

Batman Capstone

Research -

Ok so after doing my first day of research I've come to the idea that batman is who he is because of his loss, his courage, commitment, fear, and morals. He has those feelings because his parents died for no reason at a young age. Bruce Wayne aka Batman experienced these horrible things so he felt he had to do something about it and fix Gotham' because if there was a hero his parents may have survived. Bruce Wayne became the man he had to be to save his city.

The urge for revenge and vengeance followed him his entire life but along the way, he adopted this one rule "Batman Doesn't Kill" in any and every situation Batman does not kill. "When you don't want to kill you become a person who wants everybody to live" - Superman

This quote defines why Batman is so interesting because his villains always come back for him. Who is the Batman? Batman is a one-of-a-kind superhero because he pretends to be a bad person but inside he is a good guy. He does this so he does not develop any emotional relationships' which is a good thing if he wants to stay as the Batman for the greater good. Bruce Wayne is not selfish which is why he sees the world in a different way than most people he sees it as his happiness isn't worth as much as the greater good protecting the city being the Batman.

What do the villains mean to Batman / Bruce Wayne? - They mean everything to what Batman is' each of his villains has a specific trait that defines them. The villains represent something very unique; they all try to contradict Batman's morals to lure him into their hands as without a Batman the city is theirs. I like the Batman villains because they are so interesting and believable like a lot of them could be real people. Most of them resemble psychologically insane personalities. When I think of supervillains I think of the Joker, The Riddler, Mr. Freeze, all these Batman villains. After all, they are so interesting, almost because they are somewhat relatable' because they remind me of myself, of my personality, and they remind me of the real world. I believe that the riddler is the greatest Batman villain even better than Joker because the Riddler is based on the Zodiac Killer. He's based on an actual person so theoretically he is part of the real world as an idea. The Riddler is arguably the smartest villain in the DC universe but I'm not going to go there. I'm just going to say why I like him as a villain. I think the idea of someone knowing who you are before your identity is even revealed to anyone is kinda scary because that means someone is one step ahead of you and that's who the Riddler is' he will always try to be smarter to test Batman's intelligence to the point where he wants to die. There is no greater feeling than to figure out you beat someone to a point of no return and that's what the Riddler tries to do to Batman.

Batman is defined as a protector of the city of Gotham but he seems to be stuck in the place where his parents died because he doesn't want to move on. He wants to fight the evil that killed his family. These villains come after Batman as someone to kill to take over the city because there's been this developed idea that the police can't do much against psychopaths such as the Joker, Riddler, Penguin, Scarecrow, etc... Batman is who stands between life and death for the city of Gotham.

The one thing that made me intrigued about him was the fact that when Wonder Woman put the lasso of truth around Batman and asked who he was and he said Batman, not Bruce Wayne which adds a lot to this idea that Bruce Wayne is truly Batman and he sacrificed his social life to be the protector of a hopeful city. Gotham is kind of a representation of Batman's fears and attachments.

There's something very unique about Batman in the comics. It's the fact that he will do anything to make sure he doesn't kill anyone even if they keep coming back or if they are threatening someone he loves. At the end of the day, this makes Batman a man who wants to save everyone regardless of who or what they are.

In the movie Batman (1989) The no-kill rule isn't as important to him as in the comics but he is almost a completely different character. I think this because the director doesn't focus too much on the comics as how Batman became the Batman is supposed to be a mystery but they make it so the Joker killed his parents. Which changes a lot about his origin and who he is personally.

Every Batman movie presents a different take on Batman but some of those stories represent a completely different character. Batman can be seen as a completely different character/person and still be Batman because you can do anything with Batman and it works because there's no set standard for him except the Dark knight Returns comic which in general created the Batman we all know and love today. What's unique about the movies is that it's a condensed story' I mean that by well the Batman comic stories are much longer, and can represent a never-ending story while in the movies something has to end. What's represented on the big screen is sometimes all people see which to me is crazy but that is a fact. The movies mean a lot to some of the fans and little to others but they represent the part of Batman that the majority sees. Sometimes the movie Batman does things that others might not such as in the comic Batman or TV show Batman-like killing people. This morale changes Batman's character which is why I said he's a different person/batman.

What separates the video game Batman from the movies is something very unique. It's something that to me represented the Batman I believe is truly Batman. If Batman kills his identity collapses he doesn't feel like Batman anymore and it haunts him for the rest of his life' however in the movies killing doesn't haunt him which doesn't make sense because Batman's whole motto is that he doesn't kill. Batman kills himself at the end of Arkham Knight which he does to save Gotham from his family, and citizens and keep the villains from knowing who he is or who will protect the city. This propels a ton of confusion throughout the city of Gotham. Batman has multiple chances in Arkham Asylum to kill the Joker but it goes against his morals which is what makes him Batman. In Arkham City, he accidentally kills the joker in a fight with

Clayface so he's confused about which one is the joker and which is Clayface. This accident breaks him. This difference between the video games and the movies presents a very interesting dilemma: why does he kill on the big screen but not on purpose on the smaller one. I feel like this fact separates the two Batmans significantly.

So the 'no-kill rule' sure is a generic rule but it's hard to keep and very hard to control especially when it's way easier to kill than to keep them alive. This one rule is what defines Batman and how he fights his villains. The point of Batman is to be the savior of Gotham and to be a representation of the best in all of us. This rule of no killing is something that no matter what he is a hero because he saved the day and didn't kill anyone. While this is controversial in some comics, movies, shows, and games' overall Batman doesn't kill. Or at least the best representation of Batman isn't a killer.

How do we learn? (Both you and Batman learn through making mistakes and persevering!) Everyone makes mistakes but I learn from my mistakes so does Batman but these mistakes allow us to be better than we were before. How do we learn? We learn from the bad things we do. They make us realize what's wrong and what's right. It's really hard to go through life without making mistakes because they can come up so often even if we didn't mean it to happen. We are humans and our lives are just as hard as it is to be a perfect person because being perfect is often regarded as something we can't become. Batman is such a good superhero because he's just a normal guy and we know that he goes through the same things we do because he's human and has emotions.

We as a whole learn from other people and certain actions in life' these cause us to become better people but for Batman all he has is Robin and that's not always because in the comics sometimes he is almost completely alone. Life can be very different when the only outside perspective is the media and some people at his company.

What can we create? (Batman's gadgets; If you put your mind to it the possibilities are endless!) Everyone creates their own thing. That makes them unique because when it comes to gadgets they are a representation of yourself. What can I create is a question I ask myself every day because I want to make my legacy something I can be proud of. To me creativity is always something that comes from your side, it's your passion and your dreams. Batman however represents the idea that you can create anything if you put your mind to it which I think is why he has so many gadgets. It's a representation of Batman's imagination and strives to take down the bad guys in his way. It's really fun to think about what we can create in a world where creativity is hard to come by because so much has been created already. In the city of Gotham however, the possibilities are endless. The one thing to me that separates Batman's creativity from everyone else is his desire to work by himself' without really trusting anyone, basically being a lone ranger. Batman essentially in Gotham is the difference between anarchy and a safe city. Batman is everything. His gadgets make him a one-of-a-kind superhero because he can manufacture something that gives him a way to get around things without killing anybody. What does it mean to create? Well for starters it means to create something in a place where

creativity is needed or desired and this type of creativity can go from finding ways to make a better world or content that people enjoy. Being creative is something that can be defined in many ways. But most of all being creative comes from your imagination and thinking outside of the box.

What does it mean to lead? (How does Batman lead? What does mentorship mean to Batman and you? How is Batman responsible for his community? How are you responsible for your community? How does Batman use his privilege to protect others?) Truly what does it mean to lead me and to Batman? It means to give hope to people that you will lead them to a better tomorrow whether it be my friends or Batman's sidekicks. They both need some sort of guidance or help in life so they have hope that you can lead. Being a leader means you have to stand up for what you believe in and the people around you regardless of what happens if you have their back most likely you can be a leader. It means a lot to lead in situations of life or death which I'm sure most people have either been in one or knew somebody who has. In these types of situations, leadership can help more than people think as you could end up saving someone's life if you try to help them or protect them. There's a lot that goes into this philosophy of leadership and protecting the innocent, something that Batman does every day of his life with the utmost importance of saving people from death. For me, however, leadership means how you can lead people into better life situations or help your friends out with stuff, or even just helping the family out in tough times. A lot of those require some sort of leadership and I plan to carry that out in those situations.

What I hope to gain from this capstone is something that will show me what truly good research looks like and how to combine different sources, connect ideas and prove my theory that Batman is truly the greatest superhero. What can I say, the dark knight is one of the most iconic characters from my childhood. He reminds me of someone who, no matter what, will strive to protect and save the people of Gotham. Batman's privilege of being a guy who didn't have to work for his money and status but received it from his parents then built up his unique status of being a hero like Batman and Bruce Wayne. However, with his no-kill rule, it seems like he never wants to end someone's life to save others, and looks like he's just beating up poor people for fame and glory. The thing with that is those people are criminals but from a certain perspective you could say they just need help instead of being beaten up by Batman all the time' if he tried to mentally help them maybe they might change. I do think Batman does try to help them sometimes, just is more inclined to fight and arrest them as criminals. The reason it's so hard to say is mainly that well the police aren't that helpful either in terms of trying to help these criminals out psychologically.

Throughout the history of the character, he has evolved from one point to another spanning over 80years one of the most iconic superheroes of all time because he is one of the most realistic heroes to this time because he's just a guy fighting psychologically crazy people there will never be a hero with greater villains than Batman because none could feel so real and inspired off actual people/types of people. There's something unique about just believing the hero will find a way no matter what but with Batman, he always gets back up from something he should have

died from like when he got up after Bane broke his ribs. Time and time again Batman is broken but he always finds a way even if there is no hope left. Batman doesn't need hope because he has to be the Batman to protect this city because no one else will "in the right way." The reason Batman is like this I believe is because since his parents got killed when he was such a young age the only true way he could fight is if he protected that from ever happening to someone else in the city he was born in. Mentally I think that is the only way to cope with something like that besides revenge because revenge is a "neverending void of bad decisions."

I want to get a feeling of accomplishment out of this capstone because this is something that I've wanted to do for a long time to express what I have loved for so many years but have never really shown. This feeling has driven me to the decisions I've made for this project even if I got sidetracked a bunch of times. There isn't a better way for me to show that I can do research on something besides this project.

Why did I do this project and why is Batman the greatest superhero of all time? Well, that is a question worth taking a lot of time to explain. First of all, I decided to make this my focus for my capstone project because of an inner urge to do something I have never done before. It's a true feeling that I have only felt a few times. People might think it was weird to do something like this but when you feel in your heart which is the right decision there isn't much of a choice. It was almost like my destiny to complete this project.

Batman from my point of view is more than a superhero, he's a symbol of hope, one that represents a society built on the hope that Batman will save you. However, he can't save everybody but that's not fair because life is a game of choice. People rip Batman for beating up on poor people but if someone got robbed and scared to death and Batman beats them up but they happen to be poor doesn't mean that everyone he fights is poor. The greatest always gives us things to remember. The greatest have the most memorable stories and make pathways for other amazing characters "unforgettable characters" because you can't talk about superheroes without mentioning Batman. Sure there's more to greatness than just reputation but you can't deny that Batman is one of the coolest superheroes of all time spanning from insane suits to crazy cars while "not killing" any of his enemies to an extent. There's always more to greatness than what's on the cover. We don't have any powers and neither does Batman.

Throughout my research, I've noticed that people like to compare Batman to other superheroes that don't have anything in common if we're talking about their gadgets and abilities. Batman is very unique. What he brings to the table is truly something that people will always remember the great comics, games, shows, movies, and most of all the music oh my god the music is amazing, especially for the atmosphere that brings this feeling of the Batman to life. If I could only say one thing about Batman that would make you want to see more of the character it would definitely be that the villains are so freaking interesting there is no other superhero that

has such an interesting lineup of supervillains because almost every single one of them is perfection and some even based off real people it's what makes Batman feel so realistic. Anyone could be Batman but not anyone could be superman or spiderman because these superheroes have actual powers' something batman lacks which isn't a bad thing it just makes him normal like us. This is why I think he's more of a hero than any other superhero. Batman doesn't believe killing is the solution however he wants everyone to have a second chance because without a chance to make up for the bad things you've done you will never know if that person was good after all.

TV shows - If there's a specific type of entertainment on tv that gives us really complex stories it's through tv shows and Batman the animated series does numbers on that providing a really engaging plot. It takes a lot of inspiration from Tim Burton's Batman. Ok, so the Batman tv shows have all tried different takes on the dark knight, some with the justice league, some with robin, and some by himself as usual. However, with Batman, they tend to use him in almost anything because there's no set personality he has to bear. More or so there is a preferred one' being the dark knight inspired from the dark knight returns comic. Most notably these Batman TV shows bring versions of Batman from the comics we don't get to see on the big screen to our televisions at home which is something I genuinely admire especially since these shows mostly have great storytelling because the source material is beyond interesting. There's nothing like watching a good Batman TV show because you get a different perspective. It's something so unique about making a TV show' you can lengthen the story which puts a lot of pressure on the director's back because they can use all the source material without having to remove parts of it.

Video Games - Every Batman video game has a certain tone to it whether it be the lego games or the Arkham games they both represent a version of Batman in a more in-depth way. I say this because well you play as Batman "you are Batman" essentially. You decide what Batman does in these situations and how he fights. There is no one way to play Batman games because the games present us with multiple ways to get past a section. What I love about the Arkham games is that we get to embark on a story told by this gritty and unforgiving atmosphere of Batman's villains. The biggest comparison between the Games and other types of visual representations of Batman is well the shows have great storytelling' the games do also. The movies have good action scenes as do the games, the comics present us with unforgettable moments and characters well the games do the same. We get to play these experiences in our own ways and I think that is something truly special.

Movies - Batman movies tend to have a more Hollywood approach to them especially when it comes to some aspects like the 'no-kill rule' Batman kills in the movies but it stays with him forever most of the time especially when the story is good. All the directors who made a Batman film have taken their own vision of Batman and put it on the big screen for us to see. Whether we like it or not is up to us but overall Batman films tend to be good. With the exception of 2 bad ones. We love to see Batman's villains on the big screen however they reuse the Joker a bit too much but it is fun to see a different take on the Joker every few years because the characters can change completely depending on the director. What I hate about the movies is that they make it seem as if you need to have a fast narrative when having a slow-paced film with great action and adventure for a Batman film works a lot better. I don't like Hollywood because they develop too many annoying standards. Overall seeing Batman on the big screen is a joy to behold even if it's not my cup of tea.

Comics - Most of all the comics are the birthplace of Batman the greatest superhero of our time but why? It's because each and every superhero has a set personality or way that they are seen by the public' "basically and identity" while throughout Batman's history in the comics his personality went from dark to childish humor and back to dark. There was a brief period in time when Batman was just seen as a superhero kids liked and nothing more. Now today he is one of the most beloved superheroes ever with a long line of great villains, gadgets, sidekicks, movies, tv shows, games, and most of all different stories. We've most likely all heard something interesting about Batman but I almost guarantee everything Batman is associated with has something to do with the comics even if it's only a tiny bit. The source material has some of the most interesting and compelling narratives told through the eyes of a different Batman.

Podcast - *After the podcast has been fully recorded and finished I will thoroughly edit it adding effects and sounds.*

Podcast will be split up into sections

First - *the character overall*

Second - *the Villains*

Third - *the Sidekicks*

Fourth - *the Gadgets and Suits*

Sixth - the media perception of Batman and the movies

Seventh - the Shows

Eighth - the Games

Ninth - Finally the History of Batman and Conclusion

Personally - Batman' that character means more to me than anyone superhero or thing could. Because he's a character I have a connection with one who inspires me to be the hero of the story even if the odds are against me in every possible way in the games I play. Batman is somewhat of a role model to me in the darkest of times at the lowest points in my life. It's because I'm able to escape into a world free from my depression and anxiety where I can try to feel good about myself.

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Mello, Nicole, and Nicole Mello (326 Articles Published)

Nicole Mello is an

author of horrors. "Batman: All of His Origin Stories in the Comics (in Chronological Order)." CBR, 5 Dec. 2020,

<https://www.cbr.com/batman-comic-book-origin-stories-in-order/>.

The storyline for the different eras of Batman is probably the most important thing for this project because of the information I can get from this source and how it might be able to help me gather ideas to form a really good presentation. This storyline is pretty much what defines Batman because it's who he is and who he becomes. A Lot of these stories are unique in their own ways' sometimes according to the time. The origin stories define who these characters are and where they came from, who they are meant to be and what changed them. Those topics will be present in my project to explain what they mean for the time, the character batman himself, and what they truly mean.

Juliet-Childers. "Every Single Batman Suit & Costume, in Chronological Order." CBR, 8 Oct.

2020, <https://www.cbr.com/every-batman-suit-costume-chronological-order/>.

This source provides information about every Batman suit and costume ever in chronological order. I am probably going to heavily rely on this information for my capstone project. Each suit is a point of reference from a certain era where those things were popular like there's a lot of

references to the past with the costumes. The designs of all of the suits are mostly completely different because of the fans' perception of different costumes and corporate decisions. A Lot of these Suits and Costumes are the way they are because of the time' and what people seem to like at that time but some of these batmans are very different and unique to the time like the Zebra Batman.

"Batman." *Batman Wiki*, <https://batman.fandom.com/wiki/Batman>.

The Batman wiki gives me access to everything Batman has ever done in the comics, movies and games. It's basically going to be the Catalyst for this project and all it contains. I will most likely be using this site to gather small details about Batman, some things I might not find anywhere else or maybe just the basic stuff about who Batman is and what made him become what and how that character is seen today in the real world. A Lot of the modern stuff is outlined here and how the comic book character was created back in the day.

Tomar, ByAnshay. "13 Reasons Why Batman Is the Greatest Superhero Ever." *RVCJ Media*, 30 Nov. 2017, <https://www.rvcj.com/13-reasons-batman-greatest-superhero-ever/#:~:text=Because%20he's%20a%20human.,Taekwondo%20makes%20him%20a%20superhero>.

This site gives me a lot of evidence and information on why Batman is the greatest superhero' which I will use to develop my argument and thesis on this matter. Most of these reasons are things that separate him from all the other major superheroes and superheroes overall. Mainly because he is just a man who rights for justice in a costume nothing more nothing less. Also his villains are so relatable and close to real life that it gives us the fans the sense of realism but also the sense that these people don't have any superpowers they are all just people which to me it's why they are so interesting and why Batman is the greatest superhero.

"List of Batman Family Enemies." *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 23 Jan. 2022, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Batman_family_enemies.

The enemies of Batman define his choices, his actions and his accomplishments because of what he has to do to protect his family. The bat family has multiple enemies but a lot of them are from other superheroes, some because Batman worked with them or just because he got involved in the wrong thing by accident. His family got killed by random criminals so he is always paranoid about what may happen to his own family if he is careless. With the villains he has anything could happen if he isn't mindful about the possibilities that could occur in the city of Gotham.

Serafino, Jason. "The 50 Coolest Batman Gadgets." *Complex*, Complex, 17 Apr. 2020, <https://geektyrant.com/news/2012/7/18/the-50-coolest-batman-gadgets.html>.

The gadgets of Batman define the fighting situations he's in because of how he deals with his opponents. There are so many Batman gadgets that it almost makes me feel like he has one for everything for every situation. It's his determination that creates these interesting gadgets as a lot of them are the most random things you'll ever see like the shark repellent. Personally, I love

how he has so many gadgets because it makes it really fun in the games and interesting in the comics. This site mainly talks about Batman's collection of gadgets throughout the history of the character as it's been a long time with a lot of cool gadgets.

"Batman." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.,
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Batman-fictional-character>.

This site is basically an outline about the history of Batman from now to the past' connecting the past to the present in a very unique way. It shows us how his story evolved over the years and how his villains did also. What I like about this encyclopedia is that it talks about the different eras of Batman and how Batman changed over time, how he changed his costume, sidekick, personality all those things to me are very interesting. It's more or so an outline of who Batman is and how he became what he is today. It's an outline of what type of Batman media came out during the years from his first comic to his most recent movie.

Spicer, Luke. "Why Batman Is the Best Superhero." *The Horizon*,
<https://horizon.westmont.edu/6755/arts-and-entertainment/why-batman-is-the-best-superhero/>.

This site is more or so the most recent reasoning on why Batman is the best superhero because it was created in 2021. It talks about why Batman separates himself from all these other superheroes because he is the sole protector of Gotham. The difference between Batman and No Batman is chaos because of all the villains who solely are determined to fight Batman and take over Gotham at all costs but Batman always finds a way to beat his inner demons. The character of Batman has two sides Bruce Wayne and The Batman both are very interesting and have their problems but it's almost as if Bruce is the day and the Bat is the night symbolizing that he never sleeps because the city is always in need.

ComicBook. "DC Films: Evolution of the Batsuit." *DC*, Comicbook.com,
<https://comicbook.com/dc/news/dc-films-evolution-of-the-batsuit/>.

The batsuit in the films is a very different thing than the comics or the games mainly because of how cinematic they are compared to the others. These suits I think signify what kids will think about how Batman looks but the thing is usually the suits change a lot in the films. The evolution of these suits is important for my project because it shows me what designs they thought worked for Batman at the time and the movie's theme in general. This site is an outline of each batsuit and what that means for each movie and Batman's origin in each of the films.

Oloman, Jordan. "Best Batman Games of All Time Ranked." *Gamesradar*, GamesRadar+, 22 July 2021, <https://www.gamesradar.com/best-batman-games/>.

This site is a ranking of the Batman games which will be very helpful for my project because it shows me what they think about the games and I can see how it compares to what I think. For some of the research points of my capstone project, I am going to replay one of the Arkham games to see if my perspective changes about the game depending on what I now know about Batman vs what I did know. Compare and contrast my feelings about the game and the character and the perception of Batman in the games vs the comics and movies.

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