L’École Supérieure d’Art de Clermont Métropole (ESACM) (Clermont Ferrand School of Fine Arts) is a one-of-a-kind institution in Auvergne, and its art department provides challenging and open-minded teaching in the visual arts, for training high-level artists and designers with the ability to invent, anticipate, act and think. Training is based on education centred around student projects, and uses a wide variety of practical and theoretical teaching tools forming a contemporary approach to art (drawing, painting, printing, sculpture, installations, photography, writing, video, cinema, digital art, contemporary art, history of art, philosophy etc.). This teaching is provided by teachers who themselves are involved in the art sector (artists, theorists, art critics, exhibition curators, writers, philosophers etc.). Various speakers and guests add to the list during workshops, conferences, studio sessions and research seminars. Certified by France’s Ministry for Culture, the ESACM provides two state-certified degrees: the ‘National Diploma in Art’ (Diplôme National d’Art – DNA) which provide the grade Bachelor, and the ‘National Diploma in Plastic Arts’ (Diplôme National Supérieur d’Expression Plastique – DNSEP) which qualifies students for a Master’s degree. The course is registered within the European higher education reform and operates using the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). This makes it totally compatible with the higher education network throughout Europe. The master’s degree therefore enables people to continue courses in all European universities or in the 3rd cycles of art schools, including the ESACM, which invites student-researchers to develop their research work over 3 years in the Coopérative de Recherche (research cooperative) alongside seasoned resident-researchers.

**MAIN PROGRAMMES OF STUDY**

The school’s creative and research workshops, devoted to landscape and film, are spaces for cross-disciplinary reflection that coax students to focus their own artistic energies. Instructional modules known as lab sessions deal with specific topics such as virtual reality, print-making, writing, and sound.

**RESEARCH**

Research at the ESACM explores two areas, which have multiple links: ‘Landscape Spaces’ and ‘Workplace Worlds’. Each of these areas has opened perspectives and provided a framework for research programmes, whose teams are made up of teachers, students, researchers and student-researchers, and which have followed various processes and taken multiple forms: study seminars and days, exhibitions, publications, travel, films etc.

**STRENGTHS**

Based in the heart of the university campus in a modern, 4000m² building, which was designed especially for its needs, the school provides students with an environment suited to learning, experimenting and developing their artistic practice. They enjoy shared studios, professional quality equipment including a FabLab (3D printer, laser cutter, digital embroidery machine etc.) as well as various opportunities to go beyond the school and benefit from outside experiences (workshops, travel in France and abroad, international residences open to 2nd cycle students, exhibitions in professional structures and training courses).

**LOCATION**

The school is located in Auvergne, in the middle of France, in a university community of 141,000 inhabitants, in a metropol of 300,000 inhabitants.

http://www.esacam.fr