

**English 149: Networked and Multimodal Composition**  
**Spring 2015**  
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Midterm: Podcast-Batman in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Date Assigned: 1/15/15

Date Due: before class on 2/19/15

Assignment Description:

Over the first half of the semester, you will encounter a wide array of texts about Batman. For your midterm project, you and your workshop group will produce a 20-minute audio podcast in which you stage a roundtable discussion about the role of Batman in 21<sup>st</sup>-century popular culture.

A successful podcast will:

- Be uploaded directly to the course Tumblr as an mp3 file (10 MB or less) or linked to via a third-party host (such as SoundCloud) before class on **Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**.
- Analyze the ways in which media, form, and genre have impacted the transmedia construction of the Batman mythos
- Analyze the place of *at least one* text from our course materials in the context of the Batman mythos
- Analyze the place of *at least two* texts presented by your colleagues in their Tales of the Bat video presentations in the context of the Batman mythos
- Offer opinions regarding the resilience of the Batman mythos in American popular culture
- Display proficiency in sound recording and editing tools discussed during class workshops

A few podcasts to consider as examples:

(Please note that, as with most of our course projects, I don't suggest that any of these samples are perfect models, but take note of the structure and sound editing techniques they use to successfully address their rhetorical situation.)

<http://www.ethosreview.org/cultural-interventions/conversations1/>

<http://thedissolve.com/podcasts/>

<http://www.filmspotting.net>

<http://www.kcrw.com/news-culture/shows/the-treatment>

Your podcast will be graded according to the following rubric:

Requirements	Points	Comments
<p><b>Members of the workshop group analyze the ways in which media, form, and genre have impacted the transmedia construction of the Batman mythos</b></p>	25	
<p><b>The podcast treats a range of primary texts</b></p> <p><b>Expectations</b> (highlighted elements are present)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Podcast analyzes the place of <i>at least one</i> text from our course materials in the context of the Batman mythos</li> <li>• Podcast analyzes the place of <i>at least two</i> texts presented by your colleagues in their Tales of the Bat video presentations in the context of the Batman mythos</li> </ul>	25	
<p><b>Each member of the workshop group articulates opinions regarding the place of Batman in 21<sup>st</sup> century popular culture.</b></p>	20	
<p><b>Group uses audio editing techniques learned in class workshops to stage and present a coherent, professional-quality roundtable discussion.</b></p>	20	

<b>Speakers are clear, precise, and engaging.</b>	10	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	