

**ebabx** école supérieure  
des beaux-arts de Bordeaux





DNSEP Art 2022 Simon Gabourg © Archives Bordeaux métropole

**The Fine Arts School of Bordeaux** (ebabx École supérieure des beaux-arts de Bordeaux) is a public establishment of higher education in the arts, specialized in Art and Design, under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture, and the Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation.

The school is a member of ANdEA, the National Association of Schools of Higher Education in Art and Design, which includes 44 schools of higher education in art and design throughout the metropole and overseas, and belongs to the grand huit, a network of public preparatory classes and schools of higher education in art and design in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region.

As an EPCC or public establishment of cultural cooperation, the ebabx actively contributes to the development of art and design in its territory, within a diversity of professional networks and local, national, and international partnerships, extending beyond its walls throughout the year, collaborating with artists and designers, art centers, galleries, museums, associations, festivals, theaters, and alternative venues...



Sofija Konosonka © Catherine Gilloire

## INITIAL TRAINING

The Fine Arts School of Bordeaux trains artists and designers who are creators in the various fields of contemporary artistic practices.

The ebabx accommodates approximately **250 students**.

**Two options** of artistic training are proposed at the ebabx: **Art and Design**. The study program consists of theoretical and practical courses.

The teaching staff is made up of artists, designers, theoreticians, and researchers who are active in the professional sphere, as well as teaching assistants and technicians in charge of workshops, who accompany the students in a cross-curricular manner, throughout their course of training.

Courses take place from September to June, following the established university calendar, with approximately 25 hours of courses per week.

**2 cycles of study are offered at the ebabx.** As part of the European LMD system (Licence/Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral/PhD degrees) the school issues two national diplomas:

✦ **the DNA** (National diploma of art) after completion of the first cycle of studies (three years), a Baccalaureate (BAC) + 3 degree, or the equivalent of a Licence/Bachelor's degree in either Art or Design. The objective of this first cycle is to master the fundamental theoretical and technical tools applicable to contemporary artistic creation, and above all, to identify and define one's personal artistic project.

**Obtaining the DNA degree** enables graduates to apply to admissions or equivalent qualifications committees in order to pursue studies in the context of a Master's program at the ebabx or another art school in France or abroad, at a university, or in a specialized training program. Certain graduates prefer to enter the professional art world or to take a gap year.

✦ **the DNSEP** (national graduate diploma of artistic expression) after completion of the second cycle of studies (2 additional years), is a Baccalaureate (BAC)+5 degree, equivalent to a Master's of art, in Art or Design. The two years of the Master's program focus on the personal artistic project of the student.

**Obtaining the DNSEP / Master's degree** enables graduates to pursue a 3rd cycle of studies in France, in Europe, or anywhere in the world, or to enter directly into the art professions.



Adèle Thomas-Ozon, Saïrit-Louis de Montferriand,  
Workshop avec Laurent Cerclat © Catherine Gilloire

✚ **The evaluation scheme functions according to the LMD protocol** following the European credit transfer system (ECTS):

- Licence/Bachelor's (1<sup>st</sup> cycle in 3 years, minimum 6 semesters) – 180 ECTS
- Master's (2<sup>nd</sup> cycle in 2 years, minimum 4 semesters) – 120 ECTS
- Doctorat/PhD (3<sup>rd</sup> cycle in 3 years, minimum 6 semesters) – 180 ECTS

Each year of study is divided into 2 semesters, with 30 ECTS to be validated each semester. 60 ECTS per year are thus necessary for the full validation of a complete school year.

✚ **2 areas of research** cross option lines (Art or Design) and run through the entire school program, informing all of its actions:

- Publishing-Writing the World (presentation, exhibition, diffusion, mediatization, events, digital space)
- Media-Anthropology-Situation (political and social questions concerning habitats, environment, and ecology).

✚ A 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle proposes two post-graduate programs closely connected to professionalization and research:

- The Post-Master's program Le Papillon (a sixth year, complementary and consecutive to the DNSEP Master's level degree, whose goal is to accompany graduates in their entrance into a professional activity, extends and prolongs the student training program),
- and le Pavillon, a one-year Research residency.



## CYCLE 1 – 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> YEARS L1, L2, L3

### AN INNOVATIVE TEACHING APPROACH

✦ The structure of the training program is adapted to the students' different projects and profiles.

✦ **The choice of a Parcours or atelier: Art or Design?**

The students in the first three years work together in collective workshops for experimentation and artistic production. Group discussions, presentation of work, and practice exhibitions guide the students in their development of a personal project.

✦ **Different fields of practice and research coexist:** Sound/composition; Writing/video/cinema; Performance/action/staging; Painting/installation; Image/volume; Object/space/graphic design.

✦ **Theoretical offerings bring specific historical and artistic perspectives:** contemporary history; the history of writing; the history of philosophy; the history and practice of publishing; the history of sound practices; the analysis of cinematographic, video, and animated images; and the history of comic books. The history of design; current events in design; and the culture of graphic design are part of the design program and are open to students in the art option.

✦ **Foreign language training**, in either English or Spanish, is directly applied to the different fields of artistic creation and research, and aims to develop efficient communication skills.

✦ **Modules for initiation to and improvement of technical skills** fulfill goals of fundamental proficiencies.

✦ One week each year is set apart and entirely devoted to **transversal workshops** in which all the students interact, collaborating and creating together, with the participation of guests from outside the school who come from diverse artistic fields.

✦ **The internship**, accomplished in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, puts the student in a situation of activity in a professional context. Most internships take place in the fields of: the creation or diffusion of visual art; design; publishing; the production and diffusion of the performing arts; or the world of handiwork and crafts.

## CYCLE 2 – 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> YEARS M 1 AND M2

# INVERSE PEDAGOGY: TEACHING CENTERED ON THE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS OF THE STUDENT/ARTISTS

The second two-year cycle is essentially devoted to preparation for the DNSEP National graduate diploma of artistic expression, Bac+5, Master's level degree.

✦ **3 distinct moments structure the two years of the Master's program whether it be in the Art or Design program:**

- travel abroad (international exchange or required internship)
- the Master's research thesis
- exhibition of the personal artistic project for the diploma jury evaluation

✦ **The 2 Platforms** in both the art and design options encompass different offerings organized over 4 semesters: ateliers devoted to production and diffusion, initiation to research (seminars/publications/documentary research/theses), foreign language training/accompaniment, work sessions with guest professionals and partner structures, and regular individual appointments.

✦ **The international experience** is part of the 4<sup>th</sup> year program: Students are encouraged to leave on foreign exchange during their studies, for a study period or a professional internship.

Study abroad periods are done in partner schools. The internship gives students an opportunity to situate their artistic projects and professional futures within new geographical, social, and cultural contexts.

✦ **Practice exhibitions and public presentations of work** give students access to a variety of individual and collective situations in and outside of school.

✦ **Modules for familiarizing students with pre-professional tools** (legal knowledge, project engineering) as well as the internship, foster understanding of the professional environment.

✦ **The thesis defense and the diploma jury examination** at the end of Cycle 2 enable students to develop a critical position, contextualize their personal projects, and envisage future actions in the fields of contemporary artistic practices.





Workshop Tournage Parcours Mécanique Lyrique à Testba © iso.ebabx

## AN ENVIRONMENT OF CHOICE AND EXCEPTIONAL RESOURCES

✦ **A main building** of 2,400 m<sup>2</sup> and an **annex** of 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> in the heart of Bordeaux's Sainte-Croix neighborhood accommodate the students in classrooms, technical workshops, an amphitheater, a library, and a material recycling center.

✦ Throughout the year, **the Galerie ebabx**, located across the street from the school, proposes a program of events open to the public.

✦ **The Café Pompiér**, an associative venue run by ebabx student volunteers is a café in the morning, a restaurant at noon, a bar during the afternoon, and proposes a program of musical events in the evening.

@cafepompier

✦ **La boîte à sardines** is the school's recycling center and is run by students and school personnel. Its mission is to collect materials from within the school as well as to salvage other materials from outside, for example, from partner institutions and local companies. @bozartsardine

✦ **Safespace** is committed to combatting all forms of discrimination and violence and is accessible and attentive to all members of the school community: students, faculty, administrative and technical personnel. Safespace guarantees follow-up on each report.

✦ **The ebabx proposes workshops on its two sites** for conception and technical production, providing cutting-edge equipment, organized in two divisions, which enable students to learn basics, improve skills, and experiment alongside technicians, workshop managers and specialized assistants:

- **Publication division** : Printing and processing: printing press (treatment stations, tracer), offset, silkscreen, engraving... Image and Sound: video studio (editing room, editing station), sound studio (recording studio, instrumental space, listening salon), multimedia, photography studio (shooting studio, black-and-white film developing darkroom), digital practices and new medias...
- **Volume and Materials division** : wood, metal, resin, plastic, clay, ceramics, sewing, prototyping machines, laser cutting, 3D printer, modelmaking, electronics... The school proposes both theoretical knowledge of so-called manual techniques, and material and technical savoir-faire.

✦ **A library** whose collection includes over 14,000 documents and publications: books, catalogues, specialized magazines, videos, multimedia documents... with a focus on contemporary art and design.

@bibliotheque\_ebabx



Tristan Morel, "Nikos Alias tristes sir" pour "Contre la montre", JPO 2022 © iscebabx

## ENTRANCE AT EBABX

### ✦ Entrance into the first year

Entrance into the first year at ebabx is dependent each year on selection by the competitive entrance examination jury. The "concours d'entrée" is accessible to candidates holding a baccalaureate degree (or equivalent) of any option. Registration is done on Parcoursup (except for foreign students and candidates registered to pass an interview with the admissibility committee). The various tests aim to measure motivation, mastery of the French language and one other foreign language, ability to communicate, analyze, and organize a structured discussion on a given topic, level of curiosity, and interest in contemporary creation.

Some of the criteria evaluated by the members of the jury are: inquisitiveness, open-mindedness about the world and contemporary creation, a passion for creativity and conceptual thinking, a strong commitment and capacity for individual, autonomous and collective work. Although personality and motivation count, it is preferable to have an artistic practice in progress, whatever the form or level of expertise.

Ebabx is looking, above all, for motivated students! Candidates who have not received a baccalaureate or equivalent diploma must sign up for an appointment with the admissibility committee "commission de recevabilité" which is authorized to permit a candidate to pass the competitive entrance exam.

### ✦ Transfer Students

To enter the school (in years 2, 3, 4, or 5) from another program, candidates must:

- be a student or graduate from a French or foreign equivalent course of artistic studies.
- or be registered in another school of art certified by the Ministry of Culture, and be pre-selected based on an application, and then an interview with a jury. The committee examines the level of skills and knowledge, as well as the study history of candidates, before qualifying them to integrate ebabx's training program in the requested year.

### ✦ Foreign Candidates

Non-French-speaking foreign candidates must present their application translated into French and must be able to give evidence of an adequate level of French (minimum B2, preferably C1).

### ✦ Frais d'inscription

- approximately 550 € for students unqualified for financial aid
- approximately 350 € for scholarship students

✦ Registration procedures can be found on: [ebabx.fr](http://ebabx.fr)  
Heading: Admissions





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