

Research Paper Requirements (w/Topic Suggestions)

Your Researched Analysis Essay (due in Module 7) will require you to work with Frank Miller's *The Dark Knight Returns* graphic novel and *at least* two sources (several are provided in this course's Modules) to complete a research-based analysis. The subject of your analysis is up to you. You are also welcome to incorporate sources outside out the ones provided in the class (including videos and outside works that contribute to your analysis) Some topic suggestions include:

- Compare/Contrast Batman with a classic literary hero (no comic book or movie-exclusive characters - they must have a literary basis!)
- The Dark Knight Returns & The Hero's Journey
- Batman: Revenge or Justice? Hero or hypocrite?
- Themes of the novel (Man vs Gods, Cold War, Implications of a Police State, etc.)

Keep in mind: **your approach is entirely up to you!!**

The requirements for this essay include:

- 500 word minimum
- Use of *at least* two outside sources
- In-Text Citations (Novel & Sources)
- Works Cited Page (Novel & Sources Used)

(**Note:** *If a source appears on your works cited page,*

there **must** be a corresponding in-text citation in the essay!)

- Heading & Page Numbers
- **Third Person Only** (No "I" or "You" statements)
- Free of Major Grammatical Errors (Students are *strongly encouraged* to submit drafts to Brainfuse for review.)
 - Essays will be thoroughly checked for originality. Plagiarism will result in *significant* penalties.
 - You may seek out and implement additional sources not provided in the class!

You will also complete and submit an Annotated Bibliography based on the sources used in your paper. The Bibliography is a separate assignment from the Research Paper but is considered a key component of this activity.

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