

MASTER IN LIFE SCIENCES

UNIVERSITÉ PSL

The PSL Master's degree in Life Sciences is an interdisciplinary Master's program that aims to prepare the next generation of scientists, engineers, and physicians to address emerging problems in contemporary biology, ecology and environmental science.

The Master is jointly proposed by world-renowned schools: École normale supérieure (ENS), École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE), Collège de France, ESPCI Paris, MINES ParisTech, Institut de Biologie Physico-Chimique (IBPC), Institut Curie and Institut Pasteur. Competitive recruitment with an exceptionally high researcher/student ratio, tailor-made training, along with close tutoring are shared between the different teaching institutions within PSL. In addition, research training through research practice is an historical mark of these institutions.

MAIN ASSETS

- **Interdisciplinarity:** solid training in biology, ecology and related fields (mathematics, physics, chemistry, computer sciences, geosciences).
- **Generalist education with specialization in a cutting-edge field.**
- **Training in research and in innovation through research:** students will complete two internships in academic/industrial research laboratories, private organizations, and/or design offices/regional authorities/nature reserves in France or abroad.
- **International exposure:** the Master offers curricula taught exclusively in English, or in French and English. French language classes are available to international students. National and international internships benefit from existing networks with partner institutions.
- **Expert teaching:** the program is implemented by the best specialists from world-renowned institutions.
- **Mentorship:** a faculty mentor is assigned to each student to help guide her or him in choosing courses, finding an internship, and preparing a study contract. Students in the Medicine/Science program will receive dual mentoring in science and medicine.

- **High quality of PSL laboratories.**

— **Access to scholarships** (up to €10,000/year) for specific categories of students.

- **Access to pre-professional contracts and eligibility for continuous professional training.**

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The PSL Master in Life Sciences primarily prepares students for careers as researcher, academic lecturer-researcher, researcher-physician or research engineer in the public sector, or as Research and Development professional in the private sector, particularly in pharmaceutical and innovative biotechnology industries. Career opportunities also exist in management of nature reserves and natural resources, such as forestry or water supply agencies, and local and regional authorities.

PROGRAMME

Master 1 (60 ECTS)

3 curricula

- Interdisciplinary Master in Life Sciences (IMaLiS – ENS)
- Integrative Biology and Physiopathology (BioP – EPHE)
- Biodiversity – Environment (BE – EPHE)

All curricula include research internships during both M1 and M2 years (4–6 months/year for IMaLiS, 2–6 months/year for BioP and BE). Limited cross-sampling between the different pathways is possible, provided faculty members are in agreement.

Master 2 (60 ECTS)

8 curricula

- Quantitative Biology (IMaLiS – ENS, QBio)
- Neurosciences (IMaLiS – ENS, Neuro)
- Fundamental Biology for Health (IMaLiS – ENS, FBfH)
- Ecology and Evolution (IMaLiS – ENS, EcoEvo)
- Infectiology and Microbiology (BioP – EPHE)
- Normal Cells, Cancer and Therapies (BioP – EPHE)
- Neurobiology and Cognition (BioP – EPHE)
- Biodiversity – Environment (BE – EPHE)

COURSES

— **IMaLiS** (*Interdisciplinary Master in Life Sciences*) is a high-level, generalist, Life Sciences curriculum incorporating key interdisciplinary content (including optional training in mathematics, physics, chemistry, geosciences and computer sciences). It is managed by the Department of Biology at the ENS.

Courses: cellular and developmental biology, cancer biology, microbiology and virology, neurosciences, genetics, epigenetics and genomics, systems biology, computational biology and informatics, evolution and ecology, optional training in career skills (foreign languages, scientific communication, statistics, grant- and resume writing, ethics, etc.)

— **BioP and BE** (*Integrative Biology and Physiopathology, and Biodiversity – Environment*) include alternative, interconnected curricula devoted to Life Sciences, from the molecule to the organism (BioP) or from the organism to the environment (BE). Both curricula address questions about biotic and abiotic interactions affecting the health of living organisms. BioP and BE are managed by the section of Life and Earth Sciences of the EPHE.

Courses: Master 1 and 2 programs allow early involvement in a research (or R&D) project by backing fundamental learning with the context and practice of the internship. Year 1 includes a common core providing mandatory training in career skills (foreign languages, scientific communication, statistics, resume- or grant-writing, ethics, etc.), in addition to "commitment" courses preparing for the choice of future teaching units.

How to apply

IMaLiS – ENS PSL: [PSL Application Portal](#)

BioP and BE – EPHE PSL: [Mon Master](#) or [PSL application portal](#)

To know more

[PSL Master's degree in Life Sciences](#)

Contact

admissions-master-sdv@psl.eu

ADMISSIONS

Application:

1 - Online application.

Submission deadlines depend on the curriculum and are listed on the corresponding web pages.

IMaLiS: 15 January to 24 February 2026, PSL Application Portal

BioP and BE: 17 February to 16 March 2026, Mon Master or PSL Application Portal

2 - Interview for preselected candidates (solely for IMaLiS curricula).

Prerequisites:

— **Master 1:** Bachelor's degree or equivalent encompassing significant cell and molecular biology training (Life Sciences, Health Sciences, Sciences and Technology, Earth and Life Sciences, etc.).

— **Master 2:** Master 1 degree in Science (Life Sciences, Health Sciences, Sciences and Technology, Earth and Life Sciences, etc.) or equivalent (minimum 4 years of Science studies), and students from French engineering schools who have received basic education in Life Sciences.

At least C1 level in English is recommended for IMaLiS M1 and M2 as courses taught in English.

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