Design is about developing projects with the goal of making and producing an object or a system. Design has two main branches: creative design (expression of art) and industrial design (marketing instrument).

At the crossroads of art, technology and society, design deals with aesthetic, functional, technical and environmental aspects, as well as cultural, social, and economic outcomes. Design is a critical component of the economic performance and competitiveness of companies. Design continues to expand in all sectors of the economy, with strong growth in the hospitality, restaurant, and retail sectors. A testimony to this is the “Commerce Design” competition held by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Lyon, Marseille, and Saint-Etienne, as well as the “Paris Shop & Design.” The designer must take into account the changes in the mode of consumption, eco-design makes it possible to create for the user of ethical products respectful of the environment.

With its strong scientific and cultural environment and regional dynamism, France has diverse and unique design programs that enjoy global recognition. French design schools maintain close ties with major R&D laboratories and competitiveness clusters: links between Design Schools, Centers and Research Laboratories, 54 competitiveness clusters. Universities use co-design and design thinking for the fitting out of their premises. 9 achievements have been thus deployed. CreativeLab at Université de Bordeaux, Co-working space at Université de Poitiers...

**International**

Philippe Starck, Jean Michel Wilmotte, Tsé & Tsé, Matali Crasset, Inga Sempé, Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, Jean Couver, Mathieu Lehanneur, Patrice Mugnier, Ora-Itso... Since 1999, France has been a world leader in industrial innovation through design. Numerous companies are investing in this area. France has also attracted international designers, such as Neil Poulton (Scotland), Jasper Morrison (England), and Arik Levy (Israel).

French institutions such as Lieu du Design, the ACFI (agency for the promotion of industrial design), and Cité du Design form networks with various actors in the design sector and organize major events in France and abroad, such as “Observer du Design” (which holds over 50 shows abroad and is labeled as an “International Competition” by the WDO-World Design Organization), “Paris Design Week,” the “Designer Day’s” festival in Paris and the “Design Parade” in Hyères. Each year, the “Biennale Internationale Design Sainte-Etienne” invites 15,000 students to explore and present projects of the future. Most French design schools are part of the Cumulus international network and have frequent exchanges with their international counterparts.

**Useful links**

- ANdIA (National association of institutions of higher learning in Art): [www.andia.fr](http://www.andia.fr)
- APCI (French agency promoting industrial design): [www.apci.asso.fr](http://www.apci.asso.fr)
- CampusArt, art, design and architecture degrees online application: [www.campusart.org](http://www.campusart.org)
- Cumulus (International association of universities and colleges of art, design and media): [www.cumulusassociation.org](http://www.cumulusassociation.org)
- Culturethèque - Institut Français: [www.culturetheque.com](http://www.culturetheque.com)
- Design and applied arts: [https://designetmetiersdart.fr](https://designetmetiersdart.fr)
- Design education in France: [www.fde.design](http://www.fde.design)
- DESIS (Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability): [www.desisnetwork.org](http://www.desisnetwork.org)
- IFD (French design institute): [www.institutfrancaisdudesign.fr](http://www.institutfrancaisdudesign.fr)
- INMA (French national institute of arts and crafts): [www.institut-metiersdart.org](http://www.institut-metiersdart.org)
- Ministry of Culture: [www.culture.gouv.fr](http://www.culture.gouv.fr)
- RNCP (National register of professional certifications): [www.francecompetences.fr](http://www.francecompetences.fr)

**Numbers**

- **€45.3 billion**: Direct economic impact of the cultural sector (2021)
- **Some 40,000** professional designers (2020)
- **Over 1500** people earn Level 1 design degrees each year
- **11,000** international students enrolled in French postsecondary schools of art and culture (2022)
- **45** public postsecondary schools of art operating on 55 sites (2023)

Sources : INSEE - MC - MESR
**DIPLOMA DESIGNER-CREATOR IN THE DECORATIVE ARTS**

**Masters Level - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2**

120 ECTS credits

From École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Decoratifs (ENSAD) de Paris. [www.ensa.fr](http://www.ensa.fr)

**DIPLOMA FROM ÉCOLE NATIONALE SUPÉRIEURE LOUIS-LUMIÈRE**

**Masters Level - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2**

120 ECTS credits

École nationale supérieure Louis-Lumière de Paris, cinema, photography, sound option.

**INTERNATIONAL MASTER**

**National Diploma - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2**

120 ECTS credits

Erasmus Mundus Master in Food Innovation and Product Design, Université Paris Saclay, AgroParisTech, Dublin Institute of Technology (Ireland), Federico II University (Italy) and Lund University (Sweden).

**PROFESSIONAL TITLE**

**RNCP - 5 Years of Higher Education**

- Designer, Grate - Ecole de Design, options: Interaction[s], Identity[s], Espace[s], Mobilité[s], Produit[s], Industrie [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/158]
- Industrial designer, Creapole [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/484]
- Directeur artistique en art graphique et design numérique, Penninghen [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/119]
- Designer-Manager de projet, Les Ecoles de Condé [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/276 et Kedge Business School [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/34]
- Designer, Ecole de Design Nantes Atlantique [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/969]
- Directeur artistique en design graphique, Autograf [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/249]
- *Designer in Sustainable Innovation*, SDS - The Sustainable Design School [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1094]

**LEVEL**

**Beyond the Master level**

**Institution Diploma**

1 to 3 Years of Higher Education

- Diplôme Supérieur de Recherche en Design (DSRD) offered by ESAD de Saint-Etienne and Marseille-Méditerranée [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/171]
- Post-Master «KAOLIN», Art and Design in Contemporary Ceramics, one-year program offered by the ESA of Limoges.
- Post-diplôme Recherche ÉCOLAB, in one year, offered by ESADA [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/837]
- Mastère Innovation Design, Strate Ecole de Design [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/529]

**Mastère Spécialisat® (MS)**

**Institution Diploma - 1 Year of Higher Education**

- Mastère spécialisé® Expert en stratégie d’innovation durable pour 1 à 3 ans by design/Innovation by design and création, design & technologies contemporaines offered by l’ENSAD - Les Ateliers [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/871]
- Mastère spécialisat® Expert en stratégie d’innovation durable pour 1 à 3 ans by design/Innovation by design and création, design & technologies contemporaines offered by l’ENSAD - Les Ateliers [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/858]

**Licence**

**National Diploma - 3 Years of Higher Education - L3**

180 ECTS credits

- Licence, national diploma awarded after 3 years of study, offered by around 20 schools under the broad fields of Arts, Letters, and Languages or Sciences, Technologies, Health. It offers technical mastery in specialty areas: Graphic design, Sound design, Textile design, 3D modeling, Packaging design, Web design.

To apply online: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/725](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/725)

**Professional Title**

**RNCP - 3 Years of Higher Education**

Acta Multimédia [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/786]

Brassart [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/569]

LISA [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/344]

1984, School of Design [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1097]

**Beyond the Level**

**Brevet de Technicien Supérieur (BTS)**

National Diploma - 2 Years of Higher Education - L2

120 ECTS credits

- BTS, offered in public and private secondary and postsecondary schools. Options include: Communication design, Spatial design. These programs are designed to quickly prepare to enter the workforce.

**Diplôme National des Métiers d’Arts (DMA)**

National Diploma - 2 Years of Higher Education - L2

120 ECTS credits

- DMA, a 2-year degree offered by over 4 public ESAA with Decoration and furniture option. Students focus on one craft/art and learn to use traditional know-how in the professional world.

**Diplôme National d’Art (DNA)**

National Diploma - 3 Years of Higher Education - L3

180 ECTS credits

- DNA, awarded after 3 years of study in a Higher School of Art and Design, confers the Degree of Licence. Around 20 schools offer the Design option with some allowing a concentration (textile, graphic or product design, etc.).

To apply online: [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1062](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1062)

**Diplôme National des Métiers d’Art et du Design (DNMADE)**

National Diploma - 3 Years of Higher Education - L3

180 ECTS credits

- DNMADE, certifies the 1st cycle in ESAA over 3 years and confers the Degree of Licence. This diploma offers several mentions: Animation (4); Space (27); Event (1); Graphics (36); Innovation (3); Instrument, Book (1); Materials (11); Fashion (11); Digital (12); Object (35); Show (6). École de Design Nantes Atlantique [www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1105](http://www.campusart.org/artsearch/#/program/1105)

**Licence**

National Diploma - 3 Years of Higher Education - L3

180 ECTS credits

- Licence, national diploma awarded after 3 year of study, offered by around 20 schools under the broad fields of Arts, Letters, and Languages or Sciences, Technologies, Health. It offers technical mastery in specialty area: Graphic design, Sound design, Textile design, 3D modeling, Packaging design, Web design.


**Master**

National Diploma - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2

120 ECTS credits

- Master, a 2-year national diploma offered by around 20 universities under the broad fields of Arts, Letters, and Languages or Sciences, Technologies, Health and with various concentrations (Design, IT, Urban planning, Acoustics, Interactive design, etc.)

**Graduate Level Diploma in Plastic Arts (DNSAP)**

Master Level - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2

120 ECTS credits

- The DNSAP (Diplôme National Supérieur d’Arts plastiques) delivered by the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts (ENSBA) in Paris.

**Diplôme National Supérieur d’Expression Plastique (DNSEP)**

Master Level - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2

120 ECTS credits

- DNSEP, a 2-year degree that caps the graduate phase of art education in France and aims to impart structure and strength to the student’s personal research. 24 schools offer the Art option with some allowing a concentration (Spatial, Culinary, Sound, etc.).

**Diplôme National Supérieur des Arts Appliqués (DSAA)**

Master Level - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2

120 ECTS credits

- DSAA, a 2-year degree, allows to refine the artistic mastery in Design in 30 schools with: Spatial design, Graphic design, Fashion and Product.

**Diplôme National Supérieur des Arts Appliqués (DSAA)**

National Diploma - 5 Years of Higher Education - M2

120 ECTS credits

- DSAA, a 2-year degree, allows to refine the artistic mastery in Design in 30 schools with: Spatial design, Graphic design, Fashion and Product.