Watch the movie *Freaks* in class; if you don’t have a DVD copy, there’s a free version available online: <http://vimeo.com/64576339>

Divide the class into groups. Each group will collectively conduct research and find five items.

1. Movie review from when film was released
2. A recent scholarly journal article about it (published within last 5 years or so)
3. A pop culture reference to the film in some way
4. A visual artifact of the film
5. Free choice

Each group should identify the purpose, audience, and genre for the film and each item. I also have them write about why they think the film was so controversial when it was released. Is it controversial today? Why or why not? They will be responsible for reporting their findings and discussing the changing view of the film over time. They can do a write-up, a PowerPoint, or a Prezi; the medium is up to the group to decide, but they must present their report to the class with a visual component.

**Notes:**

There are quite a few contemporary movie reviews in the newspaper database on the Joyner website, so direct them there rather than the multidisciplinary or film specific databases.

The Wikipedia entry for *Freaks* is a good place to find pop culture references.