

Midterm Exam Review Guide

Part I. Term Identification

You need to be familiar with the historical context and significance of the following names and terms from your readings and lectures. Be sure you are able to address the appropriate “who?” “what?” “where?” and “when?”, and most importantly, “why?” issues associated with each one.

The Malthusian Economy

Thomas Malthus
Malthus’s “Iron Law of Population”
Malthusian Trap

Why are Some so Rich and Some so Poor?

The Great Divergence
The role of Geography
and Jared Diamond
Inclusive vs. Extractive Institutions
Kenneth Pomeranz’s understanding of why
the Industrial Revolution started in
England

The Enlightenment and the Social Contract

Liberalism
“Consent of the governed”
The Social Contract
Natural Law
Thomas Hobbes
Hobbes on the State of Nature
The Role of Self-Interest
The War of all against all
Sovereignty in “common power to fear”
John Locke
Locke on the State of Nature
Locke’s View on Property
Locke on Revolution
Jean-Jacques Rousseau
Rousseau on the State of Nature
The Noble Savage
General Will

Economic Revolution

Mercantilism
The Bourgeoisie
Adam Smith
The Positive Role of Self-Interest

The Invisible Hand

Division of Labor
Comparative Advantage
Laissez faire

The Advantages of the Factory System
Obsolescence of Skilled Labor
Luddites

The French Revolution

Causes of the French Revolution
Estates General
Jacques Louis David
Ancien Regime
Marie Antoinette
Maximilien Robespierre
Robespierre’s View on Terror
Edmund Burke
Burke’s Critique of the French Revolution
Napoleon Bonaparte

Revolutions in the Americas

The Code Noir
Saint-Domingue
Gens de couleur
“The Haitian Declaration of Independence”
Toussaint L’Ouverture
Jean-Jacques Dessalines
Simon Bolivar
“The Jamaica Letter”
Unnatural bonds with Spain
Confederation or Independent Republics?

Romanticism and Industry

Working class
Romantic attitudes toward Industry
Romantic attitudes toward Nature
Romantic attitudes toward Reason

Satanic Mills
“Preface to Milton”
“Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers”
Romantic Nationalism

Nationalism

Reaction to Napoleonic conquests
“Imagined Communities”
The role of print in National identity
What is nationalism?
“Invisible Bonds” of Germans
Pogroms of 1848

Individual Rights

Olympe de Gouge
De Gouge’s role in the French Revolution
Mary Wollstonecraft
Vindication of the Rights of Women
“Despotic Ladies”
John Stuart Mill on Free Speech

The Harm Principle
Paternalism

Communism

Manchester
Karl Marx
Dialectical Materialism
Proletariat
Dismantling the sanctity of private property
Base and Superstructure
True value vs. Surplus value
Uprisings of 1848

Part II. Long Passage Identifications

Passages from the following selection will be included on the midterm. In your response, you must identify the historical, social, or cultural context in which each passage occurs (e.g. speaker, subject, occasion, purpose, general time period). Evidence of independent insight on the readings is strongly recommended. **Text references will not be provided on the actual midterm.**

1. “I think I may fairly make two postulata. First, That food is necessary to the existence of man. Secondly, That the passion between the sexes is necessary and will remain nearly in its present state.” (Malthus, *An Essay on the Principle of Population*)
2. “Whatsoever therefore is consequent to a time of Warre, where every man is Enemy to every man; the same is consequent to the time, wherein men live without other security, than what their own strength, and their own invention shall furnish them withall. In such condition, there is no place for Industry; because the fruit thereof is uncertain; and consequently no Culture of the Earth; no Navigation, nor use of the commodities that may be imported by Sea; no commodious Building; no Instruments of moving, and removing such things as require much force; no Knowledge of the face of the Earth; no account of Time; no Arts; no Letters; no Society; and which is worst of all, continuall feare, and danger of violent death; And the life of man, solitary, poore, nasty, brutish, and short.” (Hobbes, *Leviathan*)
3. “In order then that the social compact may not be an empty formula, it tacitly includes the undertaking, which alone can give force to the rest, that whoever refuses to obey the general will shall be compelled to do so by the whole body. This means nothing less

than that he will be forced to be free; for this is the condition which, by giving each citizen to his country, secures him against all personal dependence. In this lies the key to the working of the political machine; this alone legitimises civil undertakings, which, without it, would be absurd, tyrannical, and liable to the most frightful abuses.” (Rousseau, *On Social Contract*)

4. “This division of labour, from which so many advantages are derived, is not originally the effect of any human wisdom, which foresees and intends that general opulence to which it gives occasion. It is the necessary, though very slow and gradual, consequence of a certain propensity in human nature, which has in view no such extensive utility; the propensity to truck, barter, and exchange one thing for another.” (Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*)
5. “If virtue be the spring of a popular government in times of peace, the spring of that government during a revolution is virtue combined with terror: virtue, without which terror is destructive; terror, without which virtue is impotent. Terror is only justice prompt, severe and inflexible; it is then an emanation of virtue; it is less a distinct principle than a natural consequence of the general principle of democracy, applied to the most pressing wants of the country.” (Robespierre, *On the Principles of Political Morality*)
6. “COMPUTE your gains: see what is got by those extravagant and presumptuous speculations which have taught your leaders to despise all their predecessors, and all their contemporaries, and even to despise themselves until the moment in which they become truly despicable. By following those false lights, France has bought undisguised calamities at a higher price than any nation has purchased the most unequivocal blessings!” (Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*)
7. “Women, commonly called ladies, are not to be contradicted, in company, are not allowed to exert any manual strength; and from them, the negative virtues only are expected—patience, docility, good humour, and flexibility—virtues incompatible with any vigorous exertion of intellect. Besides, by living more with each other, and seldom being absolutely alone, they are more under the influence of sentiments than passions.” (Wollstonecraft, *Vindication of the Rights of Women*)
8. “There are, it is alleged, certain beliefs, so useful, not to say indispensable to well-being, that it is as much the duty of governments to uphold those beliefs, as to protect any other of the interests of society. In a case of such necessity, and so directly in the line of their duty, something less than infallibility may, it is maintained, warrant, and even bind, governments, to act on their own opinion, confirmed by the general opinion of mankind. It is also often argued, and still oftener thought, that none but bad men would desire to weaken these salutary beliefs; and there can be nothing wrong, it is thought, in restraining bad men, and prohibiting what only such men would wish to practise.” (Mill, *On Liberty*)
9. “The conditions of bourgeois society are too narrow to compromise the wealth created by them. And how does the bourgeoisie get over these crises? On the one hand, by

enforced destruction of a mass productive forces; on the other, by the conquests of new market, and by the more thorough exploitation of the old ones. That is to say, by paving the way for more extensive and more destructive crises, and by diminishing the means whereby crisis are prevented.” (Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*)