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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