

Daniel Petti

COG 444

Glossary Assignment

1. [T] *Bret Easton Ellis talks about writing novels, making movies* [A] **Baker, Jeff** [P] Oregon Live [D] Jul. 07, 2010

This interview between Bret Ellis, the author of the book *American Psycho* upon which the film was based, holds many key insights into the mind of the man who originally crafted Bateman's character. It allows a reader to better understand the greater connections between Bateman and the society criticised by *American Psycho* at large.

2. [T] *Semiotics for Beginners* [A] **Chandler, Daniel** [P] Routledge [D] 1994

This article serves as a very well arranged index of semiotic ideas. Of particular use is the section dedicated specifically to paradigmatic analysis, as well as modes of addressing.

3. [T] *The Quest for Meaning: A Guide to Semiotic Theory and Practice* [A] **Denasi, Marcel** [P] University of Toronto Press, Scholarly Publishing Division [D] 2007

This text is extremely useful for any burgeoning semiotician. It contains a broad depth of knowledge of many different semiotic theories, practices, and concepts, and is the primary guide for the reasoning behind the semiotic analysis of *American Psycho*.

4. [T] *Understanding Semiotics: Firstness, Secondness and Thirdness* [A] **Gupta, Tavni** [P] LinkedIn,

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/understanding-semiotics-firstness-secondness-thirdness-t-anvi-gupta> [D] May 3, 2018

Dr. Gupta's article goes into great detail regarding Peircian semiotics, namely the components of firstness, secondness, and thirdness. This will prove greatly valuable to the analysis of the film.

5. [T] *American Psycho* [Film]. [A] **Hanlon, M** (Director). [P] Lionsgate Studios. [D] 2000.

This is the primary source used for the entirety of the essay, and is what the majority of the work is based upon. Its themes, ideas, and structures are of great semiotic interest, and thus make it worthwhile to delve into.

6. [T] *Antisocial personality disorder*. [A] **Mayo Clinic Staff**. [P] Mayo Clinic. <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/antisocial-personality-disorder/symptoms-causes/syc-20353928>. [D] (2019, December 10).

This medical article gives further insight into the primary character, Patrick Bateman. It can be helpful for a detailed semiotic understanding to look at the concrete aspects of Bateman's character, namely his murderous tendencies, and what mental ailments may cause them.

7. [T] *Dueling Paradigms : Modernist vs Postmodernist Thought* [A] **Milovanovic, Dragan** [P] Revised version from *Humanity and Society* (19(1): 1-22, 1995, Garland Publishing [D] March 15, 2009

This article, although it focuses greatly on the study of sociology, is a fantastic comparison and contrast of modernist versus postmodern thought. Its tenets are easily applied to film theory, since it analyzes modernism and postmodernism through a large variety of lenses.

8. [T] *How to analyse movies #2: Signs, codes & conventions*. [A] **Reeper**, M. [P] Film Inquiry. <https://www.filminquiry.com/analyse-movies-signs/>. [D] (2017, October 16).

This article is highly useful for anybody seeking to analyze cinema semiotically. It goes into the primarily connotative uses of semiotics as it relates to film, allowing a would-be semiotician to better articulate a semiotic understanding of cinema.

9. [T] *When greed was good: the 1980s will go down in history as a decade of excess* [A] **Relin**, David Oliver [P] Scholastic Update (Vol. 123, Issue 12) [D] Mar. 8, 1991

This is another excellent article further detailing the greed and excess of the 1980s that *American Psycho* sought to satirize and criticize. It contains many historical references to events perpetrated in the 1980s that furthered this materialistic and greedy culture, especially in Wall Street, that pervades the psyche of Bateman.

10. [T] *Crime? Greed? Big Ideas? What Were the '80s About?* [A] **Taylor**, Bill [P] Harvard Business Review [D] January–February 1992

This article goes into good detail of the 1980s Wall Street culture that inspired much of *American Psycho*. In particular, its accounts of the financial criminals parallel in some ways to that of Bateman, which makes for a very fascinating comparison.

