presentation and regulations

The EUR Humanities, Creation, Heritage (University Research School in Humanities, Creation, Heritage) PSGS-HCH), hosted by CY Cergy Paris University for the 2025 academic year students wishing to pursue a Master's degree (Master 2 degree) in *Humanities and Creative Industries*, with a specialization track in *Heritage and Creation through Practice-led Master's degree on Humanities and Creative Industries*.

The EUR Humanities, Creation and Heritage (PSGS-HCH)

The EUR Humanities, Creation, Heritage (PSGS-HCH), recipient of the third Program d'Investissements d'Avenir (PIA3), brings together the humanities and social sciences departments of CY Cergy Paris University and four schools working in the field of creation and heritage: the National School of Architecture of Versailles (*École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Versailles*) (ENSAV), the National School of Landscape of Versailles (*École nationale supérieure de paysage de Versailles*) (ENSP) and the National Heritage Institute (*Institut national du patrimoine*) (INP), the members of the Heritage Sciences Foundation (*Fondation des Sciences du Patrimoine*), as well as the National School of Arts of Paris-Cergy (*École nationale supérieure d'arts de Paris-Cergy*) (ENSAPC).

The originality of the project is to offer, in addition to bringing coherence to the humanities and social sciences curriculum at CY Cergy Paris University, the establishment of programs focused on practice-led research, at both Master's and Doctoral levels. The member institutions of the EUR, whether schools or universities, share the same concern: to develop research on their respective subjects, by favoring research practices directly connected with the professional activities of those they train. From this perspective, the emphasis on practice-led research constitutes a strong marker of the EUR scientific project.

### Practice-led research

Practice-led research intends to integrate practice (artistic, conception / design, restoration, conservation, etc.) into the research process, considering that the production of knowledge can also –and must also– take place within practice and through practice. In agreement with the most recent theoretical and epistemological developments in the field of creation, the aim is to create and operationalize research strategies in which practice is the driving force, the source of both the questions and the results of the research (*practice-led research*). The intention is to embed practice within a strategy of continuous improvement through research, via a posture of reflexivity on one's own approaches, tools and intervention logics. One of the objectives is, through this work of distancing from professional practice, to promote the development of more autonomous and less normative thinking, particularly within disciplines related to heritage practice.

It is therefore a matter of imagining a research practice that is based on the project's practice, which material is produced along the project and by the project. In a more traditional protocol, the researcher would position themselves as an observer, at some distance from the involved actors, to analyze the ongoing process and the resulting productions. *Practice-led* research proposes that the observer becomes an actor himself/herself, designer and bearer of the process that will be the subject of his/her analysis. Practice-led research therefore necessarily includes a reflexive dimension, aiming to retrace the project's development conditions, thus of research materials production, to identify the effects and limits, and to infer the field of validity of the process thus proposed, tested and analyzed.

The approach is, in this respect, very ambitious and demanding. Ultimately, the analysis focuses equally (and simultaneously) on what is produced in the project as well as on the very process of this production, that is, the project as a mode of intervention (on reality, on society, on matter, on language, on nature, on the imaginary, etc.).

From this perspective, practice-led research is also a research on the project, although it is here carried out by the designer himself/herself. It draws from the repertoire of research on the project, as it relies on a state of the art and will therefore seek pre-existing productions, emanating from various disciplinary fields that can illuminate the understanding of the research object and the research situation. Practice-led research will also draw from research for the project, as it aims to inform and guide future project practices; this dimension is intrinsic (although often implicit) to the requirement of reproducibility and transferability which is one of the criteria of scientific work.

The idea of reproducibility is, moreover, one of the potential difficulties of practice-led research, particularly in its most sensitive, artistic forms, leaving room for inspiration, forms that are generally resistant to protocolization and standardization. The role thus left to uncontrollable chance or to non-reproducible inspiration must at the very least be highlighted and characterized, precisely in order to identify what, in the process of creation/interaction with the material that is the subject of analysis, may fall under reproducible approaches and what is irreducible. The explicit explanation of the conditions under which the creative act unfolds is the major requirement here, allowing others to form their own opinion on the studied process, its determinants, and its effects.

### **The Humanities and Creative Industries research and professional Master 2, Practice-led course on Heritage and Creation**

This standalone Master's degree (Master 2) program (without an attachment to Master's degree of the first year track) is designed for professionals who wish to:

- Obtain a practice-led Master's degree in the fields of arts, architecture, or landscaping, literary creation, heritage studies - meaning, alongside academic work, by creating an original work
- Be introduced to research or reconnect with scientific research work for candidates who are resuming studies
- Learn research conventions to contribute to research projects in their professional lives without necessarily pursuing a researcher career
- Have a preparatory year to consider continuation into a Doctoral program
- Benefit from the methodological contribution of practice-led research.

#### Attention/Note:

1. This Master's program is not a prerequisite for applying to the EUR PSGS HCH Doctoral program in practice-led research.
2. This Master's program does not guarantee acceptance of your application to the EUR PSGS HCH Doctoral program in practice-led research.

**The entry requirements:** completion of first year of Master's degree or equivalent qualification, with special mention of state diplomas for regulated professions.

**The qualification level:** upon completion (5 years of post-secondary education, equivalent to a Master's degree).

**The class size limit:** 25 students.

#### **Specialties available in September 2025:**

- Arts
- Architecture
- Landscaping
- Heritage Studies
- Literary creation (based upon the master's degree [Métiers de l'écriture et création littéraire](#) at CY Cergy Paris University)

#### **Program Structure/Organization:**

The Master's Degree (Master 2) "Practice-led course on Heritage and Creation" offers 5 specialties this year: Architecture, Arts, Landscape, Heritage studies and Literary creation.

Organized in two blocks, it consists of:

- Transdisciplinary courses on research-by-project principles, heritage and creation, and workshop practice in the chosen specialty.
- Courses in other specialties present at the EUR PSGS HCH, delivered in the Schools and Partner Institutes of the program.

#### **Student Recruitment Process/Admission Procedures:**

- Application file consisting of a candidate identity form, a project proposal, a motivation letter, and a CV.
- Review of applications by the executive committee of the EUR PSGS HCH.
- Interview with shortlisted candidates before a panel composed of the scientific director of the program and the head of the specialization.

#### **Language Proficiency Level:**

- For French-speaking students: B1 level required in English.
- For non-French-speaking students: B1 level required in French.
- Students will need to obtain certification during their Master's preparation of the 2 year.

## **1. Candidate's identity information form**

### **Candidate**

**LAST NAME, First Name:**

**Email address**

**Phone number**

**Country of residence**

### **Chosen master's degree course**

#### **Master's degree (Master 2) specialization:**

*only one choice possible (cross out irrelevant options)*

- Arts
- Landscaping
- Architecture
- Heritage Studies
- Literary Creation

### **Conditions/Terms for completing the Master's degree (Master 2)**

#### **Training type:**

*(only one choice possible (cross out irrelevant options))*

- Initial (Full-time/Regular)
- Continuing (Part-time/Professional)

**Are you employed/Do you have a salaried job?**

*(only one choice possible (cross out irrelevant options))*

- Yes
- No

**Academic Background** *(attach a copy of your diploma/degree certificate)*

**Qualification for admission to Master`s degree (Master 2):**

**Title of Master`s degree of the first year or equivalent** *(first year of a master`s degree, i.e., 240 ECTS):*

**Year obtained:**

**Grade or honors/ distinctions:**

**Location and country where obtained:**

**2. Master's Degree Project (in French or English) (1 page maximum)**

**3. Motivation Letter / Statement of Purpose (in French or English) (1 page maximum)**

**4. Curriculum Vitae / Resume (in French or English) (1 page maximum)**