

Apollo of Springfield: *The Simpsons* as a Modern Epidaurus

In the golden age of television, one comedic show has demonstrated its longevity and willingness to incorporate a vast number of sources into its program. The *Simpsons*, which is currently the longest-running animated TV show, has a reputation of drawing from ancient history and mythology to describe the antics of America's favorite dysfunctional family. In this paper, I shall explore the various instances in which the *Simpsons* have drawn from ancient history and mythology and what this indicates for the reception and survival of classical studies. To accomplish this goal, I shall explain how some episodes of the *Simpsons* (like the “Lemon of Troy” episode) retell an ancient myth but in a modern modality. In other episodes (such as “Regarding Margie”) there are only instances of history that would cause any classicist to laugh. By exploring these and other episodes of the *Simpsons*, I hope to show how even in the golden age of television, the study of classics still has relevance and shows like the *Simpsons*, in their own way, ensure the survival of this great academic discipline.