17.871

Spring 2012

First assignment: introductions

For the next class meeting (February 15), come to class prepared to suggest a final project you are likely to be interested in pursuing. You should say something about the following:

1. What is the question you would like to answer? Make this a realistic question — something you might actually finish this term.
2. Why is this question interesting?
3. How did the question occur to you?
4. Do you think this paper will be used in another class, or for your thesis? (And, if not, what’s wrong with you?)
5. What sort of data do you think you’ll need to answer this question? Where do you suspect you will get it? How do you suspect it will be organized? How easy or hard do you suspect it will be to get it by the middle of the semester?