

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	1
Chapter 1—The <i>Académie française</i>: Theory of Uniqueness, Mystique of Attraction and Tests of Worth	13
History of the <i>Académie française</i> and its Influence outside of France	20
The Power of the <i>Academic</i> Myth and the Reality of its Pursuit	23
Chapter 2—The <i>Académie française</i> and Indirect Exclusions	29
Class matters	29
Gender matters	30
Ethnicity and Religion matter	38
Nationality matters	46
Ideology and Politics matter	47
Chapter 3—Literal Exclusions: From <i>Academically</i> Exclusive to Social Disgrace	63
Chapter 4—The <i>Dictionnaire de l'Académie</i> and its Meaning	69
Chapter 5—The <i>Académie</i> and Frenchness before the 18th-Century	73
Chapter 6—Heritage of the <i>Academic</i> Accomplishments: The 17th-Century in the Rhetoric of French Uniqueness and Purity in the 20th	97
Chapter 7—The <i>Académie</i>, Europe and the Colonial Rhetoric on Race Separation	119

Chapter 8–The 18th-Century: Philosophers and Church Men in the <i>Académie</i>	133
Key Agents of the Enlightenment in the 18 th -Century <i>Académie</i> : Saint-Pierre, Montesquieu, Voltaire	136
Consequences of the 18 th -Century “Europe française”: Influence of the <i>Académie française</i> and outside Reactions to it	141
Economy of the Struggles in the <i>Académie</i> before the Revolution and Developments Thereafter	148
Defending the Anciens beyond the Revolution into the Empire: the Case of abbé (later Cardinal) Maury	156
Chapter 9–The 19th-Century: Modern Imperialism and Academic Discourse	161
Hugo on Napoleon	163
Alfred de Vigny: Challenger of the <i>Académie</i>	166
Alfred de Musset	184
Emile Littré	186
Alexandre Dumas fils	188
Renan and the Ending 19 th -Century	190
The Bridge of the Centuries: Technology, Nationality and Race	191
Chapter 10–The 20th-Century: Colonialism and Internationalism	197
Nationalism, Race, and Issues of Creativity and Influence	197
About Leading Europe and Directing Western Civilization	204
Theorizing Race and Ethnicity as the Defining Elements of Imagined Communities	217
Civilization and its Others: Rhetoric on the Role of Race in ‘Distinguished’ Accomplishments	224
Conclusion	259
Bibliography	271
Index	275