

Timeline: Roman Satire and Its Influence

(Dates in some cases are approximate)

BCE

700–540	Greek iambic poetry, Archilochus through Hipponax
440–405	Greek Old Comedy, Eupolis, Cratinus, Aristophanes
320–250	Greek New Comedy, Menander
315–245	Bion of Borysthenes in Athens
305(?)–240	Callimachus, poet and librarian of the Ptolemaic court at Alexandria
300–250(?)	Menippus of Gadara
239–169	Quintus Ennius
168/7(?)–102	Gaius Lucilius
116–27	M. Terentius Varro, 150 books of “Menippean” satires
84–54(?)	Catullus
65	Horace (Quintus Horatius Flaccus) born
42	Battle of Philippi, M. Antonius and Octavian defeat Brutus
35	Horace’s First Book of <i>Satires</i> (<i>Sermones</i>) published
31	Battle of Actium, Octavian defeats M. Antonius
30–29	Book 2 of Horace’s <i>Satires</i> and his book of <i>Epodes</i> published
27	Octavian designated “Augustus”
23	Books 1–3 of Horace’s <i>Odes</i> published
20	Book 1 of Horace’s <i>Epistles</i> published
18–13(?)	Book 2 of Horace’s <i>Epistles</i> published

15(?)	Phaedrus, freedman of Augustus, born
13	Book 4 of Horace's <i>Odes</i> published
8	Horace's death
CE	
14	Death of Augustus
14–37	Reign of Tiberius
34	Persius (Aulus Persius Flaccus) born
37–41	Reign of Gaius (Caligula)
41–54	Reign of Claudius
54	Accession of Nero, deification of Claudius
62	Death of Persius
65–6	Suicides of Seneca and Petronius
67(?)	Birth of Juvenal
68	Suicide of Nero
69	Year of four emperors
69–81	Reigns of Vespasian and Titus
81–96	Reign of Domitian
86–96	Martial in Rome, composes <i>Epigrams</i> Books 1–10
98	Accession of Trajan
100–130	Juvenal's <i>Satires</i>
117	Death of Trajan, accession of Hadrian
180	Lucian, <i>Dialogues of the Dead</i> , <i>Icaromenippus</i>
361	Julian "the Apostate," <i>The Caesars</i>
410–430	Martianus Capella (fl.), <i>Marriage of Philology and Mercury</i>
467–532	Fulgentius, <i>Mythologies</i>
524	Boethius executed, <i>Consolation of Philosophy</i>
1387–1400	Chaucer, <i>Wife of Bath's Tale</i>
1460–1529	John Skelton
1509	Erasmus, <i>The Praise of Folly</i>
1532	Rabelais, <i>Gargantua and Pantagruel</i>
1558–1625	Thomas Lodge
1572–1631	John Donne
1572–1637	Ben Jonson
1574–1656	Joseph Hall
1575–1634	John Marston
1599	Bishops' ban against the publication of satires
1601	Ben Jonson, <i>Poetaster</i>
1605	Isaac Casaubon, <i>De Satyrica Graecorum et Satira Romanorum</i>

1631–1700	John Dryden
1660s	Nicolas Boileau-Despréaux, imitations of Horace's <i>Satires</i>
1667–1745	Jonathan Swift
1675	John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, <i>Allusion to Horace</i>
1688–1744	Alexander Pope
1693	John Dryden, <i>Discourse on Satire</i>
1709–1784	Samuel Johnson
1726	Jonathan Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>
1728	Alexander Pope, <i>Dunciad</i>
1731–1764	Charles Churchill
1732	Pope begins <i>Imitations of Horace</i>
1749	Samuel Johnson, <i>The Vanity of Human Wishes</i>