

COURSE DETAIL

NATION AND IDENTITY: THE IDEA OF FRANCE

Country

United Kingdom - England

Host Institution

King's College London

Program(s)

King's College London

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

English Comparative Literature

UCEAP Course Number

121

UCEAP Course Suffix

N

UCEAP Official Title

NATION AND IDENTITY: THE IDEA OF FRANCE

UCEAP Transcript Title

NATION&ID: FRANCE

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

Conventional histories of French literature usually begin with the *Chanson de Roland* (c.1100), which is viewed as an inaugural text for a great tradition of national literature that runs smoothly through to the present and fosters a timeless ideal of France. However, this vision does not stand up to scrutiny – the “idea of France” turns out to be retroactive and fluid from the outset, then heavily contingent, in the post-medieval period, on changes of regime, on differences of class, gender, education or ethnicity, and on general cultural and political trends such as (to name but a few examples) Jacobinism, Romanticism, Republicanism, Fascism, Communism. This course examines how “France” and French national identity is constructed by studying a selection of key French literary texts from a variety of periods, including a postcolonial reflection on what it means to be “French.”

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

5AAFF252

Host Institution Course Title

NATION AND IDENTITY: THE IDEA OF FRANCE

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/abroad/module-options/the-idea-of-france-1>

Host Institution Campus

King's College London/ Strand Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Arts and Humanities

Course Last Reviewed

2022-2023

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