The midterm exam will take place in class next Thursday, March 20. The exam will last 50 minutes and will begin promptly at 11.10am. It will have two parts:

**A. A short answer section** that will ask you to IDENTIFY and EXPLAIN THE SIGNIFICANCE of several terms, short phrases, or images drawn from lectures, readings, and the web site.

**B. An in-class essay.** You should come prepared to write on BOTH of the questions below. At the beginning of the exam Prof. Ulrich will randomly select which one of them you will write on. No notes, books, or papers will be allowed.

**Essay Questions:**

1. Write a well-organized essay in which you respond to the following question: Why is it that modern Americans remember the Salem Witch Trials so readily, yet few people know of King Philip's War?

   In your answer, consider both the seventeenth-century events and later memorializations. Support your argument with specific details drawn from lectures, readings, and other course materials.

2. At Thanksgiving dinner next November, you tell your relatives that you have taken a course at Harvard in which you have learned that Thanksgiving is an "invented tradition." Your relatives want to know what you mean by that, and when you finish your explanation, your grandmother says, "Why should this matter? Isn't Thanksgiving a wonderful holiday just as it is?"

   In a carefully organized and well-documented essay, explain what is invented about Thanksgiving and how that illustrates the larger meaning of an "invented tradition." In your answer, make sure to situate your explanation of Thanksgiving in the context of other invented traditions from early New England, and respond to your grandmother's question about whether and why it matters if these traditions are invented.