Appendix 20.3. "Satiric Remix" Assignment Sheet

To supplement our ongoing study of satire and our consideration of remixing as a form of media production, you now have the opportunity to apply your knowledge by creating a satiric remix of online content. Creating a satiric remix of online content will require you to do the following.

Identify Topics, Targets, and Criticisms

As we know, satire is all about targeting and critiquing specific aspects of society to promote change. Therefore, to create your own satire, you'll need to identify a topic to address and then a relevant figure, group, institution, or organization you can critique to help you address your chosen topic. And, of course, you'll need to determine exactly what criticism you'll make.

Identify Potential Online Content

In light of your topics, targets, and criticisms, you'll need to consider what webpage you'll remix. Pages within the websites of sports news outlets (e.g., ESPN) are ripe for remixing, as are pages within sites funded by athletes, teams, and institutions (e.g., NCAA). Ultimately, your topics, targets, and criticisms will help you locate pages to remix and content to add.

Consider Satiric Techniques

Next, you'll need to consider what satiric techniques can assist you in making your critique. Based on our work to date, consider how techniques such as exaggeration, understatement, reversal, parody, and incongruity—when applied to a webpage or online news article—might help you critique your intended target and address the topic in the ways you intend.

Remix Online Content

After completing the steps above, you'll need to draft your satiric remix. How might you appropriate preexisting content to make your critique? How might you alter headlines or images in ways that support you in effectively plying the satirist's craft? You'll need to use what you've learned about Mozilla's X-Ray Goggles to remix online content and generate a fresh satire in which you call attention to a pressing social issue and promote change.

Students crafting successful satiric remixes will . . .

- remix online content (i.e., effectively alter preexisting headlines, content, and images) in ways that advance their cause;
- produce texts in which the topics, targets, and criticisms are apparent;
- employ common satiric techniques to comment on contemporary social issues; and
- generate texts that, considered holistically, are effective in calling attention to contemporary social issues.