FILM 2080
INDUSTRIAL ASSIGNMENT #1: Shot-by-Shot Scene Analysis

- Due Thursday, August 31 at the beginning of class in the appropriate CourseDen folder. (Late papers will not be graded unless there are extenuating circumstances.)
- 2-3 pages in length.
- MLA format, including works cited page (which does not count toward page requirement)
- Typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins, Times New Roman
- Standard rules of paragraph construction (i.e. topic sentences, supporting quotations, appropriate transitions)

Choose a short clip of a scene from one of the films we have discussed (or will discuss) in class and construct a shot-by-shot analysis of that segment. This assignment must include:
- A detailed explication of every shot in the brief segment you choose.
- A 2-3 page analysis of how these shots contribute visually to an underlying theme in the film as a whole – for example, how the shots add insight into a character, establish social/cultural/economic hierarchies or highlights social/cultural transgressions or taboos, etc. (A sample assignment can be found on CourseDen and the backup website.)

Special requirements:
1. Your clip must come from the list of films assigned for this class.

2. As you select your clip, remember to choose a brief segment (maybe 30 seconds to 1 minute in length). An entire scene can have hundreds of shots that would be impossible to analyze thoroughly in this short analysis.

3. Your essay’s introduction should identify the film, director, and scene your shots come from. You should also assert in your introduction a thesis that identifies why this segment is important to a theme in the film.

4. Your analysis must focus on the shots you list. You may discuss elements within the shots (such as mise-en-scene or editing) that add to the theme you are discussing; however, your primary focus is to analyze the reason for using certain shots in your clip. For example: Why the close-up on the character’s face? What is it helping to reveal about that character at that moment? Some shots in your segment may carry more weight than others, so you can focus your analysis on the most important shots.

5. In addition to your essay, you must attach a list of the shots in the segment you choose. These shots must be labeled to identify the type of shots used (like medium close-up shot) and must also give a brief description of who/what is in the shot. For example: Medium close-up shot of Thelma. The list is an appendix to your essay and does not count towards the 2-3 page length requirement.