

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910154672903321
Autore	Kors Alan Charles
Titolo	Epicureans and atheists in France, 1650-1729 // Alan Charles Kors [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2016
ISBN	1-316-68330-3 1-316-68492-X 1-316-68519-5 1-316-68546-2 1-316-68654-X 1-316-68573-X 1-316-45098-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (ix, 242 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	194
Soggetti	Epicureans (Greek philosophy) Atheism - France - History - 17th century Atheism - France - History - 18th century France Intellectual life 17th century France Intellectual life 18th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 06 Jun 2016).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Reading Epicurus -- The Epicureans -- At the boundaries of unbelief -- Historians, atheists, and historical atheists.
Sommario/riassunto	Atheism was the most foundational challenge to early-modern French certainties. Theologians and philosophers labelled such atheism as absurd, confident that neither the fact nor behaviour of nature was explicable without reference to God. The alternative was a categorical naturalism, whose most extreme form was Epicureanism. The dynamics of the Christian learned world, however, which this book explains, allowed the wide dissemination of the Epicurean argument. By the end of the seventeenth century, atheism achieved real voice and life. This book examines the Epicurean inheritance and explains what constituted actual atheistic thinking in early-modern France, distinguishing such

categorical unbelief from other challenges to orthodox beliefs. Without understanding the actual context and convergence of the inheritance, scholarship, protocols, and polemical modes of orthodox culture, the early-modern generation and dissemination of atheism are inexplicable. This book brings to life both early-modern French Christian learned culture and the atheists who emerged from its intellectual vitality.

---