

## QUESTION PT 1

Dear Colleagues,

I've attached the transcript and certificate from KEDGE Business School, Bordeaux, FRANCE.

I am attempting to learn whether this credential is academic or professional, and whether it is considered equivalent to a U.S. Master's Degree. Here is what I've done so far:

Since this is a private institution, I began with the ONISEP site, and found [THIS](#)

I see a one-year Diplôme for Manager de l'achat International taught at KEDGE Business School in Talence and one in Paris, but not in Bordeaux. The certificate presented in the scan does not have the word 'diplôme' anywhere.

I then visited the Internet Archive to see if a page from around 2015-2017 would have the exact program this student completed. I had no luck there-(and am wondering if any of you have archived data from ONISEP:)

The school's current offerings are listed [here](#), which show the different programs offered for MAI (Manager de l'achat International). I believe the one I'm looking for is the one listed Titre RNCP Niveau 7.

Since it is differentiated from Mastère Spécialisé and the Master of Science, I'm not sure how to proceed. I think the clue is RNCP Level 7...

According to the Ministries of Education Resource List (Edited by Shelby L. Cearley, Stephanie Cloninger, Maria Mason, and Amanda Morrison, 2025), I found the following information:

“Terminology which can be either recognized or unrecognized depending on institutional policies.

- *titre de CCI (Chambre de Commerce et Industrie)* [Title of Chamber of Commerce and Industry] = programmatic accreditation **if also designated as a *diplôme national, d'état, or visé***. Otherwise, such a title is **not** an academic qualification.

- *titre inscrit au RNCP niveau x* (title registered at RNCP level X) = vocational/professional degrees registered under the Minister of Vocational Training; these programs exist in their respective vocational/professional pathways from secondary level to doctoral level. They do not grant automatic access to the next academic level of studies but alternate admissions pathways between academic and RNCP programs exist in France.

<https://www.francecompetences.fr/>

- Institution status = Regionally accredited, only if title also designated as a *diplôme national, d'état, or visé*
- Institution status = Nationally accredited, if title has no other recognized Designations”

I'm depending on my French education specialists out there!

The transcript shows "Level MAI 2" which means nothing to me, but which I'm sure is a clue.

The applicant claims he could enter a PhD program with this credential, but looking at the excerpt from the TAICEP Ministry of Education entry above, it appears that it could be, or maybe not. Help!

Thank you,

Judy Kupsky  
FACS

**MAI**

**TITRE**

**« Manager de l'Achat International »**

Enregistré au Répertoire National des Certifications Professionnelles (RNCP) par l'État  
au niveau I (nomenclature 1969) et au niveau 7 (cadre Européen des Certifications)

Code NSF 312p

Arrêté du 19/11/2013, publié au Journal Officiel du 29/11/2014

Vu le procès-verbal du jury attestant que l'intéressé(e) né(e) le [REDACTED] - 22 - France,  
a satisfait à l'ensemble des obligations,

La présente certification est délivrée à :

[REDACTED]

Fait à Bordeaux, le 18 mai 2017

Le/La titulaire

Le Directeur  
du Programme  
Gordon CRICHTON

Le Président  
du jury  
Jean POTAGE

Le Directeur Général,  
de KEDGE Business School  
Thomas FROELICHER

KEDGE Business School  
480 cours de la Libération  
33405 Talence Cedex  
FRANCE  
Tél. : +33 (0)5 56 84 55 55

Core	Course	Mark /20	ECTS Credits	Year - Semester
MAP-MS-OTH-02-F-L-P-AR	RAPPORT DE MISSION	13,00		2015/2016 02
Management	Course	Mark /20	ECTS Credits	Year - Semester
MAP-MS-FIN-01-F-L-P-AR	ANALYSE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT FOURNISSEUR	15,50	5,00	2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-OPS-02-E-L-P-AR	DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SALES ENVIRONMENT	18,00	5,00	2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-MGT-01-F-L-P-AR	FONDEMENTAUX DES ACHATS	20,00	5,00	2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-MKT-01-F-L-P-AR	MANAGEMENT DES ACHATS	13,00	5,00	2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-HRM-02-E-L-P-AR	MANAGING THE CHANGE IN PURCHASING 1	15,00	5,00	2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-STR-02-E-L-P-AR	STRATÉGIE GLOBALE ET INTERNATIONALE	13,00	5,00	2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-OPD-01-F-L-P-AR	CLIENTS AND SUPPLIERS	13,50	5,00	2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-STR-01-F-L-P-AR	DES OUTILS JUSQU'À LA STRATÉGIE	14,40	5,00	2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-HRM-01-F-L-P-AR	MANAGEMENT RESPONSABLE DES ORGANISATIONS	14,50	5,00	2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-HRM-03-F-L-P-AR	MANAGING THE CHANGE IN PURCHASING 2	15,00	5,00	2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-MKT-03-F-L-P-AR	STRATÉGIE MARKETING ET IMPACT SUR LA STRATÉGIE ACHATS	15,00	5,00	2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-MKT-02-F-L-P-AR	TECHNIQUES D'ACHATS OPÉRATIONNELS	14,00	5,00	2015/2016 02
Other	Course	Mark /20	ECTS Credits	Year - Semester
MAP-MS-PAC-02-F-L-P-AR	PACK : HOW TO WORK WITH INDIANS			2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-PAC-01-F-L-P-AR	PACK : LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT			2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-PAC-03-F-L-P-AR	PACK : MANAGEMENT DE PROJET			2015/2016 01
MAP-MS-PAC-05-F-L-P-AR	PACK : CAS BLANC			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-04-F-L-P-AR	PACK : DÉVELOPPEMENT PERSONNEL			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-13-F-L-P-AR	PACK : FOCUS CHINE			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-11-F-L-P-AR	PACK : FORCE DE VENTE			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-08-F-L-P-AR	PACK : INFORMATIQUE			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-01-F-L-P-AR	PACK : LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT 2			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-05-F-L-P-AR	PACK : MÉTHODOLOGIE DE RECHERCHE			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-14-F-L-P-AR	PACK : OUTILS OPÉRATIONNELS (EXCEL)			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-12-F-L-P-AR	PACK : PRÉPARATION CAS DE SORTIE			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-10-F-L-P-AR	PACK : TÉMOIGNAGES			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-06-F-L-P-AR	PACK : TRAVAILLER SON RÉSEAU			2015/2016 02
MAP-MS-PAC-07-F-L-P-AR	PACK : TUTORAT			2015/2016 02

Total Course Credits: 60,00

Total ECTS Credits 60,00

Dean  
Armand BAJARD

[Signature]

OFFICIEL SEAL

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Transcript of grades: [REDACTED]  
Note: This document is not valid without signature.

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## **ANSWER 1**

Judy,

I imagine MAI 2 refers to a second year of the MAI program, which suggests that a person could've been admitted with Bac+3 to an MAI 1 year and that this person had at least Bac+4 going in. It appears that a two-year option no longer exists from what I can see on ONISEP and the institution's Web site.

Nothing on the certificate suggests this is a national diploma or a diplome visé by the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research. Looks professional to me.

If your applicant qualified for admission to a doctoral program, it may have been on the basis of another credential - perhaps a Bac+5 or something recognized as being at that level. In any case, onus is on the applicant to prove otherwise, I would say.

David Mihalyi, Assoc. Director, AACRAO - International  
AACRAO

## ANSWER 2

Hello Judy,

I missed your e-mail so now for an unknown reason can't find so to check the documents you've attached. But working for the Faculty of economics and management of the University of Geneva, I receive each year lots of application from France and from these kind of business school, some of them that have a very good reputation and are very well recognized (if they are listed in this website: <https://www.cge.asso.fr/>, for sure it's a very good school and their diplomas are recognized in the whole France).

As for the programs, these institutions known as Grandes Ecoles, have, most of the time, two kind of programs:

- Bachelor degrees of 3 or 4 years length
- Programme Grande Ecole, which are a 5 year program

Bachelors are quite standard in the way they are organized (year 1, 2, 3, 60 European credits per year). Now the programme grande ecole is a little bit more complicated since students don't usually start from year 1 but mainly from year 3, sometimes 4. Before that they mainly do what is called "Prepa aux grandes écoles" that can roughly be translated as "preparation years to be admitted to Grandes Ecoles". These programs are done in lycées (so, the institution, where they get their secondary school diploma) and go for 1 to 2 years. After these 2 years candidates can pass the entry exam to Grandes Ecoles and if they succeed then they'll start in year 3 (for those who fail the entry exam, most of the time they go to public universities and are admitted also in year of the licence/bachelor).

Now with this programme Grande Ecole, students may obtain at the same time, other diplomas like Master 1 (at the end of year 4) and even a Master 2 at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year along with the Diplome Grande Ecole.

So, in conclusion, these diplomas, if the school is part of the conference link I provided here above (and Kedge school is part of this conference, I just checked: <https://www.cge.asso.fr/ecoles/kedge-bs-2/>), their diplomas (at least Programme Grande Ecole and their Bachelors) will be fully recognized in France.

Also to be honest, and again with more than 15 years working with a lot of applicants coming from France, this country post-secondary system is quite complicated and there are a lot of “bridges” between different schools/programs/institutions, a lot of ways to obtain diplomas, so there is no general rule that works every time.

So almost each and every diploma has to be analyzed from beginning to end, there might always be some surprises in the middle.

I hope it helps a bit.

Best regards

Pedro Carvalho  
Service des admissions  
UNI-DUFOUR