Please discuss the following in a comprehensive essay that incorporates **at least four of the assigned readings/resources.**

In Olmstead v. U.S. (1928), the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that evidence seized as a result of the wiretapping of a person's telephone lines by federal authorities without a warrant was not protected by the Fourth Amendment and was therefore admissible in court. The majority did not believe that the Fourth Amendment's guarantee of the "right of the people to be secure in their persons, places, houses, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures" should extend to conversations conducted over telephone wires. The Court determined that the Fourth Amendment protected only material "things," which electronic conversations were not. Fortunately, Olmstead was subsequently overturned, but the Supreme Court has continued to struggle with how to apply the Fourth Amendment to new situations made more complicated by evolving technology.

Recent high-profile cases like the government's attempt to gain access to the contents of the San Bernardino terrorist's iPhone have reinvigorated the debate about balancing citizens' rights to be secure against governmental intrusion with the legitimate need for government to have access to important data related to national security, terrorism, etc. The situation is complicated (as it was in the iPhone case) by the fact that "third parties" are often involved when electronically stored data are sought by the government.

The 4th Amendment's "Third Party Doctrine" (see article posted in Module VI) means that the Fourth Amendment technically does not apply to data/information/conversations, etc., that a person voluntarily releases to a third party (e.g., a jailhouse informant or Google gmail).

Compose an essay wherein you discuss the issue of privacy in "cyber space," incorporating at least four of the assigned readings or text.

* What expectations of privacy should a citizen have with respect to digital communications, broadly defined?
* Where should the balance lie between citizens' privacy and the safety and security of society as a whole?
* Do you agree or disagree with Justice Brandeis in his dissent from Olmstead,

"Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the Government's purposes are beneficent. Men born to freedom are naturally alert to repel invasion of their liberty by evil-minded rulers. The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well meaning but without understanding."