Please identify a primary source or set of closely-interrelated primary sources. The source(s) should be rich enough to serve as the basis for a major research paper. Examples might include a diary or chronicle of at least 100 pages, or twelve to fifteen interrelated court cases, broadsides, images, or newspaper accounts. The sources should be European in origin, dating between 1500 and 1815. They must deal with some aspect of social history or popular culture, providing insight into aspects of everyday life for common (non-elite) men or women. Please see the professor if you are not sure whether or not your chosen primary sources are suitable for this project.

In a paper of at least 1000 words, please address the following:

1. **Origins and Contexts.** Who authored or created this source? What audience was the source meant for? What do we know about the milieu out of which it comes?

2. **Challenges and Limitations.** What historical problems are presented by this source? What biases might be inherent in it? Are there limits on its usefulness or trustworthiness? Has the source been edited or translated, and if so, how might that affect its meaning?

3. **Historical Questions and Hypotheses.** What kinds of things can this source tell us about history? This section, which should represent the bulk of your paper, should explore a variety of potential historical questions for which your primary source provides answers. Historical information provided by the primary sources should be analyzed in depth.

The paper should be typed, double-spaced, and carefully proofread for errors in grammar and spelling. **Due in class on February 16th.**