

PRE-DOCTORAL
SUMMER SCHOOL

"Heritage development and valorisation, cultural economy and public action"

Pre-doctoral summer school

Combining theoretical and methodological training with case-studies



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Universités



Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3 University, France
2-27 July 2018

Montpellier: a vibrant city of culture with a rich historical heritage

Montpellier is located in the south of France, in the Languedoc region that is part of a rich historic heritage, notably with many Roman and Medieval sites of international notoriety: Pont du Gard, Carcassonne, Avignon...

The Languedoc is also known for its high-quality agriculture which is becoming an ever increasing cultural and economic marker for the region, with the production of wine, olives and oysters, and dynamic agro-tourism.

The region has a strong cultural energy driven forward by major national institutions (Musée Fabre in Montpellier, Musée Soulages in Rodez, the Carré d'Art in Nîmes) and famous festivals (Avignon Theatre Festival, Radio France Music Festival, Montpellier Dance Festival, Literary 'Comédie du Livre' in Montpellier).

In light of the numerous cultural activities sparking international tourist attraction, future doctoral students will find Montpellier and the Languedoc a welcoming and inspiring environment.

“Heritage development and valorisation, cultural economy and public action”

This pre-doctoral summer school is aimed at international students wanting to take advantage of a high-quality intensive preparation, in a friendly and stimulating academic environment, with the goal of being admitted into a doctoral programme in France or Europe.

The students who take part in this summer school will benefit from high quality teaching given by university teachers, professors and researchers who specialise in the study of cultural production, cultural economy and cultural policy, as well as tourism and heritage valorisation.

They will have the unique opportunity to undertake an academic development combined with the opportunity to meet professionals from both the private and the public sectors working in the fields of heritage valorisation, cultural economics and public action.

The area of Montpellier provides a fitting environment to discuss the issues of culture, heritage and touristic development in Europe given the region's strong tourist trade as well as its diverse and renowned historical heritage.

A programme combining theoretical and practical approaches

The programme is made up of 10 hours of class per week given by university staff or by professionals, supported by the visits of remarkable heritage sites, participation in international festivals as well as agro-tourist business visits.

The long and fruitful experience of Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3 University with international doctoral students has shown that it is essential to provide future doctoral students coming from different academic cultures with a firm base knowledge in order to successfully carve their path in the French doctoral system.

As part of the course, a large focus is placed upon research methodology and upon interdisciplinary skills to be developed by young researchers including: scientific monitoring, research ethics, participation in research networks, preparation and presentation of a research project, speaking in an academic context, research career development, etc.

Individual guidance and research project

During the first week, specialised sessions will be dedicated to the definition of research topics and organisation of field work. The chosen subject of study will provide the framework for the site visits during the three remaining weeks of the programme. This will allow students to take full advantage of the meetings with the professionals.

Each student will be guided to help define an individual study subject. The objective will be that the topic choice, as well as its field, will serve as a basis for the framework for their future thesis subject.

Students will be expected to produce a short dissertation at the end of the pre-doctoral summer school, and to present it in front of the other students and the pedagogical team as part of a mini-symposium.

Classes in French as a Foreign Language will equally teach French language and culture, as well as provide the basis for communication in an academic setting and will be complementary to the academic programme in English.

Programme details:

Lectures and seminars:

40 hours

Supervised research project:

12 hours

Site visits: 3 visits/meetings organised per week (excluding week 1).

French as a foreign language:

24 hours (6 hours per week).

Academic resources:

Student will have full access to libraries and online materials.

An introductory session to research materials will be offered.

Recreational activity:

Recreational activities will be organised, including: weekend trip to Barcelona (3 hours train ride), beach trip, guided tour of Montpellier city centre, dinner in French restaurant.

The Barcelona trip will be an integral part of the program, in connection with the themes discussed during the lectures and seminars.

Academic coordination:

Professor Anita Gonzalez-Raymond,
Director of Doctoral School "Languages,
Literature, Cultures, Civilisations".

Location:

The classes will be given on the main university campus, accessible by public transport and close to halls of residence

Classes will be given in the International Office building, allowing participants to be in contact with international students from other programmes.

Accommodation & catering:

Course participants will be given university accommodation (a 15 square metre bedroom with private bathroom); catering will be provided by the university restaurant. The accommodation block and restaurant are situated 10 minutes' walk from the main campus and less than 5 minutes from a tram stop to the town centre (10 minutes' journey).

Fees:

€3,250 per student, which includes:

- 40 hours of lectures and seminars
- 12 hours of research supervision
- 24 hours of French classes
- Guided visits and professional meetings
- Accommodation and catering during the 4 week course
- Cultural excursions including a weekend trip to Barcelona.

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