

PRESS RELEASE

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Université Paris-Saclay launches a new top double-degree programme in healthcare

The Averroes programme at Université Paris-Saclay aims to develop interdisciplinary, personalised study paths that combine a doctorate in medicine or pharmacy with another non-health degree course from a university or a *Grande École* and a university thesis. It strives to educate the future generation of leaders in research, biomedical innovation and healthcare policies, by combining training in research with high-level medical or pharmaceutical education.

The Averroes programme was born from decades of international thinking about the challenge of training the leaders of tomorrow who will be capable of adapting to the future of healthcare.

Certain future medical and healthcare professions will require top-level interdisciplinary knowledge and skills: doctors, pharmacists and medical IT experts who are also specialised in political science, architects or engineers, physicists, jurists and economists who are also doctors or pharmacists.

The programme will begin at the start of the 2021/2022 academic year and is built on the existing courses at Université Paris-Saclay, its constituent faculties and institutes (the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Pharmacy), its *Grandes Écoles* (AgroParisTech, CentraleSupélec, ENS Paris-Saclay, Institut d'Optique Graduate School), its associate member institutions (Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines and Université d'Evry) and their partners.

The programme is aimed at curious, enterprising and inventive students who show potential for research and innovation and are motivated by a demanding interdisciplinary curriculum. Candidates must have just been admitted to the second year of a degree in Medicine or Pharmacy or be enrolled in a non-health degree course.

In addition to the higher education courses that students will have already begun, students will study complementary courses in other fields of study as part of the Averroes programme. For students who are not already enrolled in a health-related degree, studying Medicine or Pharmacy will be mandatory. The curriculum will be subject to pedagogical adjustments and focused on training *in* research and *through* research, as part of an interdisciplinary approach *in* innovation and *through* innovation. Following entry to the Master's level, students will prepare a thesis viva.

The curriculum will be personalised for each student. A mentor and two lecturers – one of whom will be specialised in health, and the other in a non-health field, will personally monitor students. Internationalisation will be strongly encouraged; students will have the possibility of studying in other languages and travelling abroad, in particular as part of the European University Alliance for Global Health (EUGLOH)¹. International theses with cotutelle partnering international universities will also be encouraged.

¹ Université Paris-Saclay coordinates the European University Alliance for Global Health, which brings together four other European universities in Germany, Hungary, Portugal and Sweden.

Before joining the programme, medical or pharmacy students will be required to complete a two-year preparation course to ensure that they are prepared for the non-health subject(s) they will have chosen. Candidates studying non-health subjects will need to complete a one-year preparation course to prepare for preclinical and clinical disciplines. Students will be chosen based on their application and an interview.

At the end of the preparation course, students will be selected to join the Averroes programme and be entitled to an allowance and an international mobility grant.

More information on the Averroes programme can be found here [ici](#).

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 six 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 heart of a dynamic economic hub.



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