

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910458456103321
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Titolo	A short history of French literature [[electronic resource] /] / Sarah Kay, Terence Cave, Malcolm Bowie
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Oxford University Press, 2006
ISBN	1-280-75655-1 0-19-151845-X 0-19-151622-8 1-4294-7109-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (357 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	CaveTerence BowieMalcolm <1943-2007.>
Disciplina	840.9
Soggetti	French literature - History and criticism Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published in 2003.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [317]-324) and index.
Nota di contenuto	CONTENTS; LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS; INTRODUCTION: THE LONG VIEW; PART I. THE MIDDLE AGES: FROM THE EARLIEST TEXTS TO 1470; OVERVIEW OF THE PERIOD; THE PERIOD IN CLOSE-UP; PART II. THE EARLY MODERN PERIOD: 1470-1789; OVERVIEW OF THE PERIOD; THE PERIOD IN CLOSE-UP; PART III. THE MODERN PERIOD: 1789-2000; OVERVIEW OF THE PERIOD; THE PERIOD IN CLOSE-UP; POSTFACE; SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING; SOURCES OF QUOTATIONS; INDEX; B; C; D; F; H; L; M; P; R; S; T; Z
Sommario/riassunto	This book traces the history of French literature from its beginnings to the present. Within its remarkably brief compass, it offers a wide-ranging, personal, and detailed account of major writers and movements. Developments in French literature are presented in an innovative way, not as an even sequence of literary events but as a series of stories told at varying pace and with different kinds of focus. Readers can thus take in the broad sweep of historical change, grasp the main characteristics of major periods, or enjoy a close appraisal of individual works and their contexts. The book is

