

Fall/Winter 2017-2018

AP/EN 1202 6.0A (Y)

Satire

Course Director:

Dr. Natalie Neill
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Delivery Format:

Lecture + Tutorial

Time:

Lecture: Tuesdays, 8:30am - 10:30am
Tutorial 1: Tuesdays, 10:30am - 11:30am
Tutorial 2: Tuesdays, 11:30am - 12:30pm
Tutorial 3: Tuesdays, 10:30am - 11:30am
Tutorial 4: Tuesdays, 11:30am - 12:30pm

Description:

Satire is an art form that uses ridicule and defamiliarization to expose folly and criticize dominant cultural trends. In this General Education course, students will be introduced to the history of satire through a chronological survey of key satirical writings. We will examine the many techniques that satirists have employed through the ages, as well as the social contexts that inspired their rebellious humour. We will focus on three ancient kinds of satire— Horatian, Juvenalian, and Menippean—and explore how they persisted from classical times to the present day. Satire will be observed operating within a broad range of forms and media, from poetry, novels, plays, and short stories, to films, TV, and the Internet. The satires will be approached from both a craft perspective and an audience-response perspective. In other words, we will consider both how the satires are written (or otherwise created) and the specific reactions they elicit from readers or viewers. Students will learn about the important kinds, devices, and targets of satire. Students will also acquire a good understanding of the historical development of satire and the key issues that attend the creation and reception of satiric texts. More broadly, students will develop and refine their close reading, critical thinking, and essay-writing skills. Henceforth, students will appreciate, and possibly create, contemporary satire.

Category:

NA

Area:

NA

Period:

NA

Historical Requirement:

NA

Requirements:

Essay 1 (in tutorial) - 10%
Essay 2 (5-6 pages) - 20%
Essay 3 (6-8 pages) - 30%
Final exam - 25%
Tutorial participation - 15%

Reading List:**Texts to purchase (in reading order):**

Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels* (Oxford World's Classics)
Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey* (Vintage Classics)
Edwin A. Abbott, *Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions* (Dover)
Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Dover)
Anita Loos, *Gentleman Prefer Blondes* (Liveright)
Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale* (Seal Press)
Salman Rushdie, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* (Penguin)
Suzanne Collins, *The Hunger Games* (Scholastic)

Additional shorter readings (i.e, satirical short stories, poems, essays, speeches, and cartoons) will be collected in a course kit.

In addition, students will be responsible for *Dr. Strangelove*; or, *How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (dir. Kubrick) and *Get Out* (dir. Peele). The films will be screened in class and will also be available in Scott's Sound and Moving Image Library.

Open To:

All year levels