PEDAGOGICAL OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Master is twofold: help future decisionmakers and facilitators working in the Arctic or in relation to the Arctic to develop tools for integrated analyses thanks to in-depth knowledge of the fragile balance between ecosystems and the human ecology of the Arctic.

At the same time, the Master is designed to provide students interested in research with the opportunity to develop a project that will be pursued in the form of a doctoral dissertation after the validation of the Master. Such PhD work may be co-directed with one of our international partners.

The master offers three complimentary fields of competence:
- studies in all of the major areas essential for decision making: environmental and natural science as well as technology, economics and governance, geopolitical aspects and questions of law, Arctic societies and their culture
- scientific competence therefore reinforced by intercultural competence
- an international dimension with courses in English and colleagues of international reputation

PERSPECTIVES

The Artic Studies programme trains decision makers capable of piloting the process of expertise, facilitation and governance by relying on a method of eco-efficiency and global performance (environmental, economic, social and societal), of identifying and erasing obstacles to a respectful development of ecosystems and human ecology in an Arctic context.

The year of Arctic Studies will allow a student to develop the following fields of competence:
- piloting of a project by using specific tools and management techniques: research team, international cooperation
- management of organisational change relying on a pluridisciplinary approach
- autonomous conduct of an Arctic project or enquiry
- reflect on and mediation of respect social, technical and technological aspects
- economic and environmental evaluation of technological, financial, commercial and organisational risk

RESEARCH

Classes are taught by colleagues from the research centers of the Observatoire de Versailles Saint-Quentin (OVSQ) at the University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines specializing in:
1) Arctic Studies in the Humanities and Social Science (CEARC)
2) research on the atmosphere and space observation (LATMOS)
3) climatology and environment science (LSCE) as well as colleagues from the laboratory LMD at École Polytechnique

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIPS

LMD, École Polytechnique

LABORATORIES

CEARC, LATMOS, LSCE
PARCOURS : Artic Studies (AS)

The aim of this programme consists in contributing to the training of future Arctic decisionmakers and to offer French, European and other students specialised knowledge of a key region that plays a key role in global geopolitics and which is destined to experience an increasingly dynamic economic development in the years to come, a period of major change that also represents a number of important problems. The programme is pluridisciplinary since one simply cannot seize what is at stake in the Arctic, nor act in the Arctic without an integrated approach. The relationship between man and his environment has to be notably born in mind at any moment, hence the importance of a set of core courses that reflects the various subjects and fields of the research centers of the Observatoire de Versailles Saint-Quentin.

PREREQUISITES

Students from any academic field can apply provided they have validated four years of higher education.
English language skills should be fluent (no specific language test score is required.
Teaching starts in late September and ends early February, followed by a three-month internship that the students choose themselves in France or abroad.
Students then write a detailed report on this experience and/or a long research paper/dissertation. The report or dissertation is defended during a viva that can be organized by Skype in certain cases.