

Abstract

This thesis aims to examine the journalistic approaches in three American political satire television shows – The Daily Show, Last Week Tonight and The Late Show. The author searches the common features of the three examined shows, tries to characterize them, and place them into the media context of the United States of America. The author describes to the reader how these shows, through political satire, combine opinion journalism, investigative journalism and humour. Because this thesis deals with American shows, it mostly uses foreign professional literature. This work has two large parts – theoretical and practical. In the theoretical passage, the author tries to define satire as a genre, mentions its use in politics and the relationship satire plays between journalism and humour. The theoretical part continues with the description of the particular journalistic approaches used in these shows and contains the explanation of the position of the examined shows in regards to the approaches these shows use bordering between investigative journalism and comedic humour. In the practical part the examined shows are being analyzed, in the first instance the author describes the construction and composition of these shows, and then documents his claims on concrete evidence. The practical part uses video materials and its transcriptions to a large extent. The author tries to illustrate the shows through picture attachments.