

École nationale  
supérieure  
des beaux-arts  
de Lyon

● Art

● Space Design

● Graphic Design

● Textile Design



10,000 m<sup>3</sup>

350 students

7 degrees

DNA 1<sup>st</sup> cycle: Art, Space Design,  
Graphic Design, Textile Design

DNSEP 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle: Art, Space Design,  
Graphic Design

1 Post-graduate program

2 research units

A staff of 100

Teaching, administrative and technical

5 technical departments

1 exhibition gallery

50 partnerships

with foreign schools

1 library

26,000 documents

Each year:

4 prizes awarded to graduates

A minimum of 30 conferences

A minimum of 10 off-site exhibitions  
and projects

At least 3 on-site exhibitions  
in the Réfectoire des Nonnes

25 workshops

100 guest lecturers

The **École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Lyon (Ensba Lyon)** is a higher art education establishment, certified by the Minister for Culture, hosting around 350 students. It proposes an Art option along with a Design option that has three specializations: Space Design, Graphic Design and Textile Design.



View of the Ensba from the banks of the Saône © Ensba Lyon

Initially envisaged as an academy in 1676, the Lyon Free School of Drawing was founded in 1756, later becoming the Royal Academy of Drawing and Geometry in 1769, and was one of the first French art schools to be established outside of Paris. First Royal, then Imperial, throughout its rich history the Ensba Lyon has continued to train numerous talents, and today participates actively in the education and training of artists, designers and authors on both the French and international scene.

Operating since 2007 on the historic site of the Subsistances on the banks of the Saône, a 15-minute walk from Place des Terreaux, the Ensba enjoys an exceptional setting. A former 17th-century convent, later used as a military building until 1995, the school shares the site with the Subs, a structure dedicated to new forms of performing arts.

Imagined as a laboratory for research and experimentation, all of the teaching is done by a team of professionals from the art world (artists, designers, graphic designers, theorists, publishers...). In touch with the current forms and challenges of creation, the Ensba Lyon aims to bring out singular talents and produce the conditions for high-level professionalization in the fields of art, design, and creation.

In addition to the higher education courses in art and design, the Ensba has a preparatory class, which offers a general basic training for admission to higher art education institutions.

The Ensba issues state backed qualifications, a Bachelor degree and a Master degree. In addition to these, it continues to develop a third cycle with the Higher Diploma of Research in Art (DSRA) and each year welcomes postgraduate students in the field of contemporary art and creation.

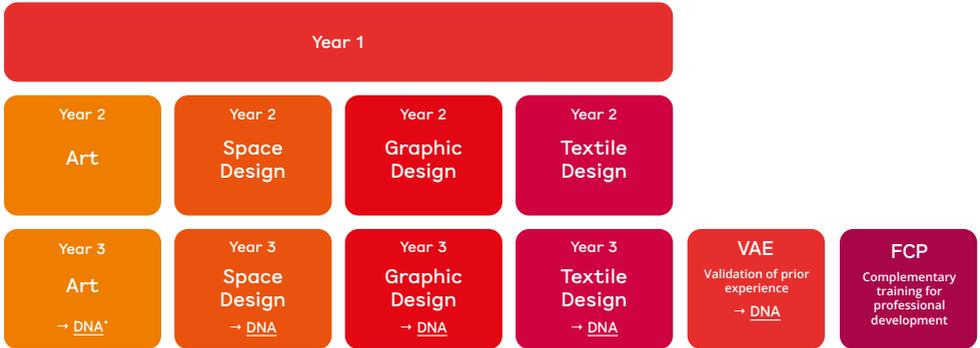


FONDATION  
CULTURE &  
DIVERSITÉ

The Ensba Lyon is a partner of the "Égalité des Chances" program set up by the Fondation Culture & Diversité, which helps high-school students from disadvantaged backgrounds to prepare for entrance exams to art and design schools.

# Curricula outline

## 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle: Program Phase



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle: Project Phase



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle: Research



\* DNA: National Bachelor's Degree in Art  
 \* DNSEP: National Advanced Master's Degree in Visual Expression  
 \* DSRA: Higher Diploma of Research in Art

The Ensba Lyon proposes a number of study programs in the form of options: one Art option and three specialized programs within the Design option. Options and specialized programs are chosen after a generalist first year.

### In art

- **The first cycle**, or program phase, corresponds to the first three years of the curriculum, certified and validated by a DNA (National Diploma in Arts) which is equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree.
- **The second cycle**, or project phase, corresponds to the following two years and is certified and validated by a DNSEP (National Higher Degree in Visual Expression) which is equivalent to a Master's Degreeer.

**The second cycles of the Art and Design options** are open to all of the students of the Ensba, Lyon who have obtained a DNA and who have successfully passed the specific admissions panel for the second cycle project phase for the desired option. The teaching program is organized into semesters, in conformity with the ECTS (European Credits Transfert System), but the student is registered for the whole of the academic year, which runs for 34 weeks, from October to June.

### In design

The following 3 specialized curricula are contained within the Design option: **Space Design, Graphic Design et Textile Design.**

- **The first cycle** corresponds to the first three years of curricula that are validated and certified by the DNA (National Diploma in Arts) with mentions in Space Design, Graphic Design, or Textile Design.
- **The second cycle** of the project phase corresponds to the following two years of study and is validated and certified by the DNSEP design (National Higher Degree in Visual Expression) with the grade of Master, having the specific mention of Graphic Design or Space Design.

# Complementary training for professional development

**This professional training is specific to the Ensba Lyon and does not provide access to Crous grants.**

In both art and design, this possibility is offered after the DNA and after the DNSEP to continue with a year of complementary training for professional development: long internships during which the student is accompanied by the establishment.



Postgraduate exhibition,  
Biennial of Lyon at the Réfectoire  
des Nonnes, 2019  
© Photo by Blandine Soulage

# Postgraduate programs (Post-DNSEP)

In addition to the undergraduate and graduate degree programs, the Ensba Lyon offers several programs for young graduate students.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle Research:

This corresponds to a research phase of at least 3 years open to young artist-researchers who hold a DNSEP or equivalent Master degree.

It leads to the Diplôme Supérieur de Recherche en Art (DSRA) at the Bac+8 level.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle is supported by the two research units active at Ensba Lyon:

- **Contemporary Art and Historical Temporalities (ACTH);**
- **The Art and Design Digital Research Unit.**

## Post-graduated program:

### • **Postgraduate in Art**

This consists of a year of high-level education that includes a residency, a study grant and training for five artist-researchers, holders of at least a DNSEP or equivalent 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle University Degree.

# Teaching at the Ensba Lyon is conducted by a team of over sixty teachers, mainly artists, authors, designers, theorists, researchers, and working professionals of national and international renown.

**An annual program of guest participants in the form of conferences, workshops, and various meetings with students enriches and enhances the teaching on a weekly basis.**

The team is mobilized around a pedagogical project where the teaching is both individual and collegial, and oriented according to 3 objectives:

- training as a high-level artist, designer and author, based on the student's personal project;
- a personal project fully geared towards a research dynamic;
- the acquisition of the theory-based and practical knowledge and skills required to carry out a personal project along with research work.

## Evaluation

The Ensba Lyon's evaluation structure is designed to meet the requirements of the Bologna process and thus clearly highlights the institution's higher education dimension, its requirements, and the qualities of its high-level training.

## Allocation of ECTS credits

The evaluation of the student's work is the result of two complementary modes of operation:

- on one hand, a continuous assessment specific to each teacher during the courses, the tests and the reports;
- on the other hand, a collective evaluation of the student's work and progress, carried out by the college of teachers during the semester assessments. These evaluations are organized according to the criteria of the teaching units.

A certain number of ECTS credits correspond to each teaching unit.

# Year 1

**The first year offers practical and theory-based studies in a general artistic orientation, centered around the school's options: Art, Space Design, Graphic Design and Textile Design.**

These studies aim to give students the broadest possible exposure to the various fields of creation and the foundations of a solid and autonomous cultural training, accompanied by a familiarization with the necessary tools. The aim is to cultivate creative work and the training of the individual, without prejudging the student's choice of orientation in year 2.

The objectives of this first year are :

- the development of a capacity for personal work and research;
- the formulation of a capacity for analysis;
- imagining a relationship with the world;
- the acquisition of the technical basis and conceptual tools essential for further study.



Silk-screen printing workshop,  
publishing department  
© Ensba Lyon

# Art

**The art option at the Ensba Lyon offers a program that allows students to acquire an artistic level, intellectual means, and technical and technological skills aimed at the construction of an autonomous and singular path in the fields of contemporary art, research and creation.**

The Art option offers a generalist, professional and personalized training.

It is the complementary alliance of these three orientations that makes the specificity of a teaching which raises questions such as:

- the relation of art to practice and to technologies;
- the theory-based dimension of art and its relationship to knowledge;
- project management and a research work approach;
- the visual, formal and technical experimentation of processes and means;
- the ontology of the work of art, its critical dimension, its conditions of possibility and deployment;
- the function, the issues of art and the status of the artist.

At the end of the third year, an admissions committee gives the student the possibility of continuing his or her studies in the second cycle subject to obtaining the DNA.

The teaching method consists precisely in preparing the student to acquire a specific work methodology that will enable them to embark upon a singular path.

The pedagogy is plural in nature, mixing collegial workshops, visual studios, practice in workshops, theory classes, steadily contributing to the development of a personal approach.

Theory classes are given in the form of lectures, seminars, conferences, symposiums, visits to exhibitions and study trips, to which is added an individualized monitoring of writing methodology and an examination of the cultural perspectives of the visual work.

Technical internships and meetings with guest artists and art professionals enrich the professional dimension of the student's academic career.

DNA Art, 2019  
© Clara Cimelli



"Straw or plaster" workshop with  
Emmanuel Louisgrand, Space Design  
option, 2022 © EnsbA Lyon

# Design

The Ensba Lyon offers a design program with three specializations: Space Design, Graphic Design, and Textile Design, aimed at building an autonomous and unique career in the fields of contemporary design, research, and topical creation. The Textile Design option is currently only offered as part of the first cycle.

## Space Design

The Space Design option of the Ensba Lyon develops a vision of design and scenography concerned with notions of context and situations. This brings into play multidisciplinary knowledge capable of acting on the complexity of contemporary issues, where the vision of the author's design affirms itself as forward-looking, carrying within it a narrative of the habitability of the world. Through its event-based nature, Space Design is able to intervene on various scales and temporalities, with emerging practices shifting frames of reference and with projects that notably integrate participation, mediation and an immersive dimension. Numerous collective or individual projects are thus carried out, sometimes in real-life situations, engaging in collaborative dialogue with actors in the field, protagonists of the projects.

These 1:1 scale creations are a major element of a teaching where contextualization and direct experiences are valued and articulated with the methodology of the design project, fueled by research and experimentation, along with a development of technical, constructive and theory-based knowledge.

Increasingly autonomous, with the aim of establishing a singular professional position, students build their field of practice and their personal project culture. They are led to develop their own professional networks, particularly during internships and, at the end of the program, by finding partners to develop their work in the areas of urban action, ephemeral architecture, social design, and set design for live shows or exhibitions.

→ Students wishing to continue their studies have the possibility of entering the Space Design program in the second cycle, subject to admission by the year 4 entry commission.

## Graphic Design

The teaching provided by the Ensba Lyon in the first cycle aims to help students to grasp the range and scope of possibilities of the practice of Graphic Design in order to develop their own conceptual and formal positions as authors. To this end, a constellation of interrelated courses allows students to work on a complementary and open network of knowledge and culture (writing, publishing, image, language, digital, theory, typography, etc.), which they are encouraged to seize for themselves by incorporating their own experiences, universes and sensitivities.

Experimenting and imagining, learning and sharing, making and telling: the plural teaching, occasionally carried out in English, is articulated around the intention of “publishing”, of “making public” in a wide-spanning approach of emission and reception.

→ Students wishing to continue their studies have the possibility of entering the Graphic Design program in the second cycle, subject to admission by the year 4 entry commission.

In the second cycle, editorial design and visual identity practices are central to teaching. In order to better understand them, students are introduced to type design and photography. They also acquire a solid culture of their discipline - both practical and theory-based - and develop their capacity for critical analysis and their singularity.

The exercise of inquiry is also central to several workshops and design is ultimately considered in terms of process rather than style.



# Design

## Textile Design

The Textile Design option aims to train designers capable of looking at both the world of objects and the world of artistic productions, and of synthesizing them within the framework of a situated production. The training is strongly oriented towards pattern design. It leads students to question the message they wish to convey, to situate their production in the fields of fashion and decoration and to explore and implant the work in new territories.

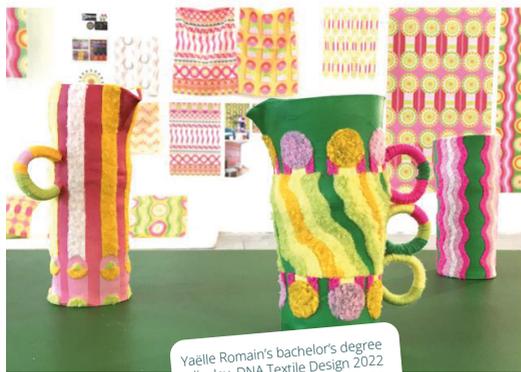
The training aims to develop textile creativity by promoting innovation in all areas of textiles and by taking into account a broader social and cultural dimension.

It is also a question of mastering technology by placing theory-based and technical knowledge in the service of the creation and manufacturing processes of textiles. And to become familiar with the economic approach of the business, the industrial constraints and the particularities of the sector, the fields of application of textiles, the manufacturing and distribution sectors. The textile designer is able to define his or her projects and develop an argument around their proposals. Reconciling seduction and intention, the student designs prints that question our behavior, our decor and our uses. Although the program offers a relatively short educational period (baccalaureate +3 years), the pedagogy has two objectives: to encourage a singular and autonomous authorial approach, and the acquisition of technical skills that are essential to existing professions.

→ There is currently no second cycle in Textile Design in the Ensba Lyon.



Eunjoon KWAK's bachelor's degree display, DNA Textile Design 2023 © Ensba Lyon



Yaelle Romain's bachelor's degree display, DNA Textile Design 2022 © Ensba Lyon

The teaching methods are varied; developed to accompany students' projects. The technological equipment is largely equal to that of artists and image professionals and is partially renewed each year with a view to acquiring up-to-date skills. However, mastery of tools is not an end in itself; they are in the service of the student's project and research, where the relationship between form and content is constantly questioned.

## Ateliers

The *atelier* is the historical work space in art schools. Depending on the nature and rhythm of the work, the spatial configuration of the *atelier*, equipped with mobile picture rails, is in constant evolution.

In addition, a large part of the *atelier* work takes place in the production spaces of the technical departments such as the film and photography set, the post-production departments, the volume and printing department, as well as the meeting space and spaces for nomadic electronic practices (dedicated computer rooms, but also corridors, cafeteria, etc.).

## Studios

A Studio in the Art option at Ensba Lyon is a flexible teaching module designed to help students acquire and optimize a technical, theory-based and practical culture of visual tools and materials. Studios are usually held in the *ateliers*. A Studio is led by a teacher-visual artist from a particular option.

At the beginning of the semester, the student chooses from among all the proposals corresponding to the orientation of his or her work, the Studio or Studios essential to the successful completion of his or her project, required to obtain the corresponding credits for the semester.

## Workshops

Workshops are an integral part of teaching. They are structured around one or more external interventions: artists, theorists, critics or designers and architects are regularly invited to participate.

Workshops can also be built on the basis of a partnership between a course given in the school and one (or more) external structures (universities or other schools, public or private institutions...) and can also be organized internally.

## Exhibition spaces

- **Le Réfectoire des Nonnes**

Le Réfectoire is the exhibition gallery of the Ensba Lyon.

- **La Galerie d'essai**

The test gallery is primarily intended for internal hangings and presentations of student work.

- **Le Mur of the meeting space**

*Le Mur*, or "The Wall", is intended to host projects by 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle art students approximately three times a year.

## Technical departments

These departments are places of training, experimentation and technical and technological creation.

Equipment (workshops and materials) is made available to the options on the basis of teaching projects and their use is coordinated by the teachers, teaching assistants and technicians.

These departments are also places of production and can welcome artists invited to create a work within the school.

The Ensba Lyon has 5 production centers:

- **Publishing** (printing, silkscreening, offset, lithography, binding...);
- **Photography** (film and digital, image processing, shooting, large format printing and pre-press...);
- **Images-movement** (video, cinema, sound, analog technologies...);
- **Volume** (sculpture, installation, working with wood, metal, resin, earth...);
- **Labo NRV**, an artistic laboratory dedicated to digital cultures. It is a platform where creation, research, training and production meet. This platform is augmented by a Common's Lab geared towards low-cost prototyping using open-source technologies in collaboration with the volume department.

# Lectures

History of contemporary art, aesthetics and philosophy of art, history of the arts and ideas: these lectures are essential to the theory-based, historical and conceptual thinking provided as a support to students' work.

# Library

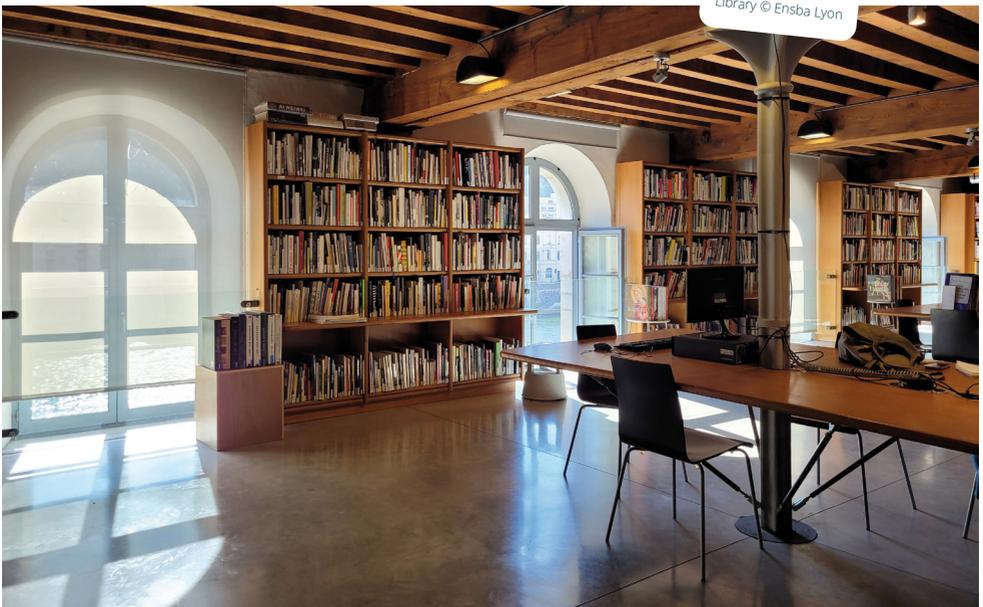
The library of Ensba Lyon carries out specific work resolutely turned towards contemporary artistic creation in its most diverse forms. Its ambition is to accompany students in their different creative experiments as well as in their intellectual questioning.

# Lecture cycle

A weekly lecture series is scheduled in the main amphitheater on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

Its programming is multidisciplinary in nature, directly related to the courses, sometimes extending the time of a Studio or workshop. It is a structure based on "working with the speech": with artists, philosophers, designers, writers, filmmakers, and others coming to share their creative practices.

The conferences are open to all students and staff of the school. Some lectures are broadcast on the Ensba's YouTube channel.



# Internships

The Ensba Lyon encourages and develops student internships in France and abroad in order to involve them in the professional world. Internships in companies allow students to confront their acquired skills to the reality of the artistic world. The Ensba offers personalized follow-up depending on the option, with an assessment and report carried out at the end of the internship.

Starting in the second year, students must complete internships in institutions or companies, depending on their educational projects. The compulsory internship is included in the university curriculum and is awarded ECTS credits. When the internship lasts more than two consecutive months, it is subject to a bonus.

# International exchanges

The Ensba Lyon encourages study trips, stays and internships abroad as part of the curriculum.

To do so, it participates in various programs of the European Community (Erasmus+), the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, and various organizations such as the Franco-German Youth Office (Ofaj) or the exchange program with Quebec (BCI student exchange program).

The Ensba Lyon has about fifty partner institutions abroad.

Fourth-year students can receive scholarships for a stay in partner schools and universities or for a long internship abroad (regional scholarships, Erasmus+ scholarships, Ofaj scholarships).

Scholarships may also be awarded to undergraduate students for internships in a company abroad.

All students who go on an academic exchange abroad are required to have their entire semester validated by the host school.

# Career and Professional opportunities

The **École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Lyon** prepares students for professional activities of artistic creation. In addition to independent artists and creators, a large number of artistic and cultural professions have emerged in the visual arts, communication and design sectors, as well as in teaching and mediation. **Pluriactivity is one of the dominant features of our students' integration.**

In the creative sectors, having a DNA and then a DNSEP leads to positions characterized by autonomy and creativity whether the activity is in response to commissions or emerges from a personal initiative: visual artist, author, photographer, video artist, textile designer, designer, graphic designer, model maker, space designer, scenographer, art critic, curator, teacher and or assistant in an art school...

Artistic activities are carried out in various public sectors (local authorities, urban planning departments, cultural and audiovisual services, museums, educational establishments, etc.), as well as in the private sector (design and advertising agencies, publishing houses, art centers, foundations, etc.).

Our 2020 survey reveals that the majority of our graduates pursue an artistic activity on a long-term basis (**over 85%**), allowing them to develop a personal artistic approach (**nearly 95%**). They benefit from a strong presence in the regional, national or international artistic fields in terms of professional activities related to their studies (**over 90%**).

# Support systems

**The questions of professionalization, whatever the training and degree level, are already intrinsically linked to the professional activities of the teachers themselves: artists, designers, authors or exhibition curators along with the many guests who take part in workshops, conference cycles and courses.**

The following are also offered during or after students' education thanks to a very dedicated staff:

- Studios where the spatialization of the works and the management of work is taught in specific places (*La Galerie d'essai, Le Réfectoire des Nonnes, Le Mur*, and in exhibitions outside of the school) the spatialization of work and the management of work;
- Masterclasses in Art and the setting up of an inter-cycle professionalization module in Art and Design;
- at least four distinct prizes (Prix de Paris, Prix de Madrid, Prix Hélène Linossier, Prix Dufraine) renewed and maintained each year to accompany students as they move into professional life;
- a relay and monitoring of calls for projects, residencies, and various online announcements on a specific web platform for alumni (DNA or DNSEP);
- targeted partnerships with LeGrandLarge, the Lyon Biennial, the Saint-Etienne Design Biennial, the Publishing Biennial, the Cité internationale des arts in Paris, the Galeries Nomades and the Institut d'Art Contemporain, Artagon for public exhibitions and publications;
- a network of companies from diversified sectors of activity, the organization of professional meetings with the most suitable protagonists and the organization of dedicated visits to printers, textile workshops, scenographic workshops, production sites - cabinet makers, metalworkers, agencies and publishing houses - enhance and complete the internship policy.



Meeting space  
© Ensba Lyon



Kermesse workshop,  
September 2021 © Ensba Lyon

## Tuition and fees

The registration fees are:

- **775 €** (non-scholarship student);
- **475 €** (scholarship student).

To these fees, must be added the CVEC (student life and campus contribution):

- **100 €** for non-scholarship holders (2023-2024). *Exemption from the CVEC for scholarship holders.*

## Study Regime

Having the status of student allows you to benefit from University services: catering, housing. For more information, contact the **Crous**.

↳ 59 rue de la Madeleine, Lyon 7<sup>e</sup>

## Ensba's social aid fund

This fund is an individual aid that takes into account the financial, social and family situation of the student. It is only open to students who do not have a grant.

## Higher education grants based on social criteria

These grants are intended to allow their beneficiaries to undertake and pursue higher education.

They are delivered by the **Crous**.

↳ 25 rue Camille Roy, Lyon 7<sup>e</sup>

Several conditions must be met:

- qualifications and results;
- nationality;
- age;
- and resources (family income, number of dependent children, distance from the place of study).

The terms and conditions of the grants and the rates are set each year by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

### Registration and application form

↳ [www.crous-lyon.fr](http://www.crous-lyon.fr)



● Access

# École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Lyon

Substances site  
8 bis quai Saint-Vincent  
69001 Lyon

## Acces

Subway **A**

Stop: Hôtel de Ville  
+ 15 min. walk

Subway **D**

Stop: Valmy  
+ 15 min. walk

Bus C14, 19, 31, 40

Stop: Substances  
or Homme de la  
Roche: Cross the  
footbridge  
+ 5 min. walk

## Nearby

Hôtel de Ville  
Lyon 1°

5 min

13 min

15 min

Place Bellecour  
Lyon 2°

9 min

16 min

25 min

## Neighbouring organisations

Les SUBS  
8 bis Quai Saint-Vincent  
Lyon 1°

1 min

Conservatoire National Supérieur  
Musique et Danse de Lyon  
3 Quai Chauveau, Lyon 9°

8 min

Paris

Lyon-Paris : 2h

Scène



# Ensba Lyon

8 bis quai Saint-Vincent  
69001 Lyon

France

[www.ensba-lyon.fr](http://www.ensba-lyon.fr)

☎ 04 72 00 11 71

🕒 The Ensba Lyon is open:  
from 8 a.m to 8 p.m Monday to Thursday,  
and from 8 a.m to 7 p.m on Friday

Admissions information:  
Education and Student Affairs  
Department

✉ [candidature@ensba-lyon.fr](mailto:candidature@ensba-lyon.fr)



## Geneva

Lyon-Geneva : 2h 🚆

## Marseille

Lyon-Marseille : 1h50 🚆

Photo: view of Ensba from the banks of the Saône  
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[www.ensba-lyon.fr](http://www.ensba-lyon.fr)



The Ensba Lyon is a  
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financed by:

