Located at 254 boulevard Raspail in the heart of Paris, the École Spéciale d’Architecture (ESA) is France’s only private school of architecture. As an association organized under the law of 1901, the school offers a unique perspective on architecture in which alumni, faculty, students, and staff are invited to participate. Special school d’Architecture is member of the Conference of the Grandes Écoles since September 2010. ESA’s educational programs are accredited by the Ministry of Culture. The diplomas it confers carry the seal of the Ministry of National Education. ESA was established 140 years ago as part of a revolt against academism. Since then it has continuously recreated its teaching approaches and organizational structures. Today, as Europe’s institutions of higher education strive to harmonize their degrees and programs, a necessary reform that may have the unintended effect of producing uniformity, the École Spéciale stands firmly on its founding premise: to be special.

**MAIN PROGRAMMES OF STUDY**

- 1st cycle (3 years): ESA diploma, Grade 1
- 2nd cycle (2 years): ESA diploma, Grade 2
- Licensed architect, authorized to manage construction projects independently and without supervision: DESA architect HMONP
- Specialized postgraduate credential: DES ESA (ESA diploma of advanced study)
- DES in urbanism and urban transformation
- DES in environmental architecture

**STRENGTHS**

ESA has an international flavor: 30% of its students are internationals, and the faculty is recruited from around the world. ESA has entered into cooperative agreements with 30 schools on 4 continents. Instruction is in French and English (starting at the licence level). The semester system allows students to begin programs at two points during the year. Admission exams are given twice a year. The calendar is compatible with international norms. ESA offers an alternative to conventional training in architecture.

**LOCATION**

Central Paris 254 boulevard Raspail Métro station: Raspail

The calendar is compatible with international norms. ESA offers an alternative to conventional training in architecture.

**IDENTITY FORM**

- Precise name of the institution: École Spéciale d’Architecture
- Type of institution: Private institution of higher education recognized in 1870 as operating in the public interest and fully recognized by the national government in 1934
- City where the main campus is located: Paris
- Number of students: 1000
- Percentage or number of international students: 30%
- Type and level of qualifications awarded:
  - 1st cycle (3 years): ESA diploma, Grade 1
  - 2nd cycle (2 years): ESA diploma, Grade 2
  - Licensed architect, authorized to manage construction projects independently and without supervision: DESA architect HMONP
  - Specialized postgraduate credential: DES ESA (ESA diploma of advanced study)
  - DES in urbanism and urban transformation
  - DES in environmental architecture
- French language courses: Yes
- Programs for international students: Yes
- Programs in English: Yes
- Registration fees/year (for information only): 8000 euros
- Postal address: 254 boulevard Raspail - 75014 Paris - France

http://www.esa-paris.fr

Member of Campus France Forum / Member of CampusArt