

COURSE DETAIL

POST-1945 EUROPEAN LITERATURE

Country

United Kingdom - England

Host Institution

University College London

Program(s)

University College London

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

European Studies Comparative Literature

UCEAP Course Number

123

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

POST-1945 EUROPEAN LITERATURE

UCEAP Transcript Title

POST-1945 EURO LIT

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

In this course, students study works by four leading exponents of modern detective fiction. Didier Daeninckx's MURDER IN MEMORIAM provoked heated debate when it was published in 1984 because it stirred up memories of events – especially during World War II and the Algerian war – that France had been trying hard to repress. Manuel Vázquez-Montalbán's TATTOO (1975), as well as being a prime example of modern noir, presents a stinging critique of the dirty realities of Franco's Spain. DEATH IN FLORENCE by Marco Vichi, set against the backdrop of the devastating Florence flood of 1966, explores the dark underside of the city that offers a very different public face to the world: Inspector Bordelli investigates the murder and rape of a young boy, and is drawn into a network of neo-Fascists, Masons, paedophiles and drug-traffickers. Henning Mankell's FACELESS KILLERS (1992) sees the first appearance of his famous detective Wallander. In this bleak novel, the detective has to contend not only with a case that presents precious few clues but also with a rising climate of racial hatred and right-wing extremism. Students learn much about the 20th-century history of France, Italy, Spain, and Sweden, and are given a firm grounding in the narratology of classic detective fiction (i.e. a technical understanding of how “plot” is constructed) that prepares them for other literary studies.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

ELCS0040

Host Institution Course Title

POST-1945 EUROPEAN LITERATURE

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

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