Essay (25 per cent of grade)

Topic: Any topic of your choice, dealing in depth with a theme from the work of Adam Smith, David Ricardo and/or Karl Marx. It may take the form of an examination of one specific aspect of Smith, Ricardo or Marx, or a comparison/contrast of how more than one of these authors treat some issue, or an account of the relationship of the ideas of Smith, Ricardo or Marx to modern economics. The length of the essay should be in the region of 3,000 words.

Reading: Aside from the original works in question, you will be expected in this essay to make use of the secondary literature on your chosen topic. I shall be happy to point you towards some relevant reading, depending on the particular topic you choose. The “New Palgrave” Dictionary of Economics may be a useful starting point for a literature search; Mark Blaug’s Economic Theory in Retrospect also has a good bibliography, arranged by topic.

Timetable:

Nov 10 (Tuesday) –

Report your proposed essay topic, and consult on reading.

Nov 19 (Thursday) –

Submit a first draft of the essay.

Nov 24 (Tuesday) –

First drafts returned with comments.

Dec 1 (Tuesday) –

Submit final version.