



HORI2M - Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

The [Master \[120\] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies](#) focuses on the ability to analyse and analyse Oriental texts in a critical way in the original language. It provides the tools necessary for a contextual reading of texts and gives an introduction to the most up to date research techniques in the fields being studied. The courses on advanced issues, personal assignments and seminars offer direct contact with the most recent research in these areas.

Your profile

You

- have demonstrated your liking for Oriental literary and linguistic subjects;
- have a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Letters or Philosophy or Theology and you have discovered a strong interest in the ancient Orient;
- are looking for a training course which will allow you to make up your programme according to your areas of interest;
- wish to gain knowledge of the ancient Orient through reading original sources.

Your future job

Our graduates work in the private and public sectors as well as research. They have various jobs and roles; their training has given them the necessary flexibility, the rigour and the ability to learn.

The intellectual rigour and open-mindedness which they acquire during the training enables them to make their mark rapidly in their work environment, even if they do not necessarily already have all the specific technical skills.

Your programme

The Master's degree offers you

- methodological training which is both demanding and applied;
- an à la carte programme of specialisation linked to the latest progress in research;
- learning based on the acquisition of recent tools in oriental philology;
- wide interdisciplinary range : history, archaeology, philosophy, etc.;
- the possibility of a study visit abroad and taking part in the work of research teams.

HORI2M - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

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, in the field of Jewish, Christian and Muslim studies (including modern Arabic), or in the field of modern Asian cultures (including modern Chinese).

3. Successfully complete an individual research assignment in the field of Oriental languages and literatures and present the results.

- 3.1. Collect data using the appropriate heuristic tools, with a view to establishing a relevant corpus of primary sources (in Oriental languages), translating those texts and analysing them critically, and creating and using a relevant bibliography of secondary sources.
- 3.2. Develop a methodology specific to the subject being studied and implement it in the handling of that subject.
- 3.3. Deal with a well-defined subject: provide a specific question, define an issue, produce clear and structured arguments and formulate results.
- 3.4. Examine a theme by demonstrating its origins, development, circulation and possible permanency within Oriental literature.
- 3.5. Communicate the results of an individual research assignment in writing which fulfils the formal drafting requirements (referenced citations, language and style, structure and layout).
- 3.6. Communicate the results of individual research work orally and adapt that communication to the target audience.

4. Acquire and develop general skills which can be used in a professional environment.

- 4.1. Employ the knowledge acquired in the different fields of the humanities, with a view to conducting an in-depth analysis of facts, documents, speeches or issues.
- 4.2. Manage all types of data: gather and analyse data, classify it and evaluate its relevance.
- 4.3. Implement a critical approach: identify the original sources of the data, assess their value and analyse their impact.
- 4.4. Demonstrate the ability to summarize: efficiently analyse the data inherent to a situation or a question with a view to drawing the most appropriate conclusions or solutions from them.
- 4.5. Acquire the independence necessary to practise lifelong independent learning.

5. If the Research Focus is chosen: develop a scientific approach in Oriental philology centred upon research.

- 5.1. Develop expert knowledge in comparative linguistics and literature, as a result of studying texts written in Oriental languages which are not (or cannot be) taught in other Belgian universities.
- 5.2. Produce a critical edition of the texts.
- 5.3. Examine historical questions which call for the use of sources in various Oriental languages.

6. If the Professional Focus: Europe and the East is chosen: become a specialist in the historical, political, economic and cultural relationships which exist between Europe and the East.

- 6.1. Contextualize the political, economic and cultural relationships existing between Europe and the East in the period, identifying the historical roots of current phenomena or situations.
- 6.2. Give a relevant opinion in current debates relating to relationships between Europe and the East.
- 6.3.

Work in different sectors such as national or regional governments, European institutions, cultural services, diplomatic corps, journalism, tourism, research.

Programme structure



x

				Year	
				1	2
⌘ LGLOR2521	History and Culture: Byzantium, Armenia, Georgia		10 [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] > English-friendly	x	x
⌘ LGLOR2522	History and culture of the medieval Near East		10 [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] > English-friendly	x	x
⌘ LGLOR2921	Seminar of Oriental Christianity		10 [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] > English-friendly	x	x

LIST OF FOCUSES

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

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

RESEARCH FOCUS [30.0]

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, ...)

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

Year

1 2

o **Content:**

o **Research Seminar (10 credits)**

Year

1 2

LTURC1300		X	[q1+q2] [90h] [5 Credits]	Year	
⌘ LTURC1300	Turkish -	Level	[q1+q2] [90h] [5 Credits]	1	2
				X	X

X LTURC1300

X LTURC1300

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...)

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Year

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).

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- △ ⊕ 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...)

○ Introduction to Ancient Studies (5 credits)

○ LGLOR1210	Seminar: Introduction to Ancient Studies	Aline Smeesters	EN [q1+q2] [45h] [5 Credits] 🌐
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○ Sections

Two sections to be chosen in order to be at the level of two Master's sections, taking into account the prerequisites indicated in the description of these courses.

description of these courses.

⌘ LGLOR1322

Greek III B

Audrey Mathys

Course prerequisites

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

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

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 supplementary classes 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		Access based on application	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration)
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)		Access based on application	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration)
Foreign Bachelors			
Bachelor in Languages and Literatures Bachelor in History, in Art History and in Archeology		Access based on application	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the students educational background (consult Acces on the file)

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		Access based on application	In case of admission, programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration)
Masters			
Master [60] in Ancient Languages and Literatures : Oriental Studies		Direct access	Programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration) Taking into account the student's educational background will allow 45 to 60 credits to be exempted.
Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies , second focus		Direct access	At the end of Master 120, each focus of the Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies

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 Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration)
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 in their application file, the following criteria:

- **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

Teaching method

The different paths available to students allow them to shape their own training in line with their skills and interests and, in this way, to have relative autonomy in their training programme. The various different areas of study and the research focus together provide a series of coherent and high quality courses.

- Methods to promote interdisciplinarity: in the 120 credit Master's programme, the choice of the sections (directed towards the interdisciplinary courses in the programme which complement the purely philological part of the training) is a key factor
- Variety of teaching methods (including e-learning): use of multi-media for classical languages.
- Range of learning situations: individual and group work, seminars and lectures.

Evaluation

The evaluation methods comply with the [regulations concerning studies and exams](#). More detailed explanation of the modalities specific to each learning unit are available on their description sheets under the heading "Learning outcomes evaluation method".

Written and oral exams aim to measure skills acquired and the student's communicative know-how and aptitude.

Some subjects, geared towards developing research skills and skills in personal criticism, are the subject of presentations and discussions spread over the year (permanent assessment).

Courses are evaluated according to current university regulations (see General Examination Regulations). Students may find further information on specific evaluation methods in the course descriptions.

To obtain a student's average, the grades awarded for each course unit are weighted by their respective credits.

Mobility and/or Internationalisation outlook

Students pursuing a [Master \[120\] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies](#) may, as part of their studies, undertake:

- Administrative director : Valérie Loutsch

Commission(s) of programme

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

Academic supervisor: Sébastien Moureau

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

