

“Breaking pebbles, by transporting tons of them and compacting together their sharp edges demands energy measurable in horse-power. Drawing with a paintbrush, red on white, crosses and letters and recognising them in the middle of a code, demands incomparable energy. We can evaluate the first on an enropic scale, the other on an informational scale. One is manual, the other digital and is preferred by the philosopher, who likes signs and words, language, writings and expressions, icons and notices. A childhood taken up with crushing shingle no doubt makes me inclined to prefer the first one. Progress goes towards the other one like time; history, I know, passes from reality to language, from the thing to the sign and from the energy to the information: from the hard solution to the second one called soft. I only ask that we remember the hardness.”

Michel Serres, *The five senses*

LE HAVRE HIGHER SCHOOL OF ART (ESAH)

In looking at the history of Le Havre Higher School of Art since its foundation at the beginning of the nineteenth century, it is clear that the school has, at certain periods, known how to train creators (including some famous artists) and give courses which have enabled a good professional integration for a large number of men and women. Thus, during the second half of the nineteenth century, at the height of the industrial era, the school had among its students Raoul Dufy, Georges Braque, Othon Friesz (then in 1927, Jean Dubuffet) and provided a training in industrial drawing for several thousand manual workers, foremen and engineers. Today at the dawn of the twenty-first century, our society has completely entered an era of image, information and communications. The borders which separate art and communications are often porous in so far as each field borrows from the other, images and sometimes attitudes, actions or concepts. These two fields are today two territories of creators which sometimes overlap and stimulate each other.

If the departments of Art and Graphic Design are clearly distinct within Le Havre Higher School of Art, one teaching unit and some classes are, nevertheless, common to both departments. Each department has its own specific programme even if both departments share a few common objectives. The main common objective is the will of both departments to engage in a dynamic of exchanges with external partners (cultural, institutional and industrial). ESAH has as its aim to train creators (and among these creators, artists) and actors in the world of creation. How to enable these young creators and artists to become integrated in the art world within society is the fundamental question underpinning the whole school project. On leaving the school, the young ESAH graduates can either offer their skills (or the fruits of their creation) to an existing organization, or create their own job. Whatever the organization with which the exchange is built, whether cultural or industrial, private or public, French or foreign, the young creators must be able to present themselves as a force with propositions that are at the same time original and adapted to the circumstantial context. Three phases make up a “methodology” that can be found in the professional world and especially in that of creation : project, production and publication (or public release). In the school, these three phases are offered in a variety of forms in most of the practical workshops, whatever the department.

ESAH is therefore a project-orientated school. The development of this project notion is first made through self-reflection, that is by experimenting with the capacities of the school to think of itself and reflect itself, then produce an image of itself to the outside world. Another aspect of the ESAH project notion takes the form of exchanges with external organizations whether cultural, educational or industrial and which prefigure a production and often a publication.

Through its activities and the disciplines studied, an art school which has an Art department and a Graphic Design department covers the fields of involvement of many professionals in artistic creation, from production to public release. The fundamental question of the entire ESAH school project is encapsulated in the practice of directly confronting the students with the realities and professional constraints of creative careers, in order to prepare them as fully as possible for the different situations they will meet in their working life. ESAH tries to prepare all students for their future involvement in the fields of art, culture and communications, so that they will be able to use the technical tools and theories necessary for their project and adapt to very diverse professional situations as well as the constant evolution of techniques. In this way, students having completed a study programme which mixes “hard” and “soft”, must be able to create their own creative tools and eventually their own job and place in the city.

Thierry Heynen
Director

History, status of the school and location

History

The creation of Le Havre Higher School of Art (ESAH) dates back to the year 1800, under the Consulate. On a proposal by citizen Antoine-Marie Lemaître, architect and former student of the Academy of Paris, the city council opened on 15 Frimaire of the year IX of the Republican calendar (15 November 1800), a **drawing school free of charge**. In 1811, after ten years of existence, in a politically difficult context, and following the death of Lemaître, the school stopped its activities for a few years. In 1824, a **Municipal Drawing School** reopened in Le Havre with, as its first director, Dubois, pupil of David; it was successively located in rue de Bordeaux, rue Bernadin de Saint Pierre, then rue de la Mailleraye. Dubois set up many classes which took place at the end of the day. From 1871, directed by Charles Lhuillier, the school developed and offered classes of industrial drawing which contributed to the training of thousands of manual workers, foremen and engineers. In 1881, it was located in the former masonic temple at 44, rue Jules Lescene. It became in 1883 the **Municipal School of Fine Art**. At the beginning of the 1890s, it had among its students Raoul Dufy, Georges Braque and Othon Friesz. In 1927, the school moved to 130, rue Anatole France and changed its name to become the **Regional School of Fine Art**. Jean Dubuffet was one of its students at this time. Its current form with a syllabus culminating in a diploma, dates from 1956. Under the leadership of Pierre Roux a three-year study programme was set up leading

to the C.A.F.A.S. (Certificate of Aptitude for Higher Level Artistic Training), and, following the results obtained, continued with the National Diploma of Fine Art (D.N.B.A.) with options in Advertising, Decoration, Painting and Decorative Sculpture. In November 1973, the school moved to 3, rue Dumé d'Aplemont, on the site of a disused primary school. From 1978, the first D.N.S.E.P. (Higher National Diploma in Artistic Expression) were awarded to students of the Le Havre Regional School of Fine Art (DNSEP in "Communications" first, then DNSEP in "Art" from 1980). In 1988 the Le Havre Regional School of Fine Art took the name of **Le Havre School of Art**, in preparation for its new site in which the school settled in 1990. Its current premises, at 65, rue Demidoff, were inaugurated in 1991. In 2006 the school adopted its present name of **Le Havre Higher School of Art (ESAH)**.

Status of the school

ESAH is a higher educational establishment run by Le Havre City Council with teaching and course content under the supervision of the French Ministry of Culture and Communications. Within the school there are two departments : Art and Graphic Design.

Location

Ten minutes by foot from the railway station, fifteen minutes from the City Hall, twenty minutes from the sea front and twenty-five minutes from the port, Le Havre Higher School of Art is situated near the University and Conservatory, opposite the university restaurant and student services building.

The city centre, with its City Hall, Ocean Gateway and Saint Joseph's church, rebuilt after the second world war bombing, has been classed, since 2005, a "world heritage site" by UNESCO. The port, a vast open space and intrinsic part of the city, has developed since its creation at the same time as that of the city, in 1517, by Francis 1st. This port, one of the most important in Europe for container shipping, has contact with the five continents.

An hour by road from Caen and Rouen, the city is two hours from Paris by rail with a frequent daily train service.

Cultural environment

Within a radius of twenty minutes by foot a great many cultural and artistic facilities offer a wealth of possibilities including several cinemas, some of which show art and experimental film. ESAH has formed partnerships with the following :

Le Musée Malraux (The Malraux Museum)

Overlooking the sea, this art museum contains very fine collections of 19th and 20th century works and regularly organizes historical or contemporary exhibitions.

Le Volcan

Situated in an architectural environment designed by Oscar Niemeyer, three minutes from the City Hall, the Volcan National Stage offers a varied programme of theatre, music and dance, with artists in residence.

Le Volcan, Espace Niemeyer, place Gambetta,
76600 Le Havre, tel : 02 35 19 10 10

Le SPOT

This contemporary art studio presents a quality programme of exhibitions and copublishes numerous catalogues. It has an education department. ESAH students are regularly invited to carry out work placements in this gallery, either to prepare exhibitions or present them to the public.

Le SPOT, 32 rue Jules Lecesne, 76600 Le Havre
Tel : 02 35 22 93 27 (spotcontact@free.fr)

La Maison de l'Etudiant (Student services building)

Situated just opposite ESAH, there is a small exhibition gallery run by the University Cultural Department. This gallery is primarily devoted to contemporary photography.

La Maison de l'Etudiant, 50 rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau,
76600 Le Havre, tel : 02 32 74 40 76

Le Satellite Brindeau

Contemporary art exhibition gallery linked to an arts group called Théâtre de la Manicle, involved in different forms of bodily expression (theatre, dance...).

Théâtre de la Manicle, 56 rue Gustave Brindeau
76600 Le Havre, tel : 02 35 25 36 05

Le Centre Chorégraphique National du Havre, Haute Normandie (The National Choreographic Centre of Le Havre, Upper Normandy)

This centre is a place devoted to contemporary dance. The Hervé Robbe company is in residence and proposes creations or invites other creators.

Centre Chorégraphique de Haute Normandie, 30 rue des Briquetiers, 76600 Le Havre
Tel : 02 35 26 23 00 (robbe@club-internet.fr)

Different associations are very active in Le Havre in the field of creation:

Elu par cette crapule (Elected by this riffraff) is an association specialised in showing experimental cinema.

Elu par cette crapule, 25 rue du Maréchal Joffre,
76600 Le Havre, tel : 02 35 22 50 44 (christophe.guerin@univ-lehavre.fr)

ESAH has links with other places of contemporary art of the region of Upper Normandy : la **Galerie Duchamp** in Yvetot, la **galerie Du Bellay** in Mont-Saint-Aignan, le **FRAC Haute-Normandie** in Sotteville-lès-Rouen....

La Biennale d'Art Contemporain du Havre (the Le Havre Biennial of Contemporary Art) which took place for the first time in June 2006, presents every two years a selection of international artists along avenue Foch, on the City Hall esplanade, in the Malraux museum and a few other places in the city.

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Student admission and entry requirements for the Le Havre Higher School of Art Student life

For entry into the first year

In order to be eligible to sit the entrance examination, applicants must have passed the baccalaureate (any option), have an equivalent diploma (for foreign students) or be enrolled in the final year of high school (their registration at ESAH will only become effective once they have obtained the baccalaureate). In exceptional cases, a dispensation may be granted by the director to an applicant without the baccalaureate who can justify an artistic output of quality. Applicants for whom French is not their native language will have to take the French Knowledge Test (TCF). Enrolment for the entrance examination takes place between February and April for the first session and between May and September for the second session.

Entrance examination

Entry into the first year is decided by an entrance examination. Two sessions take place each year: one in May, the other in September. The examination consists of two practical artistic tests, as well as a written test of general culture (general knowledge and capacities of analysing images) and a foreign language test (a choice out of English, German, Spanish or Italian), followed the next day by an interview during which the applicant presents his/her portfolio of personal work to a panel composed of teachers from ESAH.

Admissions panel

This panel meets in May and September to consider applications from students of other art schools recognised by the Ministry of Culture. The members of this panel make their decision after having interviewed the applicants and seen a portfolio of their personal work. Acceptance is on condition that the applicants obtain the relevant credits and/or examination passes.

Qualification recognition panel

This panel composed of ESAH staff meets in May to consider applications from students with a different background of studies or who come from an art school abroad. Admission is made within the framework of the national panel which accords French equivalent rating to foreign qualifications. The ESAH panel makes its decision following an interview with the applicant and a presentation of his/her personal portfolio. For applicants who do not have French as their native language, fluency in French is a key criterion of selection.

Open days

At the beginning of March.

Student status

Students of ESAH have full student status and benefit from all that is linked to this status: social security system, access to university facilities, health and social services, various discounts,

Social security cover

Registration at ESAH entitles the student to belong to the social security student scheme. Two student insurance organizations propose affiliation to the compulsory social security system. This procedure takes place at the start of the academic year at the same time as registration.

Accommodation services

The art school has no student accommodation. Grant-holders can contact the regional student services centre (CROUS) to apply for accommodation.

CROUS, 115 rue Casimir Delavigne, 76600

Tel : 02 35 42 30 28

Student grants

National student grants can be accorded by the Ministry of Culture to students on condition that they satisfy the conditions concerning family financial resources (scale identical to that used by the National Education Authority). Application files are available from June. For a first request the applicant must be under 26 years of age. This limit may be extended on certain conditions.

Catering facilities

The school has a cafeteria run by the students. A university restaurant is situated opposite the art school. Students can benefit from preferential tariffs on presentation of their student card and after having filled in the form requesting a CROUS card for the purchase of a card containing credit which can be used for the different dishes available at the university restaurant (for information, menus composed of a starter, main course, dessert and bread cost from around 2.75 euros for students).

Administrative and teaching organisation

Administrative staff

Director: Thierry Heynen

Administrative and financial manager: Yves Troyard

Project assistant: Michel Bréant

Communication assistant: Maria Brault

Academic secretary: Séverine Boquain

Receptionist: Corinne Robillard

Teaching staff

Teachers:

Gilles Acézat, Bruno Affagard, Olivier Agid, Jean-Paul Albinet, Fabrice Bourlez, Laurence Drocourt, Jean-Michel Géri dan, Danièle Gutmann, Colette Hyvrard, Jean-Noël Lafargue, Rozenn Lanchec, Yann Owens, François Maître pierre, Francis Marshall, François Martin, Brigitte Monnier, Sébastien Montéro, Elise Parré, Baptiste Roux, Jean-Charles Pigeau, Carol Porcheron, Stéphane Trois Carrés, Vanina Pinter.

Librarian and in charge of international relations:

Corinne Peuchet

Photography teaching assistant:

Patrick Galais

Technicians:

Emmanuel Lalande, video and DTP technician

Hélène Pitassi, wood and metal technician :

Evening class teachers:

Isabelle Bianchini and Marie-Claude Bachelier.

Maintenance staff

Daniel Boisselier, caretaker

Catherine Dumontroty, cleaner

Bruno Dubos, cleaner

The Academic, Research and Student Life Committee

This committee is consulted in areas including the following: adapting courses and research projects for the school; defining teaching and research objectives; defining research that could be carried out within the various teaching departments enabling the development of higher-level courses in the field of visual arts; defining policy concerning exhibitions, publications and public release of works and research.

This committee is composed of:

elected representatives of the teaching staff (4 teachers, 4 teaching coordinators and one technician);

elected representatives of the students (3 student delegates);

the director, the administrative and financial manager, the librarian and the academic secretary.

The committee meets three to five times a year. It is elected for a period of one year.

school's activity and running. The members of this committee are consulted about the actions and events carried out with the objective of making the school a feature of the city and of promoting its influence on a local, national and international scale. The meeting of this committee follows an agenda and its recommendations are acted upon.

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ESAH facilities

Conference hall

With a seating capacity of 140 places, this hall can be used for lectures open to students and the general public. It can also be used for some theoretical courses as well as some events open to the public. It is fitted with video projection equipment and is the home of the school's film club.

Library

The ESAH library belongs to the library network of the City of Le Havre. The stock contains more than 7000 references (books, journals, multimedia resources).

The stock is specialised in modern and contemporary art: books about general art history, regularly updated artists' monographs, exhibition catalogues (published in France and Europe).

The library's acquisition policy supports certain artistic media and subjects linked to current artistic production: graphic design and typography, photography, video and film, graphic arts, painting, sculpture, print making, architecture and town planning, subjects including portraits, landscape, the body,

The library system also proposes access to information about local and national cultural opportunities and career perspectives in the fields of art and education.

Three computer terminals provide Internet access to websites and data bases about artists, exhibition places, galleries, museums and international institutions.

Artists' videos can be viewed.

The library functions at the same time as the school (from 3 September to 13 July, except school holidays). Material can be consulted by the general public, but borrowing is limited to students and staff of the school.

Library opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday : from 2pm to 6pm

Thursday : from 9am to 1pm and from 2pm to 6pm.

Exhibition gallery

Situated on the ground floor near the school entrance, the gallery is composed of three rooms: two rooms covering an area of around 130 square meters provide exhibition space for a programme of contemporary art and graphic research, and a room of 25 square meters entitled “students’ gallery” is reserved for the presentation of work by students of the school. The gallery is a place for events open to everyone and welcomes all types of public including school groups (with specially organised visits), and is also a teaching resource for the students as well as for the participants of evening and extracurricular classes. The invitation cards, posters and other publications linked to the gallery are produced by the students of the Communications department.

ESAH has the following range of technical workshops:

Sculpture workshop

This workshop is composed of different areas for the use of several techniques: an area for plaster, an area for clay with a kiln, a foundry area with a smelting oven, an area for work involving multiple production and an area for collective work.

Wood and metal workshops

These workshops containing a variety of specialised machine tools are available to the students throughout the year and can be reserved by appointment for major works. For first year students, training on use of the machines is given by a technician.

Engraving workshop

ESAH has a line-engraving workshop which deals with all techniques including dry-point engraving, the use of a burin, hand-cutting, etching and aquatint. Two presses are available for producing prints.

The most commonly used plates are copper and zinc.

The corrosive chemical used is iron perchlorate.

Formerly a printing technique, engraving is now valued by artists for its numerous specific qualities of graphic expression.

A course in the second year provides historical, theoretical and technical information related to the artistic viability of proposed works. A weekly period is reserved for third, fourth and fifth year students. This workshop is also open to participants of a further education class.

Silk screen printing workshop

This workshop is for the production of large format colour prints on all types of materials. It includes: a reproduction bench, a drying store for the prints, a dark cupboard for stocking the screens, a silk-screen press, tables for serial printing, screens, inks, scrapers,

Photography studio

This studio is available by appointment.

It enables the taking of pictures with flash or continuous light. It has several backgrounds, light boxes and tungsten lighting. Traditional and digital cameras, with chambers from 24 x 36" to 4 x 5" including 6 x 6" as well as a large range of optical accessories are available on loan under the student's responsibility and on payment of a deposit of 200 euros. There is a digital production line in the studio (HD Scan and case as well as a tracer for 80 x 100cm colour prints).

Black and white photographic development laboratory

This laboratory is freely available.

It consists of a dark room with 4 enlargers for all formats. The students are responsible for the cleanliness and safety of this room.

Video workshop

This workshop is available by appointment. It is equipped with a network of video editing posts and four DV CAM are currently being acquired. The software available is Final Cut, Live Type, After Effects and Sound Track pro. A 3ccd camera and HDV camera are reserved for work in the school or under the supervision of a video teacher. Approximately ten cameras are available for students to borrow, timetable permitting.

Computing services

The computer centre is open with free access to all students from 9.30am to 5.30pm every day apart from periods when required for lessons. It has a DTP/CAD area with 40 Macintosh terminals equipped with software such as Suitcase, Xpress, In Design, Photoshop and Illustrator. There is a tracer for 80x100cm colour prints. There is also a multimedia area with terminals equipped with Flash, Dreamweaver and Director software.

3D research and multimedia workshop

This workshop has 5 Macintosh/vista terminals for research and development. It is reserved for fourth and fifth year students with teachers' permission.

Sound workshop

This workshop has a Macintosh terminal with sound recording and mixing equipment.

Painting workshop

On the second floor of ESAH, a room is reserved for students with painting as their main activity.

Study trips and international exchanges

Study trips

Throughout the year the school organizes trips in France or abroad. These trips can last one day or several days. Their destinations are exhibition places (museums, art centres, galleries, art biennials...) or sites of particular interest (park, castle, archeological site...) which have been chosen within the framework of a course or to acquaint the students with artistic news.

International exchanges

ESAH belongs to the European exchange programme ERASMUS and its extension ERASMUS-SWITZERLAND.

ESAH is a signatory to the University Charter 2007/2013 with the European Executive Agency.

This Charter guarantees our registration among European universities (academic recognition of courses with ECTS) and establishes the principle of mobility, with exemption from registration fees and follow-up forms for students abroad.

The Charter is entitled, “Life-long Programme of Education and Training.”

After signing an agreement with institutions in Europe, we can receive foreign students just as students from our school can profit from stays abroad, and also from this year, training periods with companies that have a cultural dimension.

The ERASMUS programme enables students to obtain grants for study in the E.U. Further grants may be obtained from the OFAJ (Franco-German Youth Office) and the Région Haute-Normandie (Upper Normandy Regional Council’s “regions without frontiers” programme).

ESAH has been developing partnerships over several years with other schools or universities involved in higher education teaching in art. Our current agreements are with:

- Hochschule für Bildende Kunst, Braunschweig (Germany)
- Hochschule Anhalt, Dessau (Germany)
- University of Portsmouth (Great Britain)
- Sint Lucas Beeledende Kunst Gent (Belgium)
- Le 75, Bruxelles (Belgium)
- ERG, Bruxelles (Belgium)
- Académie royale des beaux-arts, Liège (Belgium)
- HES (esba + Heaa), Genève (Switzerland)
- Ecole cantonale d’art du Valais, Sierre (Switzerland)
- Facultad de Bellas Artes, Cuenca (Spain)
- Fundacion CIEC, La Coruna (Spain)
- Universita IUAV di Venezia (Italy)
- Eurasia University, Xi'an (China)

The school also belongs to the association “Bois Sacré” (“Sacred Wood”) for study trips to Mali for teachers and students. Other projects for the development of international relations are being carried out according to the needs of artistic workshops.

Courses and diplomas

Two courses are offered at ESAH : Art and Design.

The art course aims to train high level professionals in the field of artistic creation. The students acquire skills to continue personal research in art and to become part of the professional world in visual arts. As artists and creators they will also be able to develop their abilities in art education, public relations, exhibition and events organization....

The Design course aims to train high level creators for different careers in the fields of graphic design, multimedia and communications.

Although each course has its own specific teaching structure, numerous links exist between the two courses: joint classes or workshops, lectures, various events.... The presence of these two courses at the heart of the school acts as a dynamic force. The students of each course share the same aspiration, to become creators, whatever their means of expression.

The first year

The first year (semesters 1 and 2) provides a common base for all students. This year enables students to decide which course they will follow in subsequent years. Technical, practical and theoretical fundamentals are taught. Students must obtain 60 credits to be admitted into the second year.

The programme phase

This phase (semesters 3 to 6) leads to the obtention of 120 credits. The essential teaching given during this phase is directed towards applied methodological approaches to three optional areas (art, design, communications). At the end of the second semester, each student chooses the course he or she wishes to follow (art or communications for ESAH).

The first four semesters (semesters 1 to 4) are validated by a certificate, the **CEAP** (Certificate of Fine Art Studies awarded by the school and approved by the Ministry of Culture). At the end of the third year, successful students are awarded the **DNAP** (National Diploma of Artistic Education) in Art or Communications.

The DNAP final assessment takes place at the school in June. It consists of an examination of the candidate's study performance file, a presentation by the student of a selection of his/her significant works from the three years of studies and an interview with the assessment panel.

The panel for the DNAP is made up of three members: a president (appointed by the DAP, Fine Arts Delegation, French national supervisory board), a teacher from another art school or an external professional person involved in the arts and a teacher from the school (chosen by the school's director upon proposal by the teaching staff).

No candidate may attempt the DNAP final assessment more than twice.

The second cycle in Art or Design (Graphic Design and Interractivity) project phase)

The two years of the second cycle are validated by the **DNSEP** (Higher National Diploma of Artistic Expression) in Art or Communications. The fourth year leads to the award of the **CESAP** (Higher National Certificate in Artistic Education), whatever the chosen course.

Fourth year students on the Art course can also take two certificates: the **CMC** (Certificate of

Cultural Education for the General Public) or the **CDEA** (Artistic Education Teaching Certificate). These certificates are awarded by the school to students who succeed in a number of specific classes and workshops chosen in the fourth year.

The DNSEP final assessment takes place in the school in June. It consists of an examination of the candidate's study performance file, a presentation by the student of his/her works and an interview with the assessment panel.

The panel for the DNSEP is made up of five members: a president (appointed by the DAP, Fine Arts Delegation, French national supervisory board), a vice-president, a teacher of general culture from another school, an external professional person involved in the arts and a teacher from the school (chosen by the school's director upon proposal by the teaching staff).

No candidate may attempt the DNSEP final assessment more than twice.

ECTS evaluation and award

Evaluation criteria for the DNAP and DNSEP

The candidates for the DNAP and DNSEP final assessments are judged on four criteria:

- formal presentation and critical analysis of works
- origin and evolution of personal project
- cultural value of work (pertinence of references and diversity of knowledge)
- quality of production

Each of these criteria is given a mark out of five. An average total of ten is necessary to obtain the diploma. A "mention" (distinction) may be awarded for a mark of fourteen or over.

"Félicitations" (congratulations) are awarded to candidates with a mark of sixteen or over.

ECTS credit evaluation and award

The recognition of studies and diplomas is a preliminary condition for the creation of a more open European education and training scheme designed to offer a maximum mobility potential for students and teachers. The ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) is above all a method intended to provide clarity in course content and evaluation, to establish the necessary conditions for closer cooperation between institutions and to widen the range of choices available to students.

The ECTS system is based on three fundamental elements: information about the student's syllabus and results, mutual agreement (between the partner institutions and the student) and the use of ECTS credits (units of value which represent the student's effective workload).

The ECTS system is essentially centred on the student's academic career. It enables credits to be awarded to the student on the acquisition of predefined knowledge or skills and by subject (obligatory or optional class or workshop). A student's full-time work in one academic year corresponds to 60 credits (i.e. 30 credits per semester). These credits can be awarded individually or collectively by teachers according to the subjects taught.

The criteria for obtaining credits (which can vary according to the nature of the classes or workshops) are notably:

- pertinence of answers to subjects proposed
- quality of work produced
- regular attendance at classes
- quality of personal reflection
- pertinence of references
- quality of oral and visual presentation of works

The award of credits is accompanied by marks with the following criteria:

18-20	Excellent
16-17,9	Very good
14-15,9	Good
12-13,9	Satisfactory
10-11,9	Acceptable
8 - 9,9	Insufficient
0 - 7,9	Lack of work

Credits can not be given for marks less than 10.

Classes, workshops or subjects are grouped into "Pôles" (core modules) . These modules aim to structure the teaching by putting together related or complementary subjects. Some of these modules are subdivided into "Unités d' Enseignement" (teaching units).

The award of credits is made during staff meetings for each core module or teaching unit when the module is subdivided into units. The decision to award credits is taken by all the teachers of a module or unit who have worked with the student in question, and upon proposal by each teacher.

Thirty credits must be obtained per semester. Extra credits obtained by participation in optional workshops exceeding the number initially required will not count.

Conditions for catching up on missing credits are defined by each teacher for his/her subject and by the coordinator for the credits needed for the modules "Research analysis and synthesis" and "Personal research."