

COURSE DETAIL

DEBATING FICTION: BETWEEN LITERATURE AND ETHICS

Country

France

Host Institution

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)

Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Comparative Literature

UCEAP Course Number

107

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

DEBATING FICTION: BETWEEN LITERATURE AND ETHICS

UCEAP Transcript Title

DEBATING FICTION

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course is part of the “ethical turn” in literary studies. It posits that reading great works of fiction offers us a vicarious moral and political experience that can be discussed collectively. Learning to debate fiction means confronting our interpretations of the characters' motivations, analyzing the effects of narrative devices on us, and comparing our spontaneous judgments. It means using great works as a vehicle for genuine democratic conversation about our political disagreements and differences in moral sensibilities. The theme that serves as the guiding thread is the dilemmas faced and choices made by fictional characters. Because literature is also an archive of moral sensibilities that are no longer our own, the effort to comment on and give meaning to dilemmas that we no longer understand can shed light on our own values.

Language(s) of Instruction

French

Host Institution Course Number

CHUM 25F54

Host Institution Course Title

DES CHOIX POUR LA VIE ? DEBATTRE DE ET AVEC LA FICTION, ENTRE LITTERATURE ET ETHIQUE

Host Institution Course Details

<https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/en/?202520/291233>

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Seminar

Host Institution Department

Humanities

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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