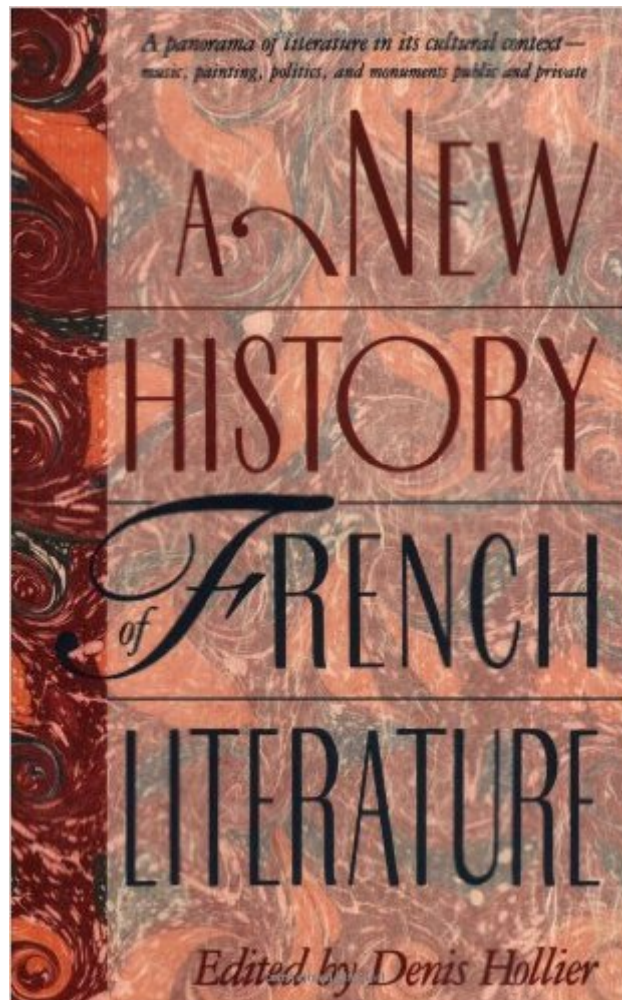


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# A New History Of French Literature



## Synopsis

This splendid introduction to French literature from 842 A.D. to the present decade is the most imaginative single-volume guide to the French literary tradition available in English. Conceived for the general reader, this volume presents French literature not as a simple inventory of authors or titles, but rather as a historical and cultural field viewed from a wide array of contemporary critical perspectives. The book consists of 164 essays by American and European scholars, and covers the history of French literature from 842 to 1989.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The book is very interesting and very well written. It is composed of individual articles and essays rather than chapters, which makes it very refreshing. In this book, French Literature is placed in its historical, political, social, and philosophical context. This approach allows the reader to make more sense of the authors as well the texts. Literature is also viewed in the context of other artistic manifestations as well as in its different media. The only downside that I found is that, since the book does not aim to be exhaustive, some authors do not seem to find their place in it, Duras and Yourcenar for example.

I offer this review to move the needle. This book deserves more than one rating of four stars. I've relied on it for years. It provides studied insights into major works and illuminates so much more than does the Cambridge series, which reads like a listing. Some of the essays irritate me as much

as some of the voices I heard as a grad student in French literature...driven by ideology. But others are focused and worthwhile for setting the pieces within their historical and philosophical contexts.

You can't study French literature and not have this book. I've used it for my graduate studies exams to give myself a better overview of trends as well as specific authors. Professors always recommend it so that shows you how valuable and current it still is.

This is a very extensive anthology of essays contributed by the top literary theorists and historians in the field. It's a must-read for students of French literature and culture, and the essays are each short enough to be easily digested.

This is an excellent book and superb reference. It shipped quickly and without any issues. I would recommend this purchase to others.

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