

NEW TECHNOLOGIES 1

FILM AND MEDIA

2009

Unlike many European countries, France has maintained a dynamic movie industry through a system of channeling a portion of box-office sales to support production costs. Operating alongside mainstream film companies are small companies that promote innovation. That innovative energy is a natural consequence of quality training programs in all areas of audiovisual creativity. The cinema offers many diversified careers: actor, scriptwriter, director, cameraman, sound engineer, film editor, set designer, graphic designer, and so on—people working together to produce films. Digital technologies—computer graphics, computer-generated images, animation, 3D animation, and all its spin-offs—all have brought significant changes to the industry and to traditional teaching methods. New fields of study and concentrations have been incorporated into film and media programs as the faculty have incorporated new technologies into the training they offer to future artists. Art and architectural schools have not remained indifferent to new technologies and also use them in their artistic works. At the same time, private programs, frequently organized as advanced training courses or continuing professional education courses, have multiplied. Chambers of Commerce have been particularly active in organizing these initiatives. The availability of training in film and media is therefore sizeable and diversified, involving both traditional media and new technologies, particularly in the area of video games and animation, where many openings are available in the many small French production companies.

The film and media schools described below make use of the digital technologies described in the related companion file (“New Technologies: Interactive Digital Arts”) as well as continuing to provide training in production, direction, distribution, and other traditional areas.

PRINCIPAL PROGRAMS

- **École Nationale Supérieure des Métiers de l’Image et du Son (La FEMIS)**

<http://www.lafemis.fr/>

A public industry-oriented school under the authority of the Ministry of Culture organized in 7 departments: production, script writing, direction, image, sound, set design and editing.

Academic work is carried out over 39 months divided into three cycles ending with a level 1 diplôme d’école (bac+5).

A very competitive **entrance exam** is required at the bac+2 or bac+3 level. A good knowledge of French is required, including for the **international entrance** exam (10,000 euros/ year, age limit 27 years) administered at French embassies abroad for foreign applicants.

Each year a **summer program** allows young professionals and international students to complement their theoretical and practical training in a nine-week term.

- **École nationale supérieure Louis Lumière (ENSL)**

<http://www.ens-louis-lumiere.fr/>

A public institution of higher education under the authority of the National Ministry of Education, offering an instructional program over three years awarding a level 1 diplôme d’école (bac+5) in three audiovisual fields: film, photography, and sound. Admission through a competitive examination administered at the bac+2 level.

Applicants holding a foreign degree or a degree not equivalent to the Bac+2 may be allowed to sit for the exam at the discretion of the school’s director. Applicants may be no older than 27.

- **École Supérieure Libre d’Études Cinématographiques**

<http://www.esec.edu/>

Private (6–7,000 euros/year), admission by examination, bac+2, preparatory year and 2 years of study, equivalent to level 3 degree.

ESEC trains students from over 70 countries for creative careers in directing, production analog and digital video editing, and special digital effects.

- **Conservatoire Libre du Cinéma français**

<http://www.clcf.com>

Private (5–7,000 euros/year), trains for careers as assistant director, script management, film techniques, degrees accredited as level 3. The program lasts 2 or 3 years depending on the student’s background. Admission by application, tests, and an interview.

- **IIS Institut International de l’Image et du Son**

<http://www.3is.fr/>

A private institution of higher education (6,500 euros/year) awards a level 3 degree (bac+2) in advanced audiovisual techniques.

The undergraduate program lasts 3 years. Instruction is one-third

theory and two-thirds filming and practical applications. Admission by examination. Applicants must hold baccalauréat and be no more than 25 years old.

UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

Maîtrises de Sciences et Techniques

The MST is a bac+4 degree program that combines artistic, technical, esthetic, theoretical, and historical courses with in-depth practical training in the tools and specific techniques in the student's chosen field. These degrees are awarded by the universities of:

- Marne-la-Vallée (MST in audiovisual and multimedia studies)
<http://www.univ-mlv.fr/>
- Bretagne Occidentale (MST careers in image and sound)
<http://www.univ-brest.fr/>
- Saint-Denis (MST photography, multimedia)
<http://www.univ-paris8.fr/>
- Valenciennes (MST engineering for image and sound)
<http://www.univ-valenciennes.fr/>

DESS and DEA programs in fields related to image and sound

The diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées (DESS) is a terminal professional degree completed in one year after the maîtrise or equivalent bac+4 degree. Students refine their specialized skills or develop another area of competence.

The diplôme d'études approfondies (DEA) is a one-year introduction to research open to students holding a maîtrise or equivalent and wishing to pursue a doctorate. Many students wishing to reach the bac+5 level before looking for employment also earn DEAs.

Programs are mainly at

- Evry-Esson (DESS Image and Society)
<http://www.univ-evry.fr/>
- Grenoble III (master in documentary production)
<http://www.u-grenoble3.fr/>
- Lille III (DESS in translation and film adaptation)
<http://www.univ-lille3.fr/>
- Nancy II (DESS in filming reality)
<http://www.univ-nancy2.fr/>
- Nice-Sophia Antipolis (DESS in translation, subtitling, and dubbing for film and audiovisual productions)
<http://www.unice.fr/>
- Paris I (DESS in media law)
<http://www.univ-paris1.fr/>
- Paris VII (DESS in documentary films: writings from contemporary worlds)
<http://www.diderot7.jussieu.fr/>
- Poitiers (master in creating the documentary film)
<http://www.univ-poitiers.fr/>
- Strasbourg II (DESS direction and production of documentaries)
<http://www.umb.u-strasbg.fr/>
- ESAAT Roubaix (see file on "Applied Arts")
<http://www.esaat-roubaix.com>

Preparation over two years for a DMA (Diplôme des Métiers d'Art, level III) in animated film

- Le Fresnoy (see file on "Fine Arts")
<http://www.lefresnoy.net/>

Institution for high-level artistic and audiovisual training for young artists (maximum age, 35 years) to produce professional films, photographs, and video using traditional and new technologies

- ENSAD Paris (see file on "Design")
<http://www.ensad.fr/>

A free public institution with a 5-year program. Admission by competitive exam. Programs in animation, interior design, artspace, visual communication (graphic arts, multimedia), industrial design, printing and printmaking (engraving, illustration, pre-print, silkscreen), furniture, photography, set design, textiles, costumes, video.

- ENSCI/Les Ateliers (see file on "Design")
<http://www.ensci.com>

International applicants to Mastère spécialisé program in design for new media must hold the equivalent of a French bac+5 or mastère degree, French language and computer skills, and knowledge of basic software packages such as Photoshop. Admission is by application, submission of personal portfolio, and interview. Annual tuition is 7,600 euros.

Websites

- Culture, cinema, multimedia portal
<http://www.culture.fr/>
- French education ministry
<http://www.education.gouv.fr/>
- List of art schools
<http://www.ecoles-arts.com/fdag.htm>
- CNC, centre national de la cinématographie
<http://www.cnc.fr/>