



HORI2M  
2024 - 2025

Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental  
Studies

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## HORI2M - Teaching profile

### Learning outcomes

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The [Master \[120\] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies](#) trains specialists in Oriental texts and civilisations, with a particular focus on one or various of the following fields: Ancient Egypt, Ancient Near East, Greek language, Biblical languages, Byzantium, Medieval Middle East, Islam and the Arab World, India. By working on original sources, this course develops an ability to produce precise and rigorous analyses, guided by a critical mind-set and intellectual independence, with a view to interpreting an author's ideas or a question relating to societal issue in its context.

These qualities will enable access to employment outside the strict domain of ancient languages and literatures.

The challenge for students, in an immediate civilisation such as ours, is to promote the rigorous analysis of facts on the basis of primary sources and from a long-term perspective.

On successful completion of this programme, each student is able to :

#### **1. Become expert in and apply knowledge in the specific field of Oriental languages and literature.**

- 1.1. Attain expert knowledge of one or more Oriental languages including their vocabulary, grammar (morphology and syntax) and dialectology, their synchronous operation and their diachronic development.
- 1.2. Apply knowledge of vocabulary and grammar to Oriental texts, within the framework of different activities: translations and prior transliteration, individual research, preparation of oral presentations and production of written work.
- 1.3. Acquire an in-depth knowledge of Oriental works of literature and their authors, by mastering the tools and methods used in the analysis and interpretation of these texts.
- 1.4. Understand the mechanisms for communicating Oriental texts, from their originals (epigraphy, palaeography) to the modern versions.

#### **2. Develop a scientific approach to Oriental societies and cultures in connection with the languages and literatures studied.**

- 2.1. Achieve an in-depth knowledge of the history of the Oriental world (institutions, societies, philosophy, religions and cultures).
- 2.2. Situate texts in their cultural and historical contexts with a view to extracting information from them relevant to an historical reconstruction project.
- 2.3. Become expert in comparative approaches to linguistics, literature, culture and religion.
- 2.4. Create links between cultural traditions, between languages as a means of expression and between the past and present.
- 2.5. Depending upon the two sections chosen, widening their knowledge in the field of Near-Eastern and Ancient Egyptian archaeology,

## Programme structure

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				Year	
				1	2
● LGLOR2773	Asianic Languages (Elamite, Hurrian)	Jan Tavernier	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] ⓘ ⓘ	x	x
⊗ LGLOR2511	History and Culture of the Ancient Near East	Jan Tavernier			



## LIST OF FOCUSES

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> [Research Focus](#) [ en-prog-2024-hori2m-lhori220a ]

> [Professional Focus : Europe and the East](#) [ en-prog-2024-hori2m-lhori222s ]

## RESEARCH FOCUS [30.0]

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This focus deals with advanced Oriental philology. Individual work, seminars and course, closely linked with the student's research project as developed in his/her dissertation, provide an introduction to the work of a researcher.

Students should take the Research and Science Communication Seminars (10 credits) and chooses 20 credits from the advanced courses.

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
- ⊖ Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
- 🚫 Not open to incoming exchange students
- (FR) Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)

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[Click on the course title to see detailed informations \(objectives, methods, evaluation...\)](#)

Year

1 2

### ○ Content:

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#### ○ Research Seminar (10 credits)





Year



**PROFESSIONAL FOCUS : EUROPE AND THE EAST [30.0]**

This focus studies the historical, political and cultural relations between Europe and the East. Individual assignments and course seminars related to students' own research projects for their thesis, enable them to gain a profile as a regional specialist who could work in different sectors (national or regional governments etc., European institutions, cultural organisations, diplomacy, journalism, tourism, research, etc.).

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
- ⊖ Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
- 🚫 Not open to incoming exchange students
- (FR) Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)

Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

Year

1 2

**o Content:****o Politique, société et économie européennes (15 credits)**

15 credits to be chosen from:

⊗ LEUSL2012 External Action of the European Union



## Supplementary classes

**To access this Master, students must have a good command of certain subjects. If this is not the case, in the first annual block of their Masters programme, students must take supplementary classes chosen by the faculty to satisfy course prerequisites.**

### What is a preparatory module?

It is a set of supplementary classes (courses, practical works, seminars, etc.) from the first cycle (see the non-exhaustive list below). The complementary module (maximum 60 credits) is tailor-made by the jury according to the student's educational background and added to the Master's programme in order to acquire fundamental knowledge to then pursue the 120 credits of the Master's programme.

### Who is it for?

- Students from a non-university higher education institution
- Candidates admitted with additional training
- Candidates admitted on the file with additional training

All the explanations are in [this document](#) (in French).

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
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- Activity with requisites
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- 🚫 Not open to incoming exchange students
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Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

### ○ Introduction to Ancient Studies (5 credits)

○ LGLOR1210	<a href="#">Seminar: Introduction to Ancient Studies</a>	<a href="#">Aline Smeesters</a>	EN [q1+q2] [45h] [5 Credits] 🌐
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### ○ Sections



## Course prerequisites

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There are no prerequisites between course units (CUs) for this programme, i.e. the programme activity (course unit, CU) whose learning outcomes are to be certified and the corresponding credits awarded by the jury before registration in another CU.

## The programme's courses and learning outcomes

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For each UCLouvain training programme, a [reference framework of learning outcomes](#) specifies the skills expected of every graduate on completion of the programme. Course unit descriptions specify targeted learning outcomes, as well as the unit's contribution to reference framework of learning outcomes.

## HORI2M - Information

### Access Requirements

Master course admission requirements are defined by the French Community of Belgium Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the higher education landscape and the academic organisation of courses.

General and specific admission requirements for this programme must be satisfied at the time of enrolling at the university.

Unless explicitly mentioned, the bachelor's, master's and licentiate degrees listed in this table or on this page are to be understood as those issued by an institution of the French, Flemish or German-speaking Community, or by the Royal Military Academy.

**In the event of the divergence between the different linguistic versions of the present conditions, the French version shall prevail.**

#### SUMMARY

- > [General access requirements](#)
- > [Specific access requirements](#)
- > [University Bachelors](#)
- > [Non university Bachelors](#)
- > [Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree](#)
- > [Holders of a non-University 2nd cycle degree](#)
- > [Access based on validation of professional experience](#)
- > [Access based on application](#)
- > [Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration](#)

### Specific access requirements

1° Student must hold a first level university degree.

2° Candidates who do not hold a higher education diploma from the French Community of Belgium (or from a country where French is the only official language) must provide proof of sufficient mastery of the French language at level **B2** of the [Common European Framework of Reference](#).

In the absence of an official certificate issued by an organization recognized as a full member by ALTE (see <https://alte.org/Our-Full-Members>), a certificate issued by the University showing that the student has been taught in French may be accepted.

Examples of tests recognized by the jury for French: [DELF](#) or [TCF](#).

3° Candidates must be able to provide proof of prior knowledge of at least one ancient Oriental language studied in the [Bachelier en langues et lettres anciennes, orientation orientales](#).

Candidates must provide proof of competence in the following subjects:

- Ancient oriental culture and civilisation;
- Ancient oriental history and society;
- Ancient oriental language and literature;
- Human sciences (philosophy, history of Antiquity, arts and civilisations, source criticism, etc.);
- Language science, modern languages and literature.

Les 30 credits of the [Minor in Antiquity: Egypt, Eastern World, Greece, Rome](#), the [Minor in Oriental Studies](#) or the [Minor in Arabic language and Islamic civilization](#) may satisfy these requirements.

In the absence of sufficient training in one or several of these subjects, prerequisites will be added to the student's master's programme (15 to 60 credits). This [preparatory module](#) will be made up by the jury (small panel) according to the student's previous studies.

Course equivalences are submitted for approval to the jury (small panel).

### University Bachelors

Others Bachelors of the French speaking Community of Belgium			
Bachelor in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies	Having studied two fields in the bachelor's programme (among Ancient Egypt, Ancient Near East, Greek, Biblical languages, Byzantium, Medieval Near East, Islam and the Arab world and/or India) allowing the choice of two sections in the master's programme	Access with additional training	Maximum 60 credits of <a href="#">supplementary classes</a> integrated into the master's programme  If the UCLouvain Admissions Office considers the enrolment application sufficiently complete, it will submit the application to the faculty for a decision.
Other bachelor		<a href="#">Access based on application</a>	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult <a href="#">Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration</a> )
Bachelors of the Dutch speaking Community of Belgium			
Bachelor in de Oosterse talen en culturen (including the study of ancient oriental languages) Bachelor in de Taal- en regiostudies (including the study of ancient oriental languages)		<a href="#">Access based on application</a>	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult <a href="#">Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration</a> )
Foreign Bachelors			
Bachelor in Languages and Literatures Bachelor in History, in Art History and in Archeology		<a href="#">Access based on application</a>	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the students educational background (consult <a href="#">Acces on the file</a> )

## Non university Bachelors

> Find out more about [links](#) to the university

Only applicable to graduates of higher education institutions of the French Community of Belgium

## Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
"Licenciés"			
Licence en langues et littératures orientales		<a href="#">Access based on application</a>	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult <a href="#">Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration</a> )
Masters			
<a href="#">Master [60] in Ancient Languages and Literatures : Oriental Studies</a>		Direct access	Programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult <a href="#">Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration</a> )  Taking into account the student's educational background will allow 45 to 60 credits to be exempted.
<a href="#">Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies</a> , second focus		Direct access	At the end of Master 120, each focus of the <a href="#">Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies</a>



Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Classics	Access based on application	can be obtained in a new programme of 30 credits. Programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult <a href="#">Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration</a> )
Foreign Masters	Access based on application	All candidates must ensure that they meet the specific access requirements. In case of admission, maximum 60 credits of supplementary classes integrated into the Master's programme (consult Acces on the file).

## Holders of a non-University 2nd cycle degree

Only applicable to graduates of higher education institutions of the French Community of Belgium

## Access based on validation of professional experience

> It is possible, under certain conditions, to use one's personal and professional experience to enter a university course without having the required qualifications. However, validation of prior experience does not automatically apply to all courses. Find out more about [Validation of priori experience](#).

Candidates who do not fulfil the abovementioned admission requirements, but who have duly attested significant experience relevant to the field of study in question, may apply for admission to the programme on the basis of an individualised admission procedure.

For more information on the procedure for admission by validation of learning from experience (VAE) in the Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters: <https://uclouvain.be/fr/facultes/fial/valorisation-des-acquis-de-l-experience-vae.html>.

## Access based on application

Access based on application : access may be granted either directly or on the condition of completing additional courses of a maximum of 60 ECTS credits, or refused.

### Admissibility criteria

A candidate's application will be deemed admissible if it meets all of the following criteria:

- Candidate's diploma issued by an **institution recognized by WHED** (see <https://www.whed.net/home.php>)
- Previous course of study including **at least 3 years of higher education** (equivalent to 180 European credits), leading to an undergraduate degree;
- For holders of a **degree from outside Belgium**:

1. an overall average of at least 60% (12/20) for the entire course of study completed at the home institution and giving access to this program;
2. official attestation of proficiency in language(s) at the required level (see specific entry requirements), to be attached to the application file. The official attestation must be issued by an organization recognized as a full member by ALTE (see <https://alte.org/Our-Full-Members>).

If a document is missing from the online application, it must be justified (see [UCLouvain Enrolment Department's frequently asked questions](#), in particular "What do I do if my online application asks for a document I don't yet have?")

Applications deemed admissible are forwarded to the Faculty by Enrolment Services. Applications that do not meet these criteria are automatically rejected.

### Eligibility criteria

Applications submitted to the Faculty by UCLouvain's Enrolment Department are examined by the program's jury in accordance with the specific conditions of access detailed above.

The jury decides on the admissibility of candidates on the basis of the information contained in their application file, the quality of the training they have undergone and the results they have obtained.

- **Original covering letter.** An original covering letter is expected, explaining the personal training project. Any plagiarism or use of artificial intelligence in writing the letter to the jury will result in the application being disqualified.
- **Experience gained.** If the access diploma was obtained more than 5 years ago, it is imperative that the experience acquired since leaving school is directly related to the field of study of the programme applied for.

Changes to the conditions of access to the Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters for 2025-2026 will be available in this [document](#) .

## Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration



- Administrative director : Valérie Loutsch

Commission(s) of programme

- Ecole d'histoire, arts et cultures ([EHAC](#))

Academic supervisor: [Jan Tavernier](#)

Jury

- President: [Sébastien Moureau](#)
- Secretary: [Jan Tavernier](#)
- 3rd member of the small panel: [Aaron Kachuck](#)

Useful Contact(s)

- For further information: [info-fial@uclouvain.be](mailto:info-fial@uclouvain.be)

