

Course Outline: Satire

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.

Course Code

AP/EN 1202 6.0

Course Description

Satire is an art form that uses ridicule and defamiliarization to expose folly and criticize dominant cultural trends. This course introduces students to the history of satire through a chronological survey of key satirical texts. 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 novels, short stories, and cartoons to film, TV, and the Internet. Satire will be approached from 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.

Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: Lecture and tutorials

Course Materials

Book List (Tentative)

- Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels* (Oxford World's Classics)
- Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey* (Modern Library)
- Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (Oxford World's Classics)
- George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Penguin)
- Evelyn Waugh, *The Loved One* (Penguin)
- Ira Levin, *The Stepford Wives* (HarperCollins)
- Suzanne Collins, *The Hunger Games* (Scholastic)
- Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, *Friday Black* (HarperCollins)

Additional shorter readings by Horace, Juvenal, Swift, Twain, Bradbury, Douglas, Gorey, Le Guin, Butler, Beaton or others will be posted under the appropriate week on eClass.

Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Participation in tutorials (contributions to class discussions; class activities)	15%	In person	Weekly
Essay 1 (in tutorial)	15%	In person	TBA (middle of fall term)
Essay 2 (1,250-1,500 words)	25%	Take home	TBA (end of fall term)
Essay 3 (1,750-2,000 words), with Creative Option	30%	Take home	TBA (end of winter term)
Final Test	15%	In person	TBA (during formal exam period)
	100%		

Category:	N/A
Historical Requirement:	N/A
Open To:	Yr 1, 2 LAPS students