

HEC Paris and École Polytechnique join forces to launch MSc Big Data for Business Program

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This 2-year MSc program has been designed to combine high-level expertise in the engineering field, to train students in data sciences, with proficiency in the business field, to form data managers capable of taking strategic decisions based on data resources.

As big data marks the beginning of a major transformation of the digital economy significantly impacting all industries, globally-recognised institutions HEC Paris and École Polytechnique have teamed up to launch a joint innovative degree: MSc Big Data For Business. This unique, two-year program aims to select and educate a new generation of leaders, capable of embracing today's and tomorrow's digital transformations.

The Master's Program, taught on the campuses of both École Polytechnique and HEC Paris, will train students in data sciences, which combine mathematics modelling, statistics, IT, and visualisation, to convert masses of information into knowledge. It will give them the tools to understand the newest data distributing structures and large-scale calculations to ease decision-making and guide in their choices. Finally, it will form data "managers" capable of exploiting the results from analysis to make strategic decisions at the heart of our changeable business.

"Learning by doing" will be central to the program's teaching, with students being equipped to shift constantly from data to knowledge, from knowledge to strategic decisions and from strategic decisions to operational business implementations.

Peter Todd, Dean of HEC Paris, comments: "Nowadays, bridging the gap between technical experts on the one side and business specialists on the other has become more and more essential, and it is critical that leading academic institutions play their role by providing master's programs that fully address this new need. We are pleased to launch this partnership with École Polytechnique and we believe that MSc Big Data for Business represents the best business-engineering degree Europe could possibly offer today, and most of all: an extraordinary added value for students."

Jacques Biot, President of Ecole Polytechnique, adds: "Data science together with Big Data have led to the rise of novel economical paradigms. The historical leaders of existing economic sectors (transportation, insurance, energy, healthcare etc.) no longer have the guarantee to remain in their leading positions given the agility of new competitors with data-based innovative economic models. Data technologies are not only transforming traditional industries. They are changing our way of life, our social structures and even our entire social landscape. Using data for the benefit of mankind is not only a technological, but also an ethical, legal, economic and social challenge. The objective of this MSc is to train student to master and develop new frameworks of analysis, new approaches, and concrete recommendations to deal with the data deluge and the data-driven digital transformation of our world."

Courses will start on September 2017. Enrolments for MSC Big Data For Business are now open on: <http://www.hec.edu/Big-Data-for-Business>

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ABOUT ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE

École Polytechnique is the leading French institute which combines top-level research, academics, and innovation at the cutting-edge of science and technology. Its various graduate-level programs – Bachelor's degree, Ingénieur Polytechnicien, Master's, Graduate Degree, PhD program and PhD – are highly selective and promote a culture of excellence with a strong emphasis on science, anchored in humanist traditions. As a widely internationalised university, École Polytechnique offers a variety of international programs and attracts a growing number of foreign students and researchers from around the globe (currently 30% of students and, 39% of faculty members).

École Polytechnique offers an exceptional education to prepare bright men and women to excel in high-level key positions and lead complex and innovative projects which meet the challenges of 21st century society, all while maintaining a keen sense of their civil and social responsibilities. With its 22 laboratories, 21 of which are joint research units with the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), École Polytechnique Research Center explores the frontiers of interdisciplinary knowledge to provide major contributions to science, technology, and society. École Polytechnique is a founding member of Université Paris-Saclay.

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About HEC Paris

Specialising in management education and research, HEC Paris offers a complete and unique range of educational programs for the leaders of tomorrow: Masters programs, Summer School, MBA, Ph.D, Executive MBA, TRIUM Global Executive MBA, open-enrollment and custom executive education programs.

Founded in 1881 by the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry, HEC Paris is a founding member of the Université Paris-Saclay. It boasts a faculty of 138 full-time professors, more than 4,400 students and over 8,000 managers and executives in training each year.

HEC Paris was ranked second business school in Europe by the Financial Times' overall business school ranking in December 2015.

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