SCIENCES PO LAUNCHES A SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND INNOVATION

By establishing a School of Management and Innovation, Sciences Po aims to assert its central role and unique positioning in the education of economic leaders. In line with its “Sciences Po 2022” strategic plan, this new school completes the restructuring of Sciences Po’s graduate education.

WITH THE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND INNOVATION, SCIENCES PO CONFIRMS ITS ROLE AS A KEY PROVIDER OF BUSINESS-RELATED EDUCATION

Today, 73% of Sciences Po graduates find their first job in the private sector. Nearly half of our students go into consulting, finance, industry, communications or into creative industries. Sciences Po has a long-standing reputation for training business professionals for the private sector – the “Private Economy” section was born during the first half of the 20th century, becoming the “Economics and Finance” section in 1945. It was enhanced in the 1970s with programmes in communication, the media and human resource management. Today, these business-related Master's programmes are well recognised in French and international markets.

The School will bring together the large number of students enrolled in existing Master’s programmes - Finance and Strategy, Economics and Business, Organisational Behaviour and Human Resources, Marketing and Communication – a total of 1,000 students, and will rapidly create new courses to expand its educational programmes.

OUR AMBITION: TO EDUCATE THE ENTREPRENEURS OF CHANGE

The School of Management and Innovation aims to respond to the pressing need to reinvent the way economic leaders are educated at a time of digital revolution. To do so, it will propose a unique educational model capable of preparing students for the profound, multidimensional changes that are redefining companies and the business world.

To educate the entrepreneurs of change, the School has set a threefold objective it calls the 3 Cs - Complexity, Creativity, Common Good:

- Complexity: To provide an understanding of globalisation and the digital revolution, and of the complex issues and changes associated with them.
- Creativity: To anticipate and support the development of a creative economy and new business models.
- Common Good: To highlight the role of companies (and their managers) in society and the responsibility of economic leaders with regard to issues of the common good.
The School of Management and Innovation will draw on the strengths of Sciences Po to establish its identity. It will develop a cross disciplinary pedagogical approach to learning based on internationally-renowned research in the human and social sciences. The School will work within a rich ecosystem – Sciences Po’s research centres and Economics, Sociology, Political Science, History and Law Departments.

Sciences Po’s Incubator and Medialab will also play a central role in developing a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the new School. Since 2009, “Sciences Po Entrepreneurs” has been supporting the entrepreneurial aspirations of Sciences Po students and has incubated 90 business projects. “Sciences Po Entrepreneurs” is soon to become the Entrepreneurship Centre and will have an even greater capacity to deliver its offering of support, training and research. The Medialab was crucial to the development of the course on Controversy mapping (launched by Bruno Latour), a prime example of Sciences Po’s innovation in teaching. It will provide greater scope for design thinking and digital humanities in its curricula.

The School of Management and Innovation remains in keeping with Sciences Po’s resolutely international approach. Future graduates will be equipped for multicultural and multinational management. To achieve this, the School will develop an educational approach that addresses the challenge of doing business in a multinational and transnational context and exposes students to practical work situations. The School will also be international in terms of its students who, thanks to a faculty with a high proportion of foreign academics and practitioners, will eventually be able to take the whole curriculum in English. By developing academic partnerships with the world’s best universities, the School will be able to offer appealing dual degrees.

Several years ago, Sciences Po began restructuring its Master’s programmes into distinct schools, with a view to organising its graduate education by profession: international relations, public affairs, law, urban issues, research, journalism, communication and, now, management and innovation. This seventh school will reinforce the excellent standard of our existing programmes while allowing us to develop and increase our visibility in a field usually associated with business schools.

For Frédéric Mion, President of Sciences Po, “Today, the education we provide is more appealing, more transparent and more diverse. We are keeping our common core – human and social sciences - which is central to our identity, but are expanding the range of professions for which we prepare our students. Our aim is to provide our students with the key to understanding the society in which we live and to anticipating its changes. Our School of Management and Innovation will enable us to help economic leaders rethink the role of business in order to become the entrepreneurs of change.”
For Marie-Laure Djelic, Co-Dean of the School of Management and Innovation, “Business must have a wider focus than simply maximising shareholder value. It plays an integrating role, around which a network of close relationships is woven. It can also have a significant political impact. In a complex, unstable world with fluid borders, the common good can no longer be solely the responsibility of the State. It also lies in the hands of its citizens, who we wish to educate.”

For Benoît Thieulin, Co-Dean of the School of Management and Innovation, “Changes brought about by the digital revolution are shaking up the whole economy. Standard economy businesses are of course affected and a new economy, founded on innovative business models, is emerging in parallel. As a result of these changes, business is tending towards a platform of collective intelligence that is becoming more and more open to society and its needs. In such an ecosystem, the innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship we aim to develop in our new School are absolutely vital and will constitute key assets for our students.”

About Sciences Po
Sciences Po is a selective research university of international standing based on the values of openness and excellence. Sciences Po’s unique academic model combines expertise in human and social sciences, multidisciplinarity and a professional grounding to educate professionals and citizens able to understand and transform society. Diversity is a key part of Sciences Po’s identity. The student body is composed of 47 percent international students from 150 countries and, today, 27 percent of students receive a scholarship compared to 6 percent in 2000.

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