How can I present the École normale supérieure in just a few words? I should speak of its tradition, name some of its most famous students (from Césaire to Bourdieu, Sartre, Foucault or Jacqueline de Romilly, from Kastler to Cohen-Tan- noudji, Ngô Bao Châu and Jean-Pierre Serre); I should mention the charm of its legendary buildings (a school of the French Republic housed in a kind of medieval cloister); I should also mention its singularity, because in spite of its small size (2,400 students, including the doctoral students and international students) the ENS stands out as one of the world’s very best universities. I should also mention its situation at the core of a network of Parisian universities and institutions and its involvement in the setting up of PSL Research University Paris; I should also go back over its tremendous growth during the last decades, thanks to its exceptional research centers in which students are directly in contact with the major issues of cutting-edge research.

Nevertheless I think that, in spite of all these elements, the essential would be missed: intellectual freedom, customized courses, synergies between Arts and Humanities and Sciences, ad hoc seminars, the priority given to the tutorships, the rich Parisian intellectual life, and, of course, those all-night discussions between the rosebushes and the pond in the Cour aux Ernests (with its legendary goldfish)…

But the École is first and foremost what its students and researchers who work there make of it. As you prepare to enter this place for the first time, you can be sure of being truly a part of the community of our École, you will help to make it lively, to shape it, to enrich it through your eyes, your ideas, your expectations; and from now on, we rely on you: welcome to the ENS, we hope you will feel at home!

Marc Mézard
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WHAT IS THE ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE?

A FRENCH GRANDE ÉCOLE

founded in 1794

THE DIFFERENT STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

More than 20% of ENS students are international students

- Élèves normaliens

Elèves normaliens

has also recruited 120 normaliens étudiants

- Élèves normaliens étrangers: they have

normaliens

- Normaliens étudiants étrangers: they are
School's Master's courses.

- Doctoral students who prepare a Ph.D. at ENS, in the doctoral school Paris Sciences et Lettres Research University: Physics in the Île-de-France doctoral school, the Interdisciplinary arts and humanities/sciences doctoral school, and the Astronomy and Astrophysics doctoral school.

The following students will not obtain a degree at ENS and do not have to validate ECTS credits:

- Pensionnaires étrangers: these students (about 100 each year) are enrolled at their home university (located abroad), and stay at ENS for up to a year. They come to ENS on an exchange program and obtain accommodation on one of the ENS campuses (in most cases).

- Auditeurs étrangers, who are at the École for one semester or one year on an exchange program or without an exchange program.

- Post-doctoral researchers, who come to ENS after obtaining their Ph.D.

The following students will not obtain an ENS degree but have to validate ECTS credits, under an agreement with their Home universities:

- ERASMUS+ students and interns (about 30 per year).

- Students enrolled in the History and literature Master's at Columbia University (about 10 per year).
grandes écoles

Pensionnaires Étrangers who come here

Licences and licences professionnelles

not enroll in a licence professionnelle

master is prepared in two years: M1

year of master

year and also write a research paper

students under joint tutorship are enrolled

The École normale supérieure is special in that it is a Grande École

the licence

doctorat

the baccalauréat
doc torat “Bac licence

• licence is prepared in three years

baccalauréat

doctorat is prepared in three or so

doctorants thésards

thesis director and doctorants defend

docteur doctorant de conferences maître

the pôle Contrat-recherche scientifique-chercheur”
ACADEMIC STUDIES

All students enrolled at the École normale supérieure must take at least two courses per semester and one modern language course per academic year.

The ENS offers a wide range of courses, spread out in 15 different departments in Sciences or Arts and Humanities: Biology, Chemistry, Cognitive science, Computer science, Earth sciences, Mathematics, Physics, Economics, History, History and theory of art, Geography, Literature and languages, Philosophy, Social sciences.

There are several types of lessons, depending on the public and the department that organizes them.

In the Sciences, lessons are mainly cours magistraux, i.e. lectures for a class of students, travaux pratiques, i.e. lab work, travaux dirigés, i.e. supervised practical work, and research seminars on a precise subject. Training through research is validated when students do an internship in a laboratory, under the supervision of the ENS or a partner institution.

In the Humanities, lessons can take various forms: induction courses are for students, especially first-year students, wishing to become familiar with a general subject. Research seminars cover a specific subject on which several speakers share their points. There are also numerous classes in between. Training through research in humanities is validated by writing and defending a research paper, during each year of their Master's course.

The French grading system is based mostly on a 20-point grading scale. The lowest mark is 0/20, the highest mark is 20/20 and the pass mark, which allows the validation of the exercise or the semester of the academic year, is generally 10/20 (however it may be 12/20 in some specific cases). The minimal grade for a research paper to be accepted is 14/20.

Numerous foreign languages are taught, including some rare languages. The choice includes Arabic, Bambara, Chinese, Danish, English, French Sign Language, German, Modern Hebrew, Hindi, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, and Yiddish. Lessons in French as a Foreign Language are also taught for foreign students wishing to learn French or to improve their level.

The course description book, the Brochure des enseignements, is available on the ENS website.

While the competitive examinations admit students to ENS, the diplôme de l’École normale supérieure (the ENS diploma) signals the end of their studies at the École. To obtain the diploma, graduating students must have been enrolled at least three times for the diploma, must already have obtained their Master's degree and must have obtained at least 36 credits at ENS. At least one-third of these 36 credits must be in the same discipline as the department to which they belonged and as the Master's degree.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR DOING AN INTERNSHIP

Internship regulations in France are very strict. Only students enrolled on a national university degree or the diplôme de l’École normale supérieure may do an internship supervised by the ENS, generally in a scientific laboratory, a public administration or a firm. Before beginning the internship, students must complete a contract called convention de stage, signed by themselves, the ENS Director and the hosting organization. Interns must be paid (they receive an internship ‘allowance’) if the internship lasts more than two months. Nevertheless, the amount of this allowance may not exceed €500 per month.

These conditions are compulsory for internships because the convention de stage plays the role of insurance. In order to obtain a convention de stage students must contact the Service de la scolarité et des concours.

Students who are not administratively enrolled at ENS but wish to do an internship, in France or abroad, must have their institutions of origin sign the convention de stage.
SCIENCES SOCIALES (SOCIAL SCIENCES)

Jérôme DEAUVIAU
Julien BONHOMME
Blaise WILFERT-PORTAL

ÉCONOMIE (ECONOMICS)

Daniel COHEN
Mathilde VIENNOT
Marc GURGAND

SCIENCES DE L’ANTIQUITÉ (CLASSICS)

François BERARD
Camille RAMBOURG
Anne-Catherine BAUDOIN

HISTOIRE ET THÉORIE DES ARTS (ART HISTORY AND THEORY)

Nadeije LANEYRIE-DAGEN
Antoine de BAECQUE
Béatrice JOYEUX-PRUNEL

ÉTUDES COGNITIVES (COGNITIVE SCIENCES)

Sharon PEPERKAMP
Benjamin SPECTOR

ECLA (LANGUAGES CENTER)

Estelle FIGON
Estelle FIGON
Michèle GHIL

SCIENCES

BIOLOGIE (BIOLOGY)

Antoine TRILLER
Patrick CHARNAY
Andrea DUMOULIN
Denis THIEFFRY

CHIMIE (CHEMISTRY)

Anne BOUTIN
Jean-Bernard BAUDIN
Clotilde POLUCAR
Jérôme DELACOTTE

INFORMATIQUE (COMPUTER SCIENCE)

Jean PONCE
Patrick COUSOT
Marc POUZET

MATHÉMATIQUES ET APPLICATIONS (MATHEMATICS AND APPLICATIONS)

Olivier DEBARRE
Claude VITERBO
Olivier DEBARRE

PHYSIQUE (PHYSICS)

Jean-Marc BERROIR
Olivier ABILLON
Frédéric CHEVY
Jean-François ALLEMAND

Head of department

Head of department
ÉTUDES COGNITIVES (COGNITIVE SCIENCES)

Sharon PEPPERKAMP
Benjamin SPECTOR
Benjamin SPECTOR

Head of department |  |

also introduce themselves to teachers

pensionnaires étrangers can take lessons

All normaliens have to choose a tutor from the teachers of their department (pensionnaires étrangers)

contrat d'études

Service de la scolarité et des concours

préfecture

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Dominique COMBE
Stella DOSSA
Isabelle MISTRAL

Contact: ________

Office Hours:

•

•

• Closed on Mondays

/ REMINDER OF THE BENEFITS FOR PENSIONNAIRES AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

•

• tutorat

pensionnaires should contact the representative

•

•
Here is a non-exhaustive list of academic institutions in which the normaliens can take lessons, attend seminars or do research. Information on the detailed lessons program or the library opening hours is available in each institution concerned.

UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

- Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)
  - 12 place du Panthéon
  - Paris 75005
  - (Law, Economics, Human Sciences)
  - www.univ-paris1.fr

- Paris II (Panthéon Assas)
  - 12 place du Panthéon
  - Paris 75005
  - (Law, Economics, Human Sciences)
  - www.u-paris2.fr

- Paris III (Sorbonne Nouvelle)
  - 17 rue de la Sorbonne
  - Paris 75005
  - (Humanities)

- Paris IV (Sorbonne)
  - 1 rue Victor Cousin,
  - Paris 75005
  - (Humanities)
  - www.paris4.sorbonne.fr

- Paris V (Université René Descartes)
  - 12 rue de l’École de Médecine, Paris 75005
  - (Medicine, Pharmaceutics, Science and Human Sciences)
  - www.univ-paris5.fr

- Paris VI (Université Pierre et Marie Curie)
  - 4 place Jussieu
  - Paris 75005
  - (Science)
  - www.umpc.fr

- Paris VII (Université Denis Diderot)
  - 2 place Jussieu
  - Paris 75005
  - (Humanities and Sciences)
  - www.diderotp7.jussieu.fr

- Paris VIII (Université Vincennes Saint-Denis)
  - 2 rue de la Liberté
  - Saint-Denis (93)
  - (Humanities)

- Paris IX (Paris Dauphine)
  - place du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny,
  - Paris 75016
  - (Economics and Management)
  - www.dauphine.fr

- Paris X (Nanterre)
  - 200 avenue de la République
  - Nanterre (92)
  - (Law, Social Sciences and Humanities)
  - www.u-paris10.fr

- Paris XI (Université Paris Sud)
  - 15 rue Georges Clemenceau
  - Orsay (91)
  - (Science)
  - www.u-psud.fr

- Paris XII (Val-de-Marne)
  - 61 avenue du Général de Gaulle
  - Créteil (94)
  - (Science, Social Sciences and Humanities)

- Paris XIII (Paris Nord)
  - avenue Jean-Baptiste Clément
  - Villetaneuse (93)
  - (Science, Social Sciences and Humanities)

- Collège de France
  - 11 place Marcelin Berthelot
  - Paris 75005
  - (All disciplines)
  - www.college-de-France.fr

- Collège International de Philosophie
  - 1 rue Descartes
  - Paris 75005
  - (Philosophy)
  - www.ci-philo.asso.fr

- EHESS (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales)
  - 54 bd Raspail
  - Paris 75006
  - (Social Sciences)
  - www.ehess.fr

- EPHE (École Pratique des Hautes Études)
  - 45-47 rue des Écoles
  - Paris 75005
  - (Science and Social Sciences)
  - www.ephe.sorbonne.fr

- École Nationale des Chartes
  - 19 rue de la Sorbonne
  - Paris 75005
  - (Medieval Studies)
  - www.enc.sorbonne.fr

- Institut catholique de Paris
  - 21 rue d’Assas
  - (private university)
  - www.icp.fr

- Sciences Po (Institut d’études politiques et Fondation)
  - 27 rue Saint Guillaume
  - Paris 75007
  - (Political Science)

- INALCO (Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales)
  - 2 rue de Lille
  - Paris 75007
  - (Foreign Languages)
  - www.inalco.fr
We are very pleased to welcome you during your stay in Paris, and we hope that the information you find in this short guide will help to make it a profitable and enjoyable one.

The academic year for the normaliens élèves and normaliens of the International selection starts on Monday, September 4 and Tuesday, September 5.

The academic year for the pensionnaires étrangers auditeurs étrangers (if applicable) and ERASMUS+ students of the International selection starts on Wednesday, September 6.

Those students must register on September 6, salle des Actes (45 rue d’ulm, 75005 Paris):

- 9.00 - 12.00: Pensionnaires Étrangers (PE) housed on the Ulm campus
- 12.00 - 16.30: Pensionnaires Étrangers (PE) housed on the Jourdan and Montrouge campuses, ERASMUS+ students and other students

Addresses: ____________ ______
fr and ____________

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Addresses: ____________ ______
fr and ____________

ORGANIZATION OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR AT THE ENS

- First semester:
- Mid-Term holidays: one week at the end of October
- Christmas holidays:
- Second semester: from the end of January to the end of May
- Winter holidays:
- Spring holidays: one week in April
- Summer holidays:

THE START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR IN SEPTEMBER
BEFORE YOU ARRIVE: FOR NEW STUDENTS

/ ADMINISTRATIVE FORMALITIES

RESIDENCE PERMIT

Wednesday, September 6

all students who receive their first residence permit must pay a fee of €58 and must take a medical examination by order of the préfecture.

must pay a fee of €50 directly to the préfecture, when you collect the permit.

NB: A biometric residence permit was introduced in June 2013. You will be requested to supply a fingerprint in order to obtain this.

VISAS

Nationals of countries in the European Union and the Swiss Confederation do not need a visa. In application of the law of 26 November 2003, they no longer need a residence permit.

Students from other countries must request a type D long-term student’s visa (CESEDA R311-3 6°) from the French Consulate in their country of origin or residence. The consulate will give you a VLSTS (long stay visa which acts as residence permit), and an application form for an attestation from the OFII (French Office of Immigration and Integration), which you must take to the Registrar’s office when you register. (Take the letter sent by the Head of International Relations at ENS to your consulate).

LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS

If you intend to ask for a position of language assistant in a secondary school (which is sometimes the case in exchanges with British or American universities), you should contact the French Embassy in your country and ask for a language assistant visa which you must take to the Registrar’s Office on your arrival. They will take care of the application procedures.

We remind you that your first salary will not be paid until three months after you take up your position.
/ WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS

• Passport
• Birth certificate - COMPULSORY (not applicable for nationals within the European Union): this must be translated into French and be certified exact by an official body
• Long-stay visa: the visa stamped on your passport must be a type D long-stay student's visa or a language assistant's visa (only for language assistants in schools or universities). On your arrival in France, the ENS will take charge of obtaining your residence permit. This permit is compulsory except for nationals of European Union countries or Switzerland.
• Documents from the French Consulate
• Grant certificate (scholarship) or personal or family means test (translated into French)
• Insurance - COMPULSORY (European insurance card, insurance from your university or family)
• Recent identity photos that are an exact likeness: bring at least 4 (taken from the front, head uncovered, size 3.5 x 4.5 cm). There is a photo machine in the ENS
• Letter(s) of recommendation from your university (not compulsory)

ONLY for registration for the ENS Diploma and/or in a university, you must provide:
• the originals of diplomas (from high schools and universities).
• their photocopies certified exact by a qualified body.
• their translation into French, done by a sworn translator.
• the corresponding grade sheets.
• their translation into French, done by a sworn translator.

/ INSURANCE: VERY IMPORTANT!

MEDICAL INSURANCE

• You must take out insurance in your country BEFORE you leave
• Make sure you know the terms of cover

Remember to bring the certificate translated into French

Third Party Insurance

• It is COMPULSORY to take out insurance covering risks of accident (and fire, etc.). You must do this on the day you register at ENS.
• You will be offered a contract with the company MAIF. For this you must meet the MAIF representative, who is available during the registration days (from September 4 to September 6 2017).

NB: If you cannot take out insurance in your country, it is sometimes possible to register with the French social security system provided that you register for a degree course in a Paris university (age requirement: under 28)
PROCEDURES FOR ERASMUS+ STUDENTS

/ BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL

The ERASMUS+ agreement coordinator or the representative of the International Affairs Department receive ERASMUS+ applications in spring for the 1st semester (deadline May 31) and in autumn for the 2nd semester (deadline November 15).

The ERASMUS+ agreement coordinator or the representative of the International Relations Department approves the applications with the International Relations Office no later than June 30 for the 1st semester and December 15 for the 2nd semester.

/ WHEN YOU ARRIVE

On arrival, ERASMUS+ students must go to the International Affairs Department in order to have their attendance sheet signed. Students should contact the IAD to know the opening hours.

ERASMUS+ students must also contact their ERASMUS+ coordinator or representative of the International relations department to finalize their study program.

/ BEFORE YOU LEAVE

All ERASMUS+ students must ask their professors to send an email to the IAD (dri@ens.fr) with the title of the lessons and seminars attended, the grade obtained and the number of ECTS.

This email must reach the IAD no later than two weeks before the student’s departure.

One week before leaving, ERASMUS+ students must go to the International Affairs Department to collect a statement of all the courses attended (grades and ECTS) based on the emails received from the professors, addressed to their university of origin.

/ BEFORE YOU LEAVE

... no later than two weeks before the student’s departure.

One week before leaving...
HOW TO GET TO THE ENS

FROM THE AIRPORTS

FROM ROISSY
Take the RER line B and get off:
• for 45 rue d’Ulm: at Luxembourg
• for 48 boulevard Jourdan: at Cité universitaire
• for 1 rue Maurice Arnoux in Montrouge: Mairie de Montrouge

FROM ORLY
Take the ORLYBUS and:
• for 45 rue d’Ulm: get off at Denfert-Rochereau (terminus), then take the RER B up to Luxembourg or the n° 38 bus to Auguste Comte bus stop.
• for 48 boulevard Jourdan: get off at Tombe Issoire (opposite n° 48)
• for Montrouge: get off at 48 boulevard Jourdan (Tombe Issoire bus stop), then follow the route indicated for students arriving from ROISSY (see above).

FROM PARIS

The different campuses are accessible via the following public transport means:

45 RUE D’ULM
• Bus 38: Auguste Comte bus stop
• Bus 21 and 27: Feuillantes bus stop
• Bus 89 and 84: Panthéon Mairie du 5e bus stop
• RER B: Luxembourg station

48 BOULEVARD JOURDAN
• Tramway T3: Montsouris stop
• Bus 28, 38 and 68: Porte d’Orléans bus stop
• Metro line 4: Porte d’Orléans station
• RER B: Cité Universitaire station

1 RUE MAURICE ARNOUX, MONTRouGE
• Bus 194 or 195: Dépinoy bus stop (the bus leaves from the Porte d’Orléans)
• Metro line 4: Mairie de Montrouge station
YOUR ARRIVAL AT THE STUDENTS’ RESIDENCE

Please inform the person in charge of welcoming you of the date and approximate time of your arrival by emailing or phoning any of the following addresses or numbers:

- This email address: hebergement@ens.fr
- Depending on the students’ residence you will be staying in:
  - JOURDAN
    - Tel. +33 1 43 13 61 56
  - ULM
    - Tel. +33 1 44 32 32 42
    - Fax. +33 1 44 32 30 10
  - MONTROUGE
    - Tel. +33 1 58 07 65 10
    - Fax. +33 1 58 07 50 80

Outside the office hours indicated, you will find your room key at reception 45 rue d’Ulm, 48 boulevard Jourdan or 1 rue Maurice Arnoux in Montrouge, provided you have informed the person responsible for your welcome (hebergement@ens.fr) in advance of your approximate time of arrival.

Before you arrive, feel free to write to the following email addresses, to ask any questions you might have about your accommodation, restaurant opening dates, etc.:

hebergement@ens.fr and dri@ens.fr

OFFICE HOURS

9:00-12:00
14:00-17:00

Monday to Friday inclusive
Only the *normaliens élèves* and the *pensionnaires* do not pay rent from **September to June 30** to the Pôle Hébergement and must pay it if their situation.

The *pensionnaires* are invited to live in halls of residence. Any person not living in the halls is therefore likely to incur the liability of the resident.

Only pupils and international students who invited the unauthorized person.

*normaliens étudiants* and the *pensionnaires* *étrangers* do not pay rent from **September to June 30** to the Pôle Hébergement and must pay it if their situation.

**/RECEPTION AT THE ENS**

- Wednesday September 6
- **MUST** vacate their room by June 30, 2018

**COLLECTING YOUR ROOM KEY**

If you have to send heavy objects be sure to arrange for them to arrive at the School after September 6th:

- *simple meals*
- *cafeteria*
- *libraries (humanities library and departmental libraries)*
- *computer room (PC, Apple Macintosh)*
- *washed and UNIX stations*
- *sports facilities at the Cité universitaire (volleyball, handball, badminton, table tennis)*
- *dining room and UNIX stations*
- *literature library (humanities and social sciences)*
- *kitchens (refrigerator, hot plate, mini-oven – plates and kitchen utensils – are not provided)*
- *washing machines and dryers*
- *pianos.*

*Vademecum du logement*

Provide their residence permit (for a period

**/EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE ON THE DIFFERENT CAMPUSES**

- *cafeteria*
- *libraries (humanities library and departmental libraries)*
- *computer room (PC, Apple Macintosh)*
- *washed and UNIX stations*
- *sports facilities at the Cité universitaire (volleyball, handball, badminton, table tennis)*
- *dining room and UNIX stations*
- *literature library (humanities and social sciences)*
- *kitchens (refrigerator, hot plate, mini-oven – plates and kitchen utensils – are not provided)*
- *washing machines and dryers*

*If you have to send heavy objects be sure to arrange for them to arrive at the School after September 6th:*

- *Bed linen and towels are not provided*
- *simple meals*
**EVERYDAY LIFE**

**MEALS**

The ENS has two restaurants, colloquially called pôts: one on the Ulm campus and the other on the Jourdan campus. The price of a meal for all students, whatever their administrative status, is €3.80.

The two restaurants are open for lunch from 11.50 to 14.00; in the evening, only the Ulm restaurant is open, from 06.15 to 19.30 (please check with the restaurants).

In the morning, the Ulm restaurant serves breakfast from 7.30 to 9.20, for €1.70.

**MAIL AND E-MAIL**

All ENS students have a pigeonhole for mail on the Ulm campus (between the salle informatique (computer room) and the bédéthèque (comic book library). This is where the administration sends the forms to be returned to the registrar’s office (SAE).

The School communicates a lot by e-mail. On their arrival, all ENS students receive an e-mail address in the following form: firstname.lastname@ens.fr. As the administration and the departments essentially communicate by e-mail, you should check your e-mails very regularly. It is important to check it regularly because ENS will send individual or group messages there. If you do not, it will automatically be canceled.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have to imperatively pass to the logistic service to obtain your multifunction card. This card gives you access to the buildings and the restaurants of the ENS, and includes you in the public directory. In case of an accident implying a person who is not included in the public directory, the École disclaims all responsibility. Moreover, each newly arrived person has to address the Computer resources center (CRI) in order to access the internet network of the ENS.
BANKS

You will very probably have to open a bank account in France. Most banks have a network of branches in Paris and in the provinces. You can open a non-resident’s account without any particular formalities. If the bank in your country has a branch in Paris, opening an account and transferring money will no doubt be quicker than in another bank. The School has an agreement with the Société Générale, which makes it easy to open an account. This branch will be present on the first day of the semester. Finally, international bankcards (American Express, Visa, Mastercard, etc.) may be useful in that they enable you to withdraw cash easily.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

If you are under 26, you can get several reductions (Carte jeune, billets BIGE, InterRail Card). Ask at the SNCF or Air France about how to obtain reduced-price tickets. If you intend to travel widely in France or in Europe, ask for information at an agency in your country specializing in conditions for using the Euro-pass.

FOR TRANSPORT IN PARIS

2 season ticket systems are available:

• For people under 26: Carte Imagine R (approximately €300 a year): this will let you travel freely on the RATP networks (metro and bus) and the Paris section of the RER network (RATP and SNCF).

• For people over 26: Carte Navigo (approximately €700 a year, paid in monthly installments from your bank account): this will let you travel freely on the RATP networks (metro and bus) and the Paris section of the RER network (RATP and SNCF).

You can also buy tickets singly (about €2) or in booklets of 10 (about €14). The metro runs from 5am until 1:15am (and until 2:15am on Saturdays). In general the RER runs until 12:30 or 1:00am. Many buses however cease to run after 20:30 although certain lines run in the evenings and at night, others on Sundays. Just enquire!
Please get in touch with the International Affairs Department as soon as you arrive at the:
dri@ens.fr or +33 1 44 32 31 35.

Go to the administrative reception, 45 rue d’Ulm, on Monday September 4; Tuesday September 5 or for Pensionnaires Étrangers and Erasmus+ students Wednesday September 6 (closed at weekends), to settle a few administrative matters and receive various documents.

• Receive the ENS’ «tug bag» containing all the useful information about classes and life at the School.
• Receive the ENS multi-purpose card.
• Prepare the application for a residence permit.
• Pick up your certificate of accommodation (necessary for example to open a bank account).
• Obtain an ENS email address: COMPULSORY Please consult your emails regularly throughout the year: _________
• Open a bank account.

When you arrive in September

You will meet the ENS student who is informally in charge of showing you around the ENS.

The Integration Week-end: The MEGA

In the 3rd week of September the COF organizes a three-day tour somewhere in France to allow newcomers to get to know each other.

The ENS is a very stimulating environment, with its open-access libraries, its numerous conferences on various subjects, and also its several students’ clubs and activities.

For further information, have a look at the bulletin boards, read the student’s journal, the Bocal, and go to the informal events organized on the Ulm campus in September.

Welcome to The École Normale Supérieure!

Information Weeks

At the beginning of each academic year, the ENS organizes two information weeks for pupils from the 1st to the 4th year. Don’t miss these, as you will learn a lot about classes and life at the École. There will be lectures as well as compulsory tours of the departments, laboratories and libraries.