



Master' Degree – sandwich course Company Sponsored Training Program : (*I²FA*) (*Ingénieur International en Formation par Apprentissage*) ESA, Angers, France

ESA in Angers



- One of the major Agricultural Colleges in France (2700 students)
- Modern International University with more than 130 university partners all around the world
- Combines high academic standard training and professional experience



8 broad sectors:

- Animal production,
- Crop production,
- **Food science,**
- Agribusiness,
- Horticulture,
- Viticulture and oenology,
- Environment,
- Landscape management.



ANGERS

- A city located in heart of Loire valley
- 1h30 from Paris
- 100 km inland from Atlantic Ocean
- Pleasant cultural and green city
- 30 000 students in total



The I²FA Program

- **ESA « ingénieur » (Master 2 level)**
- **2 years fully sponsored (tuition, travel costs health insurance)**
- **Apprenticeship Contract with a monthly salary (approx. 900euros depending on age)**
- **Two and a half years life/ professional experience with a post at managerial level in home country at the end of the program**



The I²FA Program

Why train an « ingénieur » by apprenticeship (sandwich courses)?

The I²FA program is the result of three circumstances:

- A recruitment need felt by companies
- ESA's know-how in the area of apprenticeship-training
- Mobility among international students



Why train an « ingénieur » by apprenticeship (2)

- **Sandwich courses accentuate the professional aspect of the « ingénieur » training**
 - Knowledge is constructed from field experience
 - Field experience is evaluated and accredited: 48 of the 120 ECTS required to graduate are earned through field experience
- **Sandwich courses help:**
 - **students construct or broaden a professional project**



Main Program Objectives

- To train future managers for international subsidiaries « **Cultural Bridges** »
- To develop an **expertise** at the heart of both the professional sectors and the functions associated with an ESA degree
- To understand the workings of a company in order to develop suitable **management skills**
- To acquire the **capacity for autonomy** – to become the motor of the training program
- To develop an aptitude for **project management**



History of the I²FA Program

15 September 1998

- **ESA's centre for apprenticeship training is accredited to award the « ingénieur » degree**
- **The first « ingénieur » class begins its training**

January 2001

- **First Etudiant international en Formation par Alternance (EFA), Maxim Petrov, from Russia**

•2001-2015: 175 I²FA trained or in training

- **32 nationalities**
- **30 companies**



Program content:

60 european credits (ECTS) per year (equivalent 30 US credits)

First year:

- 28 ECTS in a Major: Food Technology, Crop Sciences, Animal Production, Management and International Markets... (Major chosen by sponsoring company)
- 32 ECTS in Core Courses: Applied Maths, Applied Statistics, Social Science, Project Management
- **The first year is structured around 3 week sandwich periods between ESA and the industrial site**
- **During the first year I²FA have special classes to help with writing their reports**

Second Year:

- 30 ECTS in a specialization semester (examples: Conception and Industrialisation of New Food Products, Quality Management, Industrial Control...)
- 30 ECTS MSc Thesis semester based on 6-8 month professional project on site
- **The second year is structured around fulltime presence at ESA during the specialization semester and fulltime presence on the site during the thesis semester.**



Considerable space given to :

- **Intercultural Training**
- **The methodology at the heart of the title « ingénieur »**
- **Tools to help better understand the workings of the company**
- **The sharing of observations and analyses within the group**
- **Gradually taking charge of missions at « ingénieur » level**
- **Company performance is taken into account in the evaluation process**



Evaluation tools:

- Written Reports
- Exams
- Group Presentations



Core Courses :

- Applied Mathematics, Statistics, Project Management (classes and exams) +Social Sciences



3 key moments :

1. The Research and Innovation internship (RI)

Objective: to conceive and put in place an experimentation protocol

2. The Final Thesis (MFE)

Objective: The application of competencies acquired during the program :
the final pedagogical step

3. Project Management especially during the MFE phase...



Two and a half years in France:

- **The I²FA program is constructed as follows:**
- - Arrival in Angers early Spring 2016
- - 6 months of intensive French lessons
- Apprenticeship program begins end of August 2016
 - I²FA Specific Sequence: special classes over the 2 years
 - 2 technical semesters in a major 60 ECTS
 - Specialization semester (DA) 30ECTS
 - The Final Thesis (MFE) 30 ECTS

Thus a student beginning in 2016 will return to his/her country to work at the end of 2018

Who we are looking for..

- A minimum of 240 ECTS (4 years of study) in Plant Science, Animal Science, Biology, a Life Science, Agriculture, or equivalent
- A good level of English (B1)
- **a willingness to learn French** (*French is not a requirement, as an Intensive French course is offered prior to the Master course to beginners in French*)
- **Open-minded, dynamic personality** interested in an **international environment**, open to **challenges** and the discovery of a new culture – happy to « **expand your comfort zone** »...
- **A person willing to accept that life in France will be somewhat confusing at the beginning – but who will trust that things will become easier as time goes on!**

What we can guarantee

- **The support of a tutor at ESA**, an internship supervisor on the industrial site, a program manager in ESA and a HR manager at the company headquarters. You are not expected to succeed in the EFA program alone!
- **A high quality international MSc for free.** 1000 euros per month is enough to live on as a student apprentice you will not have to borrow any money from your parents or the bank
- **A guaranteed job** in an entry management level position in your home country
- The possibility of **building a long-term career plan** in one of the largest and most successful international food companies in the world
- **An exciting professional and personal challenge!**



Selection process

Apply on **OLAGE** : <http://olage.groupe-esa.com/>

Attention : Several deadlines depending on company requests.

Groupe Roullier applications now being taken.

Application deadline : **November 30th 2015.**

ESA admission interview by **SKYPE**: mid December 2015.

Short-listed Applicants : Selection interview Roullier : **January 2016**

Results confirmation to accepted applicants: early February 2016

French lessons begin in March 2016

First classes begin in last week **August 2016**



Information :

www.groupe-esa.com

<http://olage.groupe-esa.com/>



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