

## THE CONTEMPORARY TELEVISION SERIES

An engaging and provocative study of the contemporary prime-time 'quality' serial television format, this book gives a timely account of prominent programmes such as *The X-Files*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *ER*, *The Sopranos* and *The West Wing* and explores their influential position within the television industry.

Divided into the areas of history, aesthetics and reception, the text provides an illuminating overview of an increasingly hybrid television studies discipline. Chapters consider the formal and aesthetics elements in the contemporary television serial through approaches ranging from those concerned with issues of gender and sexuality, national identity, and reception to industry history and textual analysis. The book also includes British examples of 'quality' serial television, emphasising not only their cultural specificity but also the transnational context in which these programmes operate.

### Features :

- Section introductions provide student-friendly explanations of the various approaches and methodologies employed in the book.
- Chapters are written by an international team of experts in the field of television student.
- Ideal for use as a textbook on undergraduate courses in contemporary television.

