ADPHARMING Master: Frequently asked questions (and answers)

STUDENT:
1. What is Advanced Galenics? We searched for it on the Internet but still found little about it. Could you please explain what Advanced Galenics is in detail? I believe it must be helpful for us to understand the course more easily.

ADPHARMING:
In the term “Advanced Galenics”, the term “Galenic” comes from the name Galien, Claudius Galenus (Galen) was a Greek doctor in medicine in Europe (129-216). People believe in our tradition, that he invented the first drug dosage form (a pill containing active ingredient and gums). From this, came the name of “Galenic” in Europe. In fact, “Galenic” was at the beginning an art to invent, develop and produce dosage forms.

In our modern understanding, the Advanced Galenics corresponds to “Advanced Pharmaceutical Technology”. It needs to use the engineering sciences to find and develop the best dosage forms adapted to various routes of administration, and with the right bioavailability. This is true for a compact, a rather simple form used for instance for generics, but needing advanced knowledge in the field of powder technology, modeling, etc. to obtain a robust and cheap formulation. But this is also true for more advanced dosage forms, using for instance Hot-Melt Extrusion, or other technologies, as nanotechnologies, used to develop personalized medicines using proteins, nucleic acids, gene therapy… The more complex the dosage form is, the more it needs an approach using the sciences and know-how of an engineer. And of course this Advanced Galenics (our RAPSODEE center includes a platform in advanced galenics available for academic and industrial studies) is a fundamental part of advanced pharmaceutical engineering, but this Advanced Pharmaceutical Engineering has a more global approach, including also the issues of scaling-up, production, GMP, lean management, supply chain …

STUDENT:
2. It is said that the fourth semester is an MSc thesis in an industry or a lab. We wonder whether the lab or industry is found and contacted by ourselves or is it selected or allocated by Mines-Albi. And are all costs during MSc thesis covered by the students or supported by Mines Albi?

ADPHARMING:
Generally speaking, the students search for the lab or industry to find an internship. But of course, it can be difficult for them, for instance if they do not speak French. But they will have French lessons during the master program. Anyhow, we help them during interviews to imagine the kind of internship they want to find. And we help
them to find if they have some difficulties. We have a strong pharmaceutical network in France (but not only), since we have trained engineers, pharmacists-engineers and PhDs for more than 20 years, and they are now working in the pharmaceutical industries, cosmetology etc. They can also choose an internship in English language, and they can choose to do the internship in another country than France. If the training is done in an academic lab or in an international company, it can be generally in English, then it can be easier for them. We can accept some of them at Ecole des Mines, depending on the research subjects in progress in our research center RAPSOODEE (CNRS UMR 5302).

Concerning the costs during the MSc thesis, they are covered by the students, as well as their accommodation and food.

But very often, if this internship is done in a company, it is paid by the industry to the student (an idea of the amount is : from 400€ to 1400€/month (or more) – during 5 to 6 months -, depending on the company, place..).

**STUDENT:**

3. Is there a requirement relating to student's academic performance? If there is, what are these requirements? Because I do not have any knowledge about French. Is there any barrier for students attending the program? If a student can't speak French, could they get a visa?

**ADPHARMING:**

In the standard French system, the obtention of visa needs a minimum level in French. But if they apply to come to France to study this Adpharming Master taught in English, and if they have an admission letter from our Ecole des Mines, they generally do not need to know French at the beginning. But they do need to have a B2 level in English.

Lessons of French and French culture will be included in the Adpharming Master program, and at the end, they will pass a certification in French language. The level will of course depend on their initial level in French.

Their integration will be better in France if they learn the French language during their 2-years stay in France. It will help them as well to find an internship in a French company, if it is their choice.. Note that we are organizing each year, in July and August a special 2 month French Summer School (FSS) for international students. This FSS is specially dedicated to progress in French but also to discover French culture, day-to-day life style, tourism and different activities. Monthly cost is 1000€ (750€ in case of a partnership) plus accommodation. The FSS is optional but can be a good introduction to the French language and culture.

**STUDENT:**

4. For the accommodation, if the student doesn't want to live on campus, can he live outside campus, renting a flat by himself. And what will it cost approximately? Is it a must to live on campus?
ADPHARMING:
The students can live outside the campus. It is up to them. It is quite easy to find a flat in the city of Albi. The city is located 2 km from the campus, and they can come by bus, or bicycle, or other…
The cost for accommodation is approximately 350€ per month in Albi for a small flat/studio equipped with a kitchen and an individual bathroom. The accommodation covers different services (detailed information on our website www.mines-albi.fr).
The advantage to live on the campus is that they are near the Ecole des Mines, but an advantage to live in the city is that they can acclimatise to the French way of life, and French language as well. Furthermore, Albi is a historical and friendly city where it is nice and enjoyable to live.

STUDENT:
5. For the tuition fee, I noticed 18000 Euros is quite expensive for France. And I am also confused as to whether the tuition fee is 18000 Euros per year or 18000 Euros for the whole program (2 years) in total?

ADPHARMING:
The tuition fee is 9,000€/year, and totally for 2 years, it is 18,000€. The students pays each year 9,000€. Traditionally, the tuitions fees were low in France, due to a rather large amount of money coming from the government to the academic institutions. But there is a new tendency to allow the academic institutions to have higher tuition fees, in order to develop high quality programs, from their know-how, as in the case of the new Adpharming Master Program. And if you compare with other high-level masters in other countries, the tuition fee is not so high, so the return on investment is much higher.

STUDENT:
6. How to apply online?

ADPHARMING:
You can apply online at this address:
The application is free of charge. It will allow the jury (examination board) to take a decision concerning your admissibility. The jury can take a decision within 2 weeks. Anyhow, you increase your chances of admission by applying now. Get the ball rolling now!

STUDENT:
7. I'm an undergraduate student in China. I heard about this Adpharming program from our Pharmaceutical University. I'm really interested in this program. But, still, I have some questions about this program. Actually, I'm not quite familiar with this major, because it has some management and other
courses that I have never learned before. I have been taught about the fundamental pharmaceutical knowledge during my undergraduate class but we never learned the course such as lean management, logistics, and I wonder if I could be successful in this major.

ADPHARMING:
I would like to say : don't worry, since this master was designed to allow students not accustomed with the management, project management, lean management, companies knowledge..., to follow and succeed. We know that you are not specialists of this, but, all is done to help you succeed.

STUDENT:
8. What's more, I also want to know the career path or the occupation that I can take after graduating from Adpharming master degree.

ADPHARMING:
In fact, it depends on your choice and personal project. You can work as an expert in pharmaceutical technology, or manager in this field, or in the field of pharmaceutical scaling-up. Also, you can choose to work in a company to organize and plan the production, to manage quality, in respect of good manufacturing practices. Another possibility is to work in lean management, and also in logistics or supply chain. The master gives you a global view of pharmaceutical engineering, and you can use it as you want to develop your career.

STUDENT:
9. I would like to follow the Master ADPHARMING in Albi. Could you tell me when the studies about Pharmaceutical Engineering started at Mines Albi.

ADPHARMING:
The studies concerning Pharmaceutical Engineering started in 1993, and were continuously provided until now, under various options of pharmaceutical engineering, mainly for future engineers, but also for future Docteurs en Pharmacie & engineers. Maybe you know it, but 2015 is the first year of accreditation of this master in English by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research, in the historical city of Albi. It is indeed a great opportunity and a good chance for the students to follow this Adpharming master program at Mines-Albi.

STUDENT:
10. I can not find much information about Albi on the Internet. I'm looking for more details. Does this Adpharming program offer an engineer degree? Or a master degree? Plus, It would be very kind of you to show me the difference between these two.

ADPHARMING:
1- the Adpharming program will deliver a Master degree. It is a National degree, due to the accreditation by the Ministère de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche. This master is taught in English. With this degree, you can (if you want) do a PhD directly in France or International, or work directly in the industrial sector.

2- The Ecole des Mines offers mainly an Engineer degree. The reason is that the Ecole des Mines depends on the Ministère de l’Economie, de l’Industrie et du Numérique. The Engineer Degree at Mines-Albi is taught in French at present. It is accredited by the French CTI (Commission du Titre d'Ingénieur). It is very much appreciated in France by industrials.

The level of Adpharming degree and Engineer degree is the same, in terms of academic credits after the French baccalauréat (300 ECTS credits).

If you follow the Adpharming master program, you will have the chance to be taught by the same teachers and professors of our grande Ecole d'ingénieurs, and have the advantage to be internationally recognized, because Adpharming is a National degree from our Ministère de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche (accreditation in progress, to be delivered officially in July 2015, after a favourable opinion from the Ministère de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche).

The Adpharming Master program was conceived to give to the students coming from an international university similar skills to the skills of Engineers educated in a Grande Ecole in France.

**STUDENT:**

11. Could you provide me 6 highlights for the master ADPHARMING?

**ADPHARMING:**

- A unique master (120 ECTS) taught in English in France in this field
- Accredited by the ministry of Higher Education and Research for 5 years (2016)
- Mines-Albi and RAPSODEE (CNRS UMR 5302) have more than 20 years of experience in the fields of Pharmaceutical engineering (Research and Education)
- Dedicated to international foreign students
- An international Campus
- One semester outside France possible…

**STUDENT:**

12. I am 29 years old. I graduated XXX university of pharmacy in 2010. I have been working for a pharmaceutical firm for 5 years. Can I apply to this master course? :

**ADPHARMING:**
Your application is much welcome to the master ADPHARMING

**STUDENT:**

13. I have already read your introduction carefully. Thank you for your nice explanation!