

# COURSE DETAIL

## CONSPIRACY THEORIES AND DEMOCRACY

**Country**

United Kingdom - England

**Host Institution**

King's College London

**Program(s)**

English Universities, King's College London

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Sociology

**UCEAP Course Number**

172

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

CONSPIRACY THEORIES AND DEMOCRACY

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

CONSPIR THRY&DEMRCY

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

## Course Description

This course explores the facts that some conspiracy theories are popularly believed and increasingly "mainstream" rather than the reserve of small, outlying minority groups. It examines the kinds of assumptions and logical errors that help to construct identifiable conspiracy theories, and how these can also be seen in a whole range of other analyses and explanations, from contemporary political debates to the essays of academics and students. Conspiracy theories prosper, in part, because they involve the hijacking of heuristics and intellectual habits which are usually thought to be desirable: scepticism, worldly cynicism, and an interest in subtext and the less-visible causes of events. This course examines the phenomenon of conspiracy theories, and evaluates their implications for contemporary democracy. Students construct a conspiracy theory of their own, before demonstrating their ability to recognize, critique, and "debunk" conspiratorial reasoning.

## Language(s) of Instruction

English

## Host Institution Course Number

5ABLCF03

## Host Institution Course Title

CONSPIRACY THEORIES AND DEMOCRACY

## Host Institution Course Details

## Host Institution Campus

King's College London

## Host Institution Faculty

## Host Institution Degree

## Host Institution Department

Liberal Arts

## Course Last Reviewed

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