

Talking through *The Wire*

Session 8

Saturday, October 11

3:00-5:00

Texas Governor's Room

How does *The Wire* generate or expand conversations about issues traditionally engaged in television studies— notions of narrative and psychological complexity, quality television, representations of race/class/sexuality, serial television, place/geographic specificity, and "authorship?" Does the series say something new in these regards? More broadly, does the show facilitate conversations about politics and society in ways rarely addressed by politicians and the mass media? That is, can this series enliven and/or re-engage the governmental infrastructure in discussions of entrenched social problems?