

CURRICULUM VITAE

Eric Nelson

Harvard University
Department of Government
1737 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA
02138

ACADEMIC POSITION

2014- Robert M. Beren Professor of Government
Harvard University

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2009-2014 Professor of Government
Harvard University

2009 Frederick S. Danziger Associate Professor of Government
Harvard University

2005-2009 Assistant Professor of Government
Harvard University

2003-2007 Junior Fellow, Harvard Society of Fellows

2001-2003 Research Fellow, Trinity College, Cambridge

HIGHER EDUCATION

2002 Ph.D., Trinity College, Cambridge, England
Faculty of History
Thesis: The Greek Tradition in Early-Modern Republican Thought

2000 M.Phil., Trinity College, Cambridge, England
Faculty of History
Committee on Political Thought and Intellectual History
Honors: Distinction
Thesis: The Greek Tradition in English Republican Thought

1999 A.B., Harvard University

Honors: *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa (inducted as a junior)
Concentration: History

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Royalist Revolution: Monarchy and the American Founding (Harvard/Belknap, Hardcover 2014; Paper, forthcoming in 2017; Chinese edition, forthcoming in 2018).

-Society of the Cincinnati History Prize (2015)

-a *Choice* outstanding academic title; “Top 25 Books for 2015” selection

-Finalist, George Washington Book Prize (2015)

The Hebrew Republic: Jewish Sources and the Transformation of European Political Thought (Harvard/Belknap, Hardcover 2010; Paper 2011).

-Erwin Stein Preis, awarded by the Erwin-Stein-Stiftung, Germany (2015).

-Laura Shannon Prize in Contemporary European Studies, awarded by the Nanovic Center for European Studies at the University of Notre Dame (2012).

-a *Choice* outstanding academic title of 2010.

The Greek Tradition in Republican Thought (Cambridge University Press, Hardcover 2004; Paper 2006).

(ed.) *Thomas Hobbes: Translations of Homer*, 2 vols., The Clarendon Edition of the Works of Thomas Hobbes (The Clarendon Press, Oxford, 2008; Corrected edition, 2009).

Articles

“*The Ideological Origins and the History of Political Thought*” in *Eighteenth Century Studies* 50 (2017).

“‘Barons’ Wars, under Other Names’: Feudalism, Royalism, and the American Founding” in *History of European Ideas* 42 (2016), Special Issue, *The Machiavellian Moment Turns Forty: Re-thinking J.G.A. Pocock’s Intellectual Legacy*.

“A Response to Professor Helfman’s Review of *The Royalist Revolution*” in *Harvard Law Review* 128 (2015).

“Hebraism and the Republican Turn of 1776: A Contemporary Account of the Debate over *Common Sense*” in *The William and Mary Quarterly* 70 (2013).

“Patriot Royalism: The Stuart Monarchy in American Political Thought, 1769-75” in *The William and Mary Quarterly* 68 (2011).

-A reply to critics: “Taking Them Seriously: Patriots, Prerogative, and the English Seventeenth Century” in *The William and Mary Quarterly* 68 (2011).

“From Primary Goods to Capabilities: Distributive Justice and the Problem of Neutrality” in *Political Theory* 36 (2008).

“‘Talmudical Commonwealths’ and the Rise of Republican Exclusivism” in *The Historical Journal* 50 (2007).

“Utopia through Italian Eyes: Thomas More and the Critics of Civic Humanism” in *Renaissance Quarterly* 59 (2006).

“Liberty: one concept too many?” in *Political Theory* 33 (2005).

“Greek Nonsense in More’s *Utopia*” in *The Historical Journal* 44 (2001).

-Reprinted in *The Norton Critical Edition of Utopia*, ed. George Logan (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2011).

“‘True Liberty’: Isocrates and Milton’s *Areopagitica*” in *Milton Studies* 40 (2001).

Book Chapters

“Publius on Monarchy,” forthcoming in *The Cambridge Companion to The Federalist*, ed. Jack Rakove and Colleen Sheehan (Cambridge University Press, 2018).

“Prerogative, Popular Sovereignty, and the American Founding” in *The History and Theory of Popular Sovereignty*, ed. Richard Bourke and Quentin Skinner (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

“From Selden to Mendelssohn: Hebraism and Religious Freedom” in *Freedom and the Construction of Europe: New Perspectives on Philosophical, Religious, and Political Controversies*, ed. Quentin Skinner and Martin van Gelderen (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

“Translation as Correction: Thomas Hobbes in the 1660s and 1670s” in *Why Concepts Matter: Translating Political and Social Thought*, ed. Martin Burke and Melvin Richter, (Brill, 2012).

“Shakespeare and the Best State of a Commonwealth” in *Shakespeare and Early-Modern Political Thought*, ed. David Armitage, Conal Condren, Andrew Fitzmaurice (Cambridge University Press, 2009).

“The Problem of the Prince” in *The Cambridge Companion to Renaissance Philosophy*, ed. James Hankins (Cambridge University Press, 2007).

“Republican Visions” in *The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory*, ed. John Dryzek, Bonnie Honig, and Anne Phillips (Oxford University Press, 2006).

Online Publication

“Flipping his Whigs: A response to Gordon S. Wood” (2016)

Book Reviews

“Politics and Anti-Politics.” Review of *In God’s Shadow: Politics in the Hebrew Bible* by Michael Walzer. *The Jewish Review of Books* (Fall 2012).

“The Unlikely Key.” Review of *I have always loved the Holy Tongue: Isaac Casaubon, the Jews, and a Forgotten Chapter in Renaissance Scholarship* by Anthony Grafton and Joanna Weinberg. *The New Republic* (March 2011).

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2016 | Visiting Fellow Commoner, Trinity College, Cambridge |
| 2016 | International Visiting Fellowship, Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Cambridge |
| 2015 | Doctor of Laws, <i>honoris causa</i> , Middlebury College |
| 2015 | Walter Channing Cabot Fellowship, Harvard University |
| 2015 | Society of the Cincinnati History Prize: awarded by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey |
| 2015 | Finalist, George Washington Book Prize |
| 2015 | Erwin Stein Prize: awarded by the Erwin-Stein-Stiftung, Germany. |
| 2012 | Laura Shannon Prize in Contemporary European Studies: awarded by the Nanovic Center for European Studies at the University of Notre Dame. |
| 2011-2012 | John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship |

- 2011-2012 Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship for Recently Tenured Scholars: awarded by the American Council of Learned Societies.
- 2003-2006 Junior Fellowship, Harvard Society of Fellows
- 2001-2005 Research Fellowship, Trinity College, Cambridge
- 2004 William F. Milton Fund Grant
- 1999 British Marshall Scholarship: awarded by the British government to 40 Americans annually for two or three years' study at a British university.
- Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize: awarded for high achievement on a senior thesis written at Harvard College. Thesis: *The Reluctant Humanist: Thomas Hobbes and the Classical Historians.*
- Seymour E. and Ruth B. Harris Prize: awarded annually to one senior thesis written in the social sciences at Harvard College.

NAMED LECTURES

- István Hont Memorial Lecture. University of St Andrews, Scotland (2016).
- Society of the Cincinnati History Prize Lecture. Anderson House, Washington DC (2015).
- The Navin Narayan Memorial Lecture in Social Studies. Harvard University (2013).
- The John Hamilton Fulton Lecture in the Liberal Arts. Middlebury College (2013).
- The Laura Shannon Prize Lecture. University of Notre Dame (2012).
- The Templeton Lecture on Religion and World Affairs. Foreign Policy Research Institute, Philadelphia (2011).

INVITED PAPERS AND LECTURES

- "The Royalist Revolution." Plenary Lecture. Delivered at the Pennsylvania Appellate Courts Conference, Bedford, Pennsylvania, June 2017.
- "Liberalism and Theodicy." Keynote Address. Delivered at the conference on "Rights, the Human, and Literature in Early Modernity," CUNY Graduate Center, New York City, April 2017.

“What kind of book is *The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution*?” Delivered at the conference on “Bernard Bailyn’s *Ideological Origins* at 50,” Yale University, April 2017.

“Barons’ Wars, under other names: Feudalism, Royalism, and the American Founding.” Delivered at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London, May 2016.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at Georgetown Law School, Washington, DC, April 2016.

“‘The Lord Alone Shall be King of America’: Hebraism and the Republican Turn of 1776.” Delivered at the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage/ Schusterman Center for Judaic and Israel Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman, April 2016.

“‘The Bargain Basis’: Rawls, Anti-Pelagianism, and Moral Arbitrariness.” Delivered at the Yale Global Justice Workshop, New Haven, March 2016.

“Magna Carta and the American Founding.” Delivered at the conference on “The Foundation of Liberty: Magna Carta After 800 Years” at the Hoover institution, Palo Alto, CA, June 2015.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the Somerset Club, Boston, May 2015.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the Clements Center for History, Strategy, and Statecraft, University of Texas at Austin, April 2015.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, April 2015.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, March 2015.

“‘The Bargain Basis’: Rawls, Anti-Pelagianism, and Moral Arbitrariness.” Delivered at the Political Philosophy Colloquium, Princeton University, February 2015.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the Society for Colonial Wars in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Boston, February 2015.

“‘The Bargain Basis’: Rawls, Anti-Pelagianism, and Moral Arbitrariness.” Delivered at the Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto, November 2014.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the Conference for the Study of Political Thought, University of Toronto, November 2014.

“‘The Lord Alone Shall be King of America’: Hebraism and the Republican Turn of 1776.” Delivered at the American Political Thought Seminar, the Newberry Library, Chicago, April 2014.

“Property Without Appropriation.” Delivered at the Columbia Society of Fellows, New York, March 2014.

“‘The Lord Alone Shall be King of America’: Hebraism and the Republican Turn of 1776.” Delivered at the Religion and Politics Colloquium, Yale University, December, 2013.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the Transitions to Modernity Colloquium, Yale University, October 2012.

“Property Without Appropriation.” Delivered at the Political Theory Workshop, Stanford University. October 2012.

“The Hebrew Republic: Jewish Sources and the Transformation of European Political Thought.” Delivered at the Israel Democracy Institute, Jerusalem, July 2012.

“The Royalist Revolution.” Delivered at the Popular Sovereignty Network Workshop, Queen Mary, University of London, July 2012.

“How exceptional was the American Revolution?” Delivered at the conference on “Three Revolutions?: Remaking Political Society in Britain and America, 1640-1685,” Yale University, June 2012.

“Property Without Appropriation.” Keynote Address. Delivered at the London Graduate Conference in the History of Political Thought, University of London, May 2012.

“Reply to Critics.” Delivered at a roundtable panel on “The Hebrew Republic” at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, November 2012.

“Hebraism and Republicanism.” Delivered at the Paideia Decennial Conference, Uppsala, Sweden, August 2011.

“Property, Rules, and Rectification.” Delivered at the Political Theory Colloquium, UCLA, May 2011.

“The Hebrew Republic: Jewish Sources and the Transformation of European Political Thought.” Delivered at the Center for the Liberal Arts and Free Institutions, UCLA, May 2011.

“Patriot Royalism: The Stuart Monarchy in American Political Thought, 1769-1775.” Delivered at the Program for the Study of Liberty, UCLA, May 2011.

“Patriot Royalism: The Stuart Monarchy in American Political Thought, 1769-1775.”
Delivered at the Harvard Law School Faculty Colloquium, May 2011.

“Patriot Royalism: The Stuart Monarchy in American Political Thought, 1769-1775.”
Delivered at the Seminar on Political and Moral Thought, Johns Hopkins University,
Baltimore, February 2011.

“Seeing Rome Through Greek Eyes: Republican Decline in English Political Thought,
1516-1656.” Delivered at the conference on “Ancient Rome and Early Modern England:
History, Politics, and Political Thought,” The Huntington, Pasadena, CA, January 2011.

“The Hebrew Republic: Jewish Sources and the Transformation of European Political
Thought.” Delivered at the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life, Boston
College, December 2010.

“Patriot Royalism: The Stuart Monarchy in American Political Thought, 1769-1775.”
Delivered at The Center for British Studies, UC Berkeley, November 2010.

“From Selden to Mendelssohn: Hebraism and Religious Freedom.” Delivered at the
conference on “John Selden (1584-1654): Scholarship in Context,” Magdalen College,
Oxford, June 2010.

“Hebrew Theocracy and the Rise of Toleration.” Delivered at the Tocqueville Forum on
the Roots of American Democracy, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, November
2009.

“The Hebrew Commonwealth and the Rise of Redistribution.” Delivered at the Political
Theory Workshop, The University of Chicago, May 2009.

“Hebrew Theocracy and the Rise of Toleration.” Delivered at the Political Theory
Colloquium, Princeton University, April 2009.

“‘For the land is mine’: The Hebrew Commonwealth and the Rise of Redistribution.”
Delivered at the conference on “Political Hebraism: Jewish Sources in the History of
Political Thought,” Princeton University, September 2008.

“The Hebrew Commonwealth and the Rise of Redistribution.” Delivered at the 2008
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Boston, MA,
August 2008.

“Hebrew Theocracy and the Rise of Toleration.” Delivered at the conference on “Civil
and Religious Liberty: Ideas of Rights and Tolerance in England c. 1640-1800,” Yale
University, July 2008.

“Hebrew Theocracy and the Rise of Toleration.” Delivered at the conference on “Freedom and the Construction of Europe: New Perspectives on philosophical, religious, and political controversies,” European University Institute, Florence, July 2008.

“The Hebrew Commonwealth and the Rise of Redistribution.” Delivered at the Political Philosophy Workshop, Brown University, Providence, RI, March 2008.

“‘For the land is mine’: The Hebrew Commonwealth and the Rise of Redistribution.” Delivered at the Edmund J. Safra Foundation Center for Ethics, Faculty Workshop in Ethics, Harvard University, February 2008.

“The Hebrew Commonwealth and the Transformation of Republican Political Thought.” Delivered at the Centro de Estudios Públicos, Santiago, Chile, August, 2007.

“The Hebrew Commonwealth and the Rise of Republican Exclusivism.” Delivered at the conference on “Republicanism and Global Politics: Past, Present, Future,” University of Cambridge, UK, May 2007.

“The Hebrew Revival and the Decline of Constitutional Pluralism.” Delivered at the University of Haifa, Posen Research Forum for Political Thought, Israel, May 2007.

“From Hellenism to Hebraism: The Transformation of Republican Political Thought.” Delivered at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Department of Political Science, Israel, May 2007.

“From Hellenism to Hebraism: The Transformation of Early-Modern Republican Thought.” Delivered at the Conference on Renaissance Hellenism, Princeton University, April 2007.

“‘Talmudical Commonwealths’ and the Rise of Republican Exclusivism.” Delivered at the colloquium on “Biblical Exchanges: The Hebrew Republic in Early-Modern Europe,” sponsored by The Cambridge-Harvard Mellon Program on Exchanges of Economic and Political Ideas, Harvard University, November 2006.

“The Greek Rejection of Democracy in Early-Modern Europe.” Delivered at the Workshop on “The Greek polis and the invention of democracy: a politico-cultural transformation and its interpretations,” European University Institute, Florence, October 2006.

“Kings and Tribunes: The Politics of Ideology in Shakespeare’s Roman Plays.” Delivered at the Conference on Shakespeare and Political Thought, Humanities Research Centre, Australian National University, Canberra, July 2006.

“Thomas Hobbes’s *Iliads and Odysseys of Homer*.” Delivered at the Columbia University Seminar on Social and Political Thought, New York, December 2005.

“Republican Visions.” Delivered at Universidad Torquato Di Tella, Escuela de Derecho, Buenos Aires, Argentina, November, 2005.

“Translation as Correction: Thomas Hobbes in the 1660s and 1670s.” Delivered at the Interdisciplinary Conference on Translation, the History of Political Thought, and the History of Concepts (*Begriffsgeschichte*), CUNY Graduate Center, New York, September 2005.

“More’s *Utopia* and the Erasmian Reception of Italian Humanism.” Delivered at the Annual Conference of the Renaissance Society of America, Toronto, Canada, March 2003.

“Greek Republicanism and the American Founding.” Delivered at the Cambridge Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar, Cambridge, UK, November 2002.

“James Harrington and the Balance of Justice.” Delivered at the Fourth Annual Conference of the International Society for Intellectual History, “The Origins of Modernity: 1543-1789,” Sydney, Australia, July 2002.

“‘True Liberty’: Isocrates and Milton’s *Areopagitica*.” Delivered at the “Britons Abroad, Strangers at Home” conference sponsored by the Cambridge Committee on Seventeenth-Century History, Wolfson College, Cambridge, January 2001.

“Montesquieu’s Greek Republics.” Delivered at the Cambridge Graduate Seminar in Political Thought, Cambridge, UK, October 2000.

PEER REVIEW

American Political Science Review
American Political Thought
Eighteenth-Century Studies
European Journal of Political Theory
The Historical Journal
History of Political Thought
Journal of the History of Ideas
Journal of Politics
Philosophy and Public Affairs
Polis
Political Studies
Political Theory
Review of Politics
William and Mary Quarterly

TEACHING

Harvard

Ethical Reasoning 34: Liberty (with James Hankins and Jeffrey Miron) (Spring 2013)

Government 90pk: Thomas Hobbes (Fall 2005)

Government 97: Sophomore Tutorial in Government (Spring 2011)

Government 98df: Topics in Early-Modern Political Thought (Fall 2008)

Government 1074: Political Thought of the American Founding (Fall 2009; Spring 2013; Fall 2014; Fall 2016).

Government 1082: What is Property? (Spring 2006; Fall 2007; Fall 2010)

Government 1094: The Jewish Political Tradition (Spring 2010)

Government 2056: Political Thought of the English Revolution (Fall 2008; Fall 2016)

Government 2094: Liberalism and Theodicy (Spring 2016)

History 1474: Republics and Republicanism (with James Hankins) (Spring 2006, Fall 2009).

History 2113: Dante in Contexts (with James Hankins) (Spring 2014)

Literature and Arts B-62 (Core Course): The Politics of Music (with Alexander Rehding) (Spring 2008).

Philosophy 272: Foundations of Justice (with Amartya Sen) (Fall 2013)

Folger Shakespeare Library

Late Spring Seminar: "The Royalist Revolution: American Political Thought, 1763-1789," May-June 2012.

Cambridge

Lecture course: "The Greek Tradition in Republican Thought" (four lectures given), Michaelmas Term 2002, Cambridge History Faculty.

Supervision of undergraduates in the Cambridge History Faculty for Parts I and II, Paper 19: History of Political Thought to c. 1700 (10/00-5/03).

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Director, Harvard Center for Jewish Studies, 2012-2015
Steering Committee, Harvard Center for Jewish Studies, 2009-present
Executive Committee, Harvard Center for Jewish Studies, 2008-present
FAS Committee to Review the Undergraduate Council, 2008

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Rothschild Fellowships Committee in the Humanities and Social Sciences
Advisory Editorial Board, *Eighteenth-Century Studies*
Advisory Board, "Intellectual History of the Modern Age" Series, University of Pennsylvania Press