

CTCS 564:

“THE WIRE”

Dr. Todd Boyd

Wednesdays, 1:00pm - 3:50pm & 4:00pm - 6:50pm



This course will study one of the most critically acclaimed shows in the history of television, David Simon HBO's series *The Wire* (2002-2008). Using the themes, characters, plot lines, and overall aesthetic of the series, the course will focus on broader discussions of various issues illuminated by this landmark series. These issues include; the politics of urban America, the representation of police and law enforcement in film and television, “the war on drugs,” institutional decline in America, and “prestige television,” among other topics. In addition to studying the various seasons of *The Wire*, the course will also include screenings of feature films and documentaries, such as *Training Day* (2001), *Dirty Harry* (1971), *The Departed* (2006), *Traffic* (2000), and *Let the Fire Burn* (2014), among other titles.