What fields do they study?

UMIFRE institutes develop research programmes into the history of civilizations and the challenges of the contemporary world. These interdisciplinary programmes combine fields including history, archaeology, economics, geography, linguistics and political science, addressing essential issues from the past and present such as the climate, migration, urban planning and democratic transitions. In order to deal with the world’s complexity, they oppose science in silos and promote cross-cutting study focuses and area studies, as well as innovative investigative methods.

Some institutes are also specialized in environmental sciences (such as in Ethiopia, India and Nigeria) or in archaeology (in Afghanistan, Sudan, Turkey, Latin America, etc.).
Marc Bloch Centre (CMB)
Franco-German Institute – Historical and Social Sciences (IFRA-SHS)
Centre for Mexican and Central American Studies (CEMCA)
Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSH)
French Institute of Puducherry (IFP)
French Institute for the Near East (IFPO)
French Research Institute on Contemporary South-East Asia (IRASEC)
French Research Institute on Contemporary Maghreb (IRMC)

Legend of fields
- Contemporary
- Archeological and historical
- Urban and environmental
- Digital humanities
French Archaeological Delegation in Afghanistan (DAFA)
French Institute for Andean Studies (IFEA Andes)
French Centre for Research on Contemporary China (CEFC)
French Centre for Research in the Social Sciences (CEFRAS)
Centre for Social, Judicial and Economic Documentation and Study (CEDEJ)
French Centre for Ethiopian Studies (CFEE)
Marc Bloch Centre (CMB)
Franco-German Institute, History and Social Sciences (IFG-HSS)
Centre for Mexican and Central American Studies (CECMAC)
Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CESH)
French Institute of Puducherry (IFP)
French Institute for the Near East (IFPO)
French Institute for Research in Africa (IFRA)
French Research Centre in Jerusalem (CRFJ)
France-Japan House (MJF)
French Institute for Research in Africa (IFRA)
French Centre for Archaeology and Social Sciences (CEFAS)
French Institute for Central Asian Studies (CIFAS)
Jacques Berque Centre (CJB)
French-Russian Study Centre (CEFRI)
Institut Français of South Africa – Research (IFAS)
French Research Institute on Contemporary South-East Asia (IFASEA)
French Research Institute on the Contemporary Maghreb (IFRM)
French Institute for Anatolian Studies (IFNAS)
Maison française of Oxford (MFIO)

Roland Descamel
DAFE - Archaeologist, Central Asia expert
Michel Bonnin
CEFC - Founder of the journal Perspectives chinoises
Henry Corbin
IFRI - Philosopher and orientalist
Françoise Doucet
CEFR - Russia specialist
Mathias Guérard
IFPO & IFRI - Writer, 2015 Goncourt Prize laureate
François Houlier
IFP - Forests specialist, former President of the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), now President of Sorbonne-Paris-Cité University
Stéphane Lacroix
CEDEJ - Political scientist and specialist in political Islam
Jean-François Pérouse
IFEA Istanbul - Specialist in contemporary Turkey
Christian Robin
CFEAS - Orientalist, member of the Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres
Yevo Saint-Geours
IFEA Andes - Latin America specialist, now French Ambassador to Spain

Jessica Giraud's experience
My four-year stay at the French Institute for the Near East in Erbil was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Thanks to my field work and contact with local researchers, my work as an archaeological researcher took on all its meaning. All sorts of collaboration were possible, and research and training projects emerged naturally. I am now still an associate of the IFPO. I have created the research company Archaïos so as to continue this collaboration with my Iraqi colleagues.

Former UMIFRE members

Legend of fields
- Urban and environmental
- Digital humanities
French Archaeological Delegation in Afghanistan (DAFA)
French Institute for Andean Studies (IFEA Andes)
French Centre for Research on Contemporary China (CEFC)
French Centre for Research in the Social Sciences (CEFRAS)
Centre for Social, Judicial and Economic Documentation and Study (CEDEJ)
French Centre for Ethiopian Studies (CFEE)
Marc Bloch Centre (CMB)
Franco-German Institute – Historical and Social Sciences (IFRA-SHS)
Centre for Mexican and Central American Studies (CEMCA)
Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSH)
French Institute of Puducherry (IFP)
French Institute for the Near East (IFPO)
French Research Institute on Contemporary China (IRCEC)

French National Research Agency (ANR) projects underway and increasing numbers of ERC projects
20 researchers
150 grants available
270 doctoral students and post-docs
350 scientific events each year
600 publications per year
>630 000 works in libraries

Roland Descamel
DAFE - Archaeologist, Central Asia expert
Michel Bonnin
CEFC - Founder of the journal Perspectives chinoises
Henry Corbin
IFRI - Philosopher and orientalist
Françoise Doucet
CEFR - Russia specialist
Mathias Guérard
IFPO & IFRI - Writer, 2015 Goncourt Prize laureate
François Houlier
IFP - Forests specialist, former President of the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), now President of Sorbonne-Paris-Cité University
Stéphane Lacroix
CEDEJ - Political scientist and specialist in political Islam
Jean-François Pérouse
IFEA Istanbul - Specialist in contemporary Turkey
Christian Robin
CFEAS - Orientalist, member of the Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres
Yevo Saint-Geours
IFEA Andes - Latin America specialist, now French Ambassador to Spain

Jessica Giraud's experience
My four-year stay at the French Institute for the Near East in Erbil was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Thanks to my field work and contact with local researchers, my work as an archaeological researcher took on all its meaning. All sorts of collaboration were possible, and research and training projects emerged naturally. I am now still an associate of the IFPO. I have created the research company Archaïos so as to continue this collaboration with my Iraqi colleagues.