

### Preliminary Web Course Description

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

## School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: <b>ENGL 4270-01</b>	Course Title: <b>United States Literatures</b>	Date of Offering: <b>Fall 2017</b>
Course Instructor: G. Campbell		School of English and Theatre Studies
<p><b>Brief Course Synopsis:</b></p> <p>American cable television has been making huge contributions to popular culture with the freedom generated by the pay-per-channel medium. We shall study a number of series that have changed the nature of television, including <u>The Sopranos</u> (Season 1), <u>The Wire</u> (Season 1), <u>Homeland</u> (Season 1) and <u>Girls</u> (Season 1). We shall study the decisive role writing plays in the development of a show's seasonal arc, and the effects on the medium as a whole in the switch from entertainment to serious drama. Network television is either on the decline or forced to compete. We shall explore basic issues in media studies and television criticism as well as recent criticism that deals specifically with these shows.</p>		
Course Format: Seminar/ discussion	<p><b>Methods of Evaluation and Weights:</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Seminar Presentation 25%</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Short Paper 15%</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Long Paper 35%</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Research Project 25%</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(total wordage 4500-6000)</p>	
<p>Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)</p> <p>TBA</p>		
<p><b>Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):</b></p> <p>This course is worth 1.0 credits and fits the 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century distribution requirement. Student input is welcome for the ongoing design of this course.</p>		