

PRESS RELEASE

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Launch of the SaclAI-School training programme

The SaclAI-School programme at Université Paris-Saclay aims to develop an ambitious and innovative School of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based on multidisciplinary or AI-centred education. The programme is coordinated by the DATAIA Institute: Université Paris-Saclay's Institute for Artificial Intelligence.

The SaclAI-School programme won the French national call for expressions of interest, CMA (*Compétences et Métiers d'Avenir* - Skills and Professions of the Future), launched by the French National Research Agency (ANR) in December 2021. The programme relies on a unique ecosystem – France's top AI ecosystem of more than 1,200 researchers and academic staff from 42 laboratories from within Université Paris-Saclay.

The programme's objectives are focused on four key areas:

- **To provide a comprehensive and attractive course offer** for students and professionals;
- **To expand AI and data science education** to address AI related-societal challenges by training a wide range of audiences at different skill levels, from initiation to the consolidation of AI expertise;
- **To build an innovative framework for AI education**, making use of the diverse range of skills in the academic and industrial worlds and the complementarity of teaching practices in universities and *Grandes Ecoles*;
- **To support learners through modular continuing education**, in order to increase the level of AI skills throughout their professional life and/or allow them to retrain in AI professions.

The SaclAI-School has been built on existing courses whilst also restructuring certain courses to refocus on Artificial Intelligence, now known as "AI core" or "AI applications" courses. In addition, several new study paths in the 1st and 2nd year of Master's degrees (M1 and M2) will open at the beginning of the 2022 academic year, both in the Computer Science and Mathematics and Applications tracks, as well as two new courses in the M2 Mathematics, Vision, Learning.

The innovative nature of this programme is reflected in the development of several educational tools made available to students and professionals:

- **TutorAI and MixtAI**, to promote equal opportunities for students with the introduction of a tutoring programme (TutorAI) in various core AI disciplines, from the first year of undergraduate study to the final year of Masters, and a programme of excellence scholarships (MixtAI), promoting parity and social diversity.
- **BrevetAI and new educational courses**, to train for AI acculturation, thanks to the development of an AI diploma (BrevetAI). It is issued by a "*learning-by-doing*" pedagogical platform which offers training adapted to individual needs, regardless of the learner's level

of initial training, from undergraduate to PhD. The goals is also to create and develop internationally renowned AI expert courses, with AI and applications programmes geared to the needs of our society. These education courses make use of significant computing tools.

- **RecrutAI and ReconvertAI**, to provide an innovative service for socio-economic stakeholders by creating a new recruitment system for staff trained at SaclAI-School (RecrutAI) for companies and local authorities and by setting up a retraining programme (ReconvertAI) to train for AI-related jobs.

More information is available [here](#).

ABOUT UNIVERSITÉ PARIS-SACLAY

Université Paris-Saclay brings together ten constituent faculties and institutes, four Grandes Écoles, the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques, two associate institutions and shared laboratories with national research organisations.

With 48,000 students, 8,100 lecturers and 8,500 administrative and technical staff members, Université Paris-Saclay offers a comprehensive and varied range of undergraduate to doctorate level programmes and engineering degrees, renowned for their quality thanks to the reputation and commitment of the University's academic staff.

Located in the south of Paris on vast sites that stretch across Paris, Orsay, Évry and Versailles, Université Paris-Saclay benefits from a strategic geographical and socio-economic position that is strengthened by its international visibility. A leading University, Université Paris-Saclay is recognised for its excellent Mathematics and Physics programmes but also for Biological and Medical Sciences, Agriculture, Engineering, and its extensive Humanities and Social Sciences courses. Close to Paris, Université Paris-Saclay is nested in a protected natural area, at the very heart of a dynamic economic hub.



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