

EMiLA Fellowship 2025-2026, Ecole nationale supérieure de paysage Versailles

The EMiLA Fellowship at Ecole nationale supérieure de paysage (ENSP) Versailles is awarded annually to an emerging or an already-established young landscape architect, whose work articulates the potential for landscape as a medium of design to play an important role in the transformations of the public realm at territorial and/or urban scale. The position is a half-time for one-year or a full-time position over one semester. The teaching language is English.

ENSP Versailles-Marseille :

Ecole nationale supérieure de paysage has educated landscape architects at The Potager du Roi in Versailles since 1974 at the demand of the Ministry of Agriculture and created a new corps of landscape architects capable of responding to urban, suburban and agrarian modernisation and the challenges of the environmental crisis. The school educates students to the highest level. Each year around 50 students obtain an internationally recognised master's degree in landscape architecture named DEP (Diplôme d'Etat de Paysagiste). There are 40 permanent teachers and over 200 specialists as well as professional bodies contributing to the rich field of teaching practice. The school's area of specialisation is within project-orientated design teaching. Emphasis is placed on the physical, geographical and human uses of the landscape. We focus attention on the opportunities inherent to the site, its surface topography and hydrology, ecology, as well as the invisible relationships such as the dialogue with cultural history. We strive to develop our thinking by understanding a 'sense of place' and this approach is fundamental to our ethos as we conceptualise and select projects. The work finds focus in large-scale contemporary landscape issues, such as nature in city, sub-urban expansion, agrarian transformation in rural and sub-rural areas as well a project-orientated understanding of the agricultural and natural dynamics in France's different regions, all framed by the paramount demands of climate change and environmental crisis. At ENSP, 50% of our teaching is design-orientated the other 50% deals with four major multi-disciplinary fields: social sciences, ecology/garden management, techniques and arts. The school also has a research laboratory, LAREP, with 14 multi-disciplinary researchers working on diverse landscape issues. LAREP works on two main axes of investigation: Knowledge and Design Processes "Savoirs et Pratiques du projet de paysage" and Landscape Policies "Action publique et projet de paysage". LAREP offers a PhD in Landscape Architecture Sciences and has 15 PhD candidates.

The EMiLA team:

EMiLA (European Master in Landscape Architecture) is a Master's Degree run and shared by five leading European schools and universities in the field of Landscape Architectural design:

- Amsterdam University of the Arts (AUA) / Amsterdam Academy of Architecture (AHK)
- Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) / Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura (ETSAB) / Escola Superior d'Agricultura de Barcelona (ESAB)
- The University of Edinburgh / Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) / The Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (ESALA) (until at least 2026)

- Leibniz Universität Hannover (LUH) / Fakultät für Architektur und Landschaft
- École nationale supérieure de paysage (ENSP) Versailles – Marseille
- The Oslo school of architecture (AHO) (to be confirmed for August 2025)

The aim of this Master program is to foster students to be more aware of the European dimensions in landscape at policy level as well as at large/territorial-scale through design practice. Through this process, the students begin to better understand our cultural landscape differences, but also, how important landscape issues cross through national borders and require Pan-European reflections and strategies. Moreover, the curriculum offers students to learn from other universities' pedagogic methods and it enables them to begin to build up their own future professional network in an international context. (www.emila.eu)

Aims:

The ambition of the EMiLA Fellowship is to bring forth and foster emerging design educators whose work embody the potential for landscape as a relevant medium of design. While the main body of work will take place at ENSP Versailles, the EMiLA Fellow will also have an active role in reinforcing the partnerships between the EMiLA institutions via different activities.

Agenda of the Fellowship:

The candidate could take part in;

- Studio Charrette IFLA Word Congres on 5,6 and 8,9 of September 2025.
- 1-2 Design Studios* at Master 1 level, depending on the length and moment of stay
- Atelier Voyage to a foreign design location.
- Other activities of the design education department (département projet) and/or the landscape design research lab (LAREP).
- Publish a reflective report** on the EMiLA Fellowship with emphasis on the experiences around the Design Studios.

* see the end of the document

** Due to changes in the pedagogic program or if the candidate is researching on a specific landscape topic, changes and adaptation to the agenda can be provided.

The EMiLA Fellow will be appointed:

- Lecturer in Landscape Architecture at Ecole nationale supérieure de paysage on the site of Versailles for the academic year 2025-2026.
- It is a part-time position. The position can be negotiated to be a full-time position during the autumn/winter semester (6 months from mid-august to mid-february) or a half-time position during the length of an academic year (12 months). In both cases it will include 192 contact hours.
- The candidate receives a French salary: depending on the candidate's curriculum.
- The candidate is expected to be in residence from early September 2025 till June 2026 if on half-time / from early September 2025 till mid-February 2026 on full-time.

Eligibility:

Landscape architects and designers from special design professions who can demonstrate a significant engagement with landscape as a medium of design are invited to apply. Candidates active in academic and professional domains are both welcome. Candidates from practice should show links/ambitions with teaching.

The Selection Process:

A jury composed of staff from Ecole nationale supérieure de paysage will select the 2025-2026 Fellow. The two-stage competition process will first identify a short-list of three finalists who then will be invited to interviews (video-call or in Versailles) in late May. The Jury will recommend a winner to be announced publicly in late June 2026.

How to Apply:

Please submit the following application materials in the form of a single PDF (not larger than 25 MB):

- Curriculum vitae and contact information for 3 reference persons
- Digital portfolio of design and other relevant work
- Two-page document describing pedagogical ideas and the general positioning of the candidate in relation to teaching landscape architectural design in the 21st century.

Please name the pdf as follows; EMiLA_Fellowship2025_26_Lastname_Firstname.pdf Submit the pdf by email attachment

to: international@ecole-paysage.fr

copy: recrutement@ecole-paysage.fr

Deadline to Apply:

7th of june 2025

For enquiries :

- Lauri Mikkola, l.mikkola@ecole-paysage.fr
- Daniel Jauslin : d.jauslin@ecole-paysage.fr

ENSP DESIGN STUDIOS ON MASTER 1 LEVEL

Atelier 5, Park in a City

1st semester (Semester in English), 78h

Atelier Director : Lauri Mikkola

Educational Objectives

This studio aims to immerse students in the study and design of urban parks, a defining typology of urban landscapes. Through analytical research and critical inquiry, students will explore the historical evolution, design principles, and contemporary roles of parks in the city. The key objectives include:

- Developing a deep understanding of the urban park as both a historical and contemporary design element through research and critical analysis.
- Engaging with the unique characteristics of a designated site, considering its multiple scales of impact and its role in urban development.
- Designing a park that balances spatial composition, sensory and atmospheric qualities, programmatic needs, and environmental considerations in response to contemporary challenges.

Course Structure

The studio is organized into four key phases, guiding students through a structured design process:

1. Site Interpretation & Analysis
 - Students begin with a subjective exploration of the site, developing personal interpretations before conducting a collaborative analytical study across predefined themes and scales.
2. Concept Development & Testing
 - Based on their analysis, students formulate initial design intentions and test multiple hypotheses through sketching and conceptual models.
3. Design Refinement & Development
 - A selected design hypothesis is refined and developed using a combination of graphic representations, diagrams, and 3D modeling techniques.
4. Final Presentation & Narrative Curation
 - The final stage focuses on curating design materials and articulating a coherent project narrative that effectively communicates the vision and strategic decisions.

Throughout the studio, students will also engage with a weekly lecture series, providing insights from professionals and scholars in the field.

Assessment & Evaluation

Student performance will be assessed based on:

- Active participation and consistent progress throughout the studio.
- The quality and coherence of the final project, including its conceptual depth, spatial composition, and responsiveness to site conditions.
- The clarity and impact of the final presentation, evaluated through the effectiveness of visual materials and narrative articulation.

Atelier 6, Explore the World

1st semester (Semester in English), 78h

Atelier Director: Lauri Mikkola

Educational Objectives

This studio focuses on understanding and designing landscapes that respond to climate change phenomena, such as sea-level rise, across diverse global locations. Students will engage in analytical and design-based explorations to:

- Study the effects of climate change through site-specific analysis in different geographical contexts.
- Expand their perception of landscapes by integrating emerging technologies.
- Project the long-term evolution of a site over several decades, recognizing its role as a strategic design tool.
- Work at an intermediate scale between urban parks and territorial planning, analyzing sites of approximately 200 hectares.

The final outcome is a strategic landscape framework that enables a site to adapt and function within an uncertain future.

Course Structure

The studio unfolds in four key phases, guiding students through a structured research and design process:

1. Site Analysis & Data Collection
 - Students analyze their site using varied online resources and GIS tools. Simultaneously, they gather qualitative data to understand its unique characteristics.
2. Project Parameters & Conceptual Testing
 - A synthesis of findings leads to defining key project parameters. Students develop and test these through various exercises that combine spatial and abstract thinking approaches.
3. Temporal Development & Scenario Planning
 - The focus shifts to long-term site evolution, integrating time as a critical design factor.
4. Final Presentation & Strategic Vision
 - The developed material is refined and structured for a compelling final presentation that articulates a clear and coherent design narrative.

A weekly lecture series runs parallel to the studio's phases, offering insights from experts in climate adaptation and landscape resilience.

Assessment & Evaluation

Student performance will be evaluated based on:

- Active participation and continuous progress throughout the studio.
- The quality, relevance, and coherence of the final project, particularly in addressing climate challenges.
- The clarity and impact of the final presentation, assessed through visual materials and strategic thinking.

Atelier 7, A Founding Act of Landscape

The topic of AT7_2025 is titled "A Founding Act of Landscape for the Greater Paris Metropolis by 2050." A

"founding act" refers to the creation of a landscape figure that plays an identifying, structuring, and visionary role for the 21st-century metropolis.

Landscape is not just a support tool for metropolitan development, but a fundamental and essential component of the metropolis. It embodies a developing territorial identity, manages ecological cycles, meets inhabitants' expectations for better living conditions, and more.

Concept of Foundation

The concept of "foundation" may seem surprising, often associated with the creation of new buildings or cities. However, the challenge of metropolitan development is now about revitalizing existing urban fabrics, reformed, repaired, and adapted for future living in the context of climate change. Here, "foundation" refers to an act that inaugurates a new way of transforming and living within metropolitan space.

Lineage and Positioning in Landscape Architecture

The "founding act of landscape" expected from students will build on past foundational acts that shaped great cities. These include Haussmann's parks and promenades, interwar garden cities, 20th-century planning (e.g., uncompleted green belt), and the new towns with parks and leisure areas. This historical context will guide students in reflecting on the position of contemporary landscape architects.

Themes

The project will serve as a lever for ecological transition, tackling diverse themes: adaptation to climate change, resilience against flooding, promotion of soft mobility, ecological continuity, reduction of land artificialization, de-paving, and the preservation of biodiversity. These topics will form the core of discussions aimed at sustainable, resilient development.

For this year's workshop, SGP invites students to propose ideas for developing cycling practice in the metropolitan fringes. These reflections, grounded in the project's territory, might address the role of soft mobility infrastructure in evolving landscapes, public space design to integrate cycling, and issues related to itineraries, signage, and public life in peri-urban contexts.

Project Site

For AT7 of 2025, a suitable territorial fragment has been identified, characterized by future Grand Paris stations, the Val de Seine, transport infrastructure, and proximity between dense urban areas and open spaces. Located in northeastern Paris, around the Ardoines, Vert de Maison, and Créteil l'Échât stations at the confluence of the Seine and Marne, the site includes Villeneuve Triage, Bonneuil port, and surrounding hills. It is the focus of metropolitan mobility projects such as the cable car C1 and soft mobility development.