

FW 2022-23

AP/EN 3193 6.0B (Y)	<i>Studies in Satire</i>
Course Director:	Name: Nemanja Protic Office: 720 Atkinson Ext. e-mail: nprotic@yorku.ca
Time:	Lecture: Thursdays, 16:00 – 19:00
Delivery Format:	LECTURE/TUTORIALS
Description:	<p>The last two decades have been, in many ways, <i>yet another</i> golden age of satire. Cartoon sitcoms like <i>The Simpsons</i>, <i>Family Guy</i>, and <i>Bob's Burgers</i> have been gracing our screens for 32, 20, and 12 years, respectively. Films like <i>Get Out</i> (2017), <i>The Wolf of Wall Street</i> (2013), and <i>Deadpool</i> (2016) – all belonging to different genres – use satire as their principal narrative mode. Satirists like John Stewart, Samantha Bee, Stephen Colbert, Larry Wilmore, and Sacha Baron Cohen have garnered immense popularity on television and in film. And in the realm of recent literature, the work of celebrated authors like Chuck Palahniuk, Salman Rushdie, and Paul Beatty has built on the work of 20th century satirists like Kurt Vonnegut, Evelyn Waugh, and Dorothy Parker.</p> <p>At the same time, satire is often viewed as a lesser literary form: Literature's dirty little secret described at times as a genre, at times as a method or a mode, at times as an attitude or a discourse. This conceptual and functional plasticity points to satire's rich and long history, often linked to popular forms of art.</p> <p>This course explores this history as well as satire's multifaceted and elusive nature by exploring 4 types of satire (Juvenalian, Horatian, Menippean, and grotesque) all of which in different ways call attention to and deride human folly, hubris, and wickedness. The course also aims to enrich our understanding of this literary form by considering concepts, forms, and genres that border and often intersect with satire: from pastiche and parody, farce and comedy, to irony, caricature, and camp.</p> <p>In doing this work, we will focus on a variety of literary works, films, and visual art and comics spanning the long 20th century (c. 1880 – today). We will supplement our discussion of these texts with examples of classical, medieval, and early modern satire. These earlier texts, as we will see, provide a literary backdrop and a set of literary elements, images, and methods that our 20th century texts draw upon and rework to elaborate a particularly modern form of satire.</p>
Category:	B
Historical Requirement:	N/A

<p>Requirements:</p>	<p>TENTATIVE ASSIGNMENT BREAKDOWN (subject to change):</p> <p>Reading responses: four short (300 – 400 word) responses per term (20%)</p> <p>First term essay (15%)</p> <p>Mid-term test (10%)</p> <p>Second term essay (25%)</p> <p>Take-home exam (20%)</p> <p>Tutorial participation (10%)</p>
<p>Reading List:</p>	<p>TENTATIVE READING LIST (subject to change):</p> <p>Literary texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mark Twain, <i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> - Fyodor Dostoevsky, <i>The Double</i> - Virginia Woolf, <i>Orlando</i> - Ralph Ellison, <i>The Invisible Man</i> - Hunter S. Thompson, <i>Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas</i> - Daniel Clowes, <i>Ghost World</i> - NoViolet Bulawayo, <i>Glory</i> - Paul Beatty, <i>Sellout</i> <p>Cartoons & Films:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selected scenes from <i>The Simpsons</i>, <i>Family Guy</i>, and <i>Bob's Burgers</i> - Monty Python's <i>Life of Brian</i> - Spike Lee's <i>Chi-Raq</i> <p>Supplemental texts (mostly short selections):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aristophanes, <i>Lysistrata</i> - Juvenal, <i>Satires</i> (selections) - Horace, <i>Satires</i> (selections) - Francois Rabelais, <i>Gargantua and Pantagruel</i> (selections) - Jonathan Swift, "A Modest Proposal" - Alexander Pope, <i>The Dunciad</i> (selections) - Samuel Johnson, "Vanity of Human Wishes" (selections) - Lord Byron, <i>Don Juan</i> (selections) <p>Lectures will also present and engage with visual material from satirical magazines and pamphlets, underground and mainstream comics, and satirical shows and artists.</p>
<p>Open To:</p>	<p>YR 2/3/4</p>