**Student-Led Scene Analysis**

In addition to completing unit response essays throughout this course, each student in this course will present a close-reading of a scene from one of the films in the course. This close-reading will occur on Day 1 of our class sequence for the week. Your presentation should be approximately 15 minutes long. This includes:

* 3 minutes: screening the scene in class
* 4-5 minutes: presenting on one formal aspect of that scene and how it contributes to the film’s meaning, such as how the sound in the opening sequence of *But I’m a Cheerleader* shapes the scene’s meaning and prepares the audience for the mood of the film
* 7-8 minutes: asking the class 2-3 discussion questions related to other aspects of the scene, such as how the costumes, color, and editing reinforce the meaning and message you have addressed in your presentation.

In order to lead an effective close-reading:

* Choose a scene, and communicate with your teacher in advance about which scene you’d like to analyze. The scene you choose should be no longer than three minutes. (You can select part of a scene to focus on.) Identify timestamps on the scene so you can prepare to share the scene in class efficiently.
* Prepare a 5-minute presentation on one formal element (mise-en-scène, sound, cinematography, or editing) of the scene you think significantly contributes to the film’s meaning. You can address multiple aspects of that element. For example, if your presentation focuses on cinematography, you can address camera angles, camera movements, and shot size, but try to stay focused on just that topic, rather than also discussing that scene’s sound and editing.
* Prepare to lead a 7-8 minute discussion of other formal elements of the scene. For example, if your presentation involves the scene’s cinematography, ask the class questions about the scene’s sound, editing, and mise-en-scène. Feel free to ask about connections between these elements. You should have an idea of what strong answers to your questions would be so you can guide the class in a useful direction.