

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

