Frege, Foundations of Arithmetic

Essay 4: Frege's definition of numbers, Hume's principle, Frege's theorem,

Russell's paradox

Readings:

- **(!)** Frege, Foundations of Arithmetic, **§70-86.**

- **(!)** Heck, R., 'Frege's theorem, an introduction', *Harvard Review of Philosophy* 7 (1999), pp.56-73.

- **(!)** Wright, C., 'On the philosophical significance of Frege's theorem', in Wright, C., and Hale, B., *The Reason's proper Study* (OUP, 2001). (See especially section 1 of this chapter).

- Kenny, A., *Frege*, (Blackwell, 2000), pp.90-99.

- Boolos, G., 'Is Hume's principle analytic?', in Boolos, G., *Logic, Logic, and Logic* (Harvard University Press, 1988).

Essay question:

What is Hume's principle and what role does it play Frege's definition of numbers? How does Russell's paradox threaten Frege's project? Can the project be rescued despite the paradox?