

# 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**

5A AFF252

### **Host Institution Course Title**

NATION AND IDENTITY: THE IDEA OF FRANCE

### **Host Institution Campus**

King's College London/ Strand Campus

### **Host Institution Faculty**

### **Host Institution Degree**

### **Host Institution Department**

Arts and Humanities

[Print](#)