

CLA 3930: Satire

Fall 2015 – Instructor: Dr. Biagio Santorelli

Time and Location

MWF 7, [Griffin-Floyd Hall](#) (FLO) 100

Description and Goals

Satire is not merely a literary genre: it is a clue to understanding world and society. Its scope is the reality of everyday life; its main characters are ordinary men and women; its stylistic register is everyday language. Under the veil of a biting sarcasm or an affable irony, the satiric poet has the sole aim of representing the world around him: his verses will smile facing the vagaries of human nature, try to amend the vices of human behavior, or fly into a rage because of the impossibility of this mission.

Ancient satire is an entirely Roman genre. In this class we will survey its history, starting with its folkloric origins; we will examine the extant fragments of the first satirists, Ennius and Lucilius, then will focus on the *Satires* of Horace, Persius, and Juvenal. Literary works close to satire, like Martial's *Epigrams*, Seneca's *Apocolocyntosis* and Petronius' *Satyrikon* will be taken into account as well.

The purpose of this class is to teach students *how* and *why* to read ancient satire: we will enjoy the irony and sarcasm of its outermost layer, but will use them as a guide to read the world that shaped the work of the ancient satirists.

Recommended texts

Before the course begins, I will provide the enrolled students with a complete package of translations and commentaries on the Latin texts we will read in class. The following texts are recommended as a support in preparing your assignments:

Editions and Translations

- E.H. Warmington, *Remains of Old Latin*, Volume III: *Lucilius. The Twelve Tables*, Cambridge MA 1938.
- H. Rushton Fairclough, *Horace: Satires. Epistles. The Art of Poetry*, Cambridge MA 1926.
- S. Morton Braund, *Juvenal and Persius*, Cambridge MA 2004.

Commentaries

- E. Gowers, *Horace: Satires, Book I*, Cambridge 2012.
- S. Morton Braund, *Juvenal: Book I*, Cambridge 1996.
- L. Watson–P. Watson, *Juvenal: Satire 6*, Cambridge 2014.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic
1	Aug. 24	The origin of Roman Satire
	Aug. 26	Ennius
	Aug. 28	Lucilius
2	Aug. 31	Horace: Sat. I 1
	Sep. 2	Horace: Sat. I 2
	Sep. 4	Horace: Sat. I 3
3	Sep. 9	Horace: Sat. I 4
	Sep. 11	Horace: Sat. I 5
4	Sep. 14	Horace: Sat. I 6
	Sep. 16	Horace: Sat. I 7
	Sep. 18	Horace: Sat. I 8-9
5	Sep. 21	Horace: Sat. I 10
	Sep. 23	Horace: Sat. II 1
	Sep. 25	Horace: Sat. II 2
6	Sep. 28	Horace: Sat. II 3 (ll. 1-162)
	Sep. 30	Horace: Sat. II 3 (ll. 163-326)
	Oct. 2	Horace: Sat. II 4
7	Oct. 5	Horace: Sat. II 5-6
	Oct. 7	Horace: Sat. II 7-8
	Oct. 9	Persius: <i>Choliambi</i> + Sat. 1
8	Oct. 12	Persius: Sat. 2-3
	Oct. 14	Persius: Sat. 4-5 (online activity 1)
	Oct. 16	Persius: Sat. 6 (online activity 2)
9	Oct. 19	Midterm Exam
	Oct. 21	Self-evaluation and review
	Oct. 23	Juvenal: Sat. 1
10	Oct. 26	Juvenal: Sat. 2
	Oct. 28	Juvenal: Sat. 3 (selected passages)
	Oct. 30	Juvenal: Sat. 4
11	Nov. 2	Juvenal: Sat. 5
	Nov. 4	Juvenal: Sat. 6 (ll. 1-351, selected passages)
12	Nov. 9	Juvenal: Sat. 6 (ll. 352-661, selected passages)
	Nov. 13	Juvenal: Sat. 7
13	Nov. 16	Juvenal: Sat. 8
	Nov. 18	Juvenal: Sat. 9
	Nov. 20	Juvenal: Sat. 10

14	Nov. 23	Juvenal: Sat. 11
	Nov. 30	Juvenal: Sat. 12
15	Dec. 2	Juvenal: Sat. 13
	Dec. 4	Juvenal: Sat. 14
16	Dec. 7	Juvenal: Sat. 15-16
	Dec. 9	Conclusions

Course requirements and grades

All the texts listed in the schedule above are to be read in English translation. Students are expected to read the required readings in advance and be prepared to engage in a informed and critical discussion on each class. Your grades will be based, first of all, on two equally weighted exams (midterm and final). In addition, 9 quizzes and 2 online activities will be administered in Canvas during the course (see the Assignment's page for more information).

- 9 quizzes: 30%
- Midterm Exam: 30%
- 2 online activities: 10%
- Final Exam: 30%

Grading Scale

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
E	below 60

Attendance and General Course Policy

- **Attendance.** Students are expected to attend class regularly.
- **Honor Code.** Students in CLA3930 are expected to comply with the [Academic Honor Code](#) of the University of Florida.
- **Disclaimer on Sexual and Religious Content.** As ancient attitudes towards sexuality and religion differ considerably from ours, some of the material examined in this course may result offensive to modern sensibility. Students who have a problem in dealing with such topics should consult with the instructor.

ADA requirements

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. For information about services available to students with special needs, contact the [Disability Resource Center](#).

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.