

# ELOISE DAVIES

The Hamilton Center, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611  
eloise.davies@ufl.edu

---

**Research Interests:** *Politics and Religion, History of Political Thought, Italian History 1350–1650, British History 1550–1750, Early Modern Intellectual History, Women’s Political Thought*

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2024– **Assistant Professor of Humanities**  
The Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic Education  
University of Florida
- 2022–2024 **Departmental Lecturer in Political Theory**  
**Acting Tutorial Fellow in Politics**  
Department of Politics and International Relations & Oriel College  
University of Oxford
- 2021–2022 **Stipendiary Lecturer and Organising Tutor in History**  
Pembroke College  
University of Oxford

## EDUCATION

- 2017–2021 **Ph.D. in History**, Peterhouse, University of Cambridge  
Title: ‘The Venetian connection in early seventeenth-century England’  
Supervisor: Richard Serjeantson  
Examiners: Alexandra Walsham and Filippo de Vivo
- 2016–2017 **M.Phil. in Political Thought and Intellectual History**, Peterhouse, University of Cambridge – *Distinction*
- 2013–2016 **B.A. in History**, Peterhouse, University of Cambridge – *1<sup>st</sup> Class*

## PUBLICATIONS

IN PREPARATION:

### Monograph

1. ***The Venetian Connection: England, Venice and Stuart Religious Politics, 1603–1714***  
- Proposal accepted by Cambridge University Press, ‘Studies in Early Modern British History’ series

### Edited Volume

1. ***Stuart Serenissima: Venice and England in the Seventeenth Century***, co-edited with Alana Mailes  
- Under contract with Liverpool University Press, ‘Studies in Medieval and Early Modern Belief and Culture’ series. Expected late 2025/early 2026.  
- Contributors: Christina Anderson, Filippo de Vivo, Amy Dunagin, Antonio Iodice, Carol Rutter, Stefano Villani

## PUBLISHED AND IN PRESS:

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

1. **'England's Lost Renaissance? Anglo-Venetian politics between the household of Prince Henry and the court of James VI & I'**, *The Court Historian* 28:3 (December 2023), pp. 201–219 – winner of 2022 Society for Court Studies Essay Prize
2. **'The English Sarpi and the Glorious Revolution'**, *Bruniana & Campanelliana* 29:1 (2023), pp. 169–179 (part of special issue *Paolo Sarpi tra Italia e Inghilterra*, ed. Vittorio Frajese)
3. **'A Training Ground for Godly Diplomacy: Cambridge's 'Puritan' Colleges on the European Confessional Stage, 1603–1625'**, *History of Universities* 36:2 (September 2023), pp. 25–46 (part of special issue *The Mind is its Own Place? Early Modern Intellectual History in an Institutional Context*, eds. Alex Beeton, Eli Bernstein, Emily Kent & René Winkler)
4. **'Reformed but not converted: Paolo Sarpi, the English mission in Venice and conceptions of religious change'**, *Historical Research* 95:269 (August 2022), pp. 334–347 – winner of the IHR Sir John Neale Prize for Early Modern British History
5. **'Catherine of Siena: a Dominican political thinker in fourteenth-century Italy'**, *Renaissance Studies* 35:2 (April 2021), pp. 237–254
6. **'English Politics and the Blasphemy Act of 1698'**, *The English Historical Review* 135:575 (August 2020), pp. 804–835 – winner of The History of Parliament Trust Dissertation Prize

Peer-reviewed Book Chapters

1. **'Sarpi, Micanzio and Bedell: a new source for the Anglo-Venetian encounter at the monastery of Santa Maria dei Servi'**, in *La chiesa di Santa Maria dei Servi e la comunità veneziana dei Servi di Maria (secoli XIV-XIX)*, eds. Eveline Baseggio, Tiziana Franco & Luca Molà (Viella, 2023), pp. 349–363

Peer-reviewed Roundtable

1. **'Political Money from Locke to Kwasi Kwarteng'**, *Oxford New Books* 1:1 (June 2024), pp. 35–38 (part of roundtable on Stefan Eich, *The Currency of Politics: The Political Theory of Money from Aristotle to Keynes*, 2022)

Book reviews

1. *British Protestant Missions and the Conversion of Europe, 1600–1900* (Routledge, 2020), eds. Simone Maghenzani and Stefano Villani, in *History: The Journal of the Historical Association* (forthcoming)
2. *Making Italy Anglican: Why the Book of Common Prayer was Translated into Italian* (Oxford, 2022), by Stefano Villani, in *Renaissance Studies* 38:3 (June 2024), pp. 446–447
3. *Counsel and Command in Early Modern English Thought* (Cambridge, 2020), by Joanne Paul, in *History: The Journal of the Historical Association* 108:383 (December 2023), pp. 585–587
4. *Religion and Governance in England's Emerging Colonial Empire, 1601–1698* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), by Haig Z. Smith, in *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 74:4 (October 2023), pp. 885–886
5. *Letterati, artisti, mecenati del Seicento e del Settecento: Identità culturali tra Antico e Moderno* (Olschki, 2021), ed. Michela di Macco, in *Modern Language Review* 118:1 (Jan 2023), pp. 143–145

6. *Forbidden Knowledge: Medicine, Science and Censorship in Early Modern Italy* (Chicago, 2020), by Hannah Marcus, in *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, 72:3 (July 2021), pp. 658–660
7. *Civil Religion and the Enlightenment in England 1707–1800* (Boydell, 2020), by Ashley Walsh, in *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, 72:2 (April 2021), pp. 439–441

#### AWARDS & PRIZES (SELECT)

1. **Society for Court Studies Essay Prize**, 2022 (best essay in the field of court studies)
2. **Teaching Excellence Award**, Pembroke College, 2022 (awarded on the basis of outstanding student and fellow nominations)
3. **Sir John Neale Prize for Early Modern British History**, 2021 (awarded by the Institute of Historical Research and the Royal Historical Society, for the best essay in early modern British History)
4. **Archbishop Cranmer Studentship**, 2020–21 (awarded by Cambridge History Faculty for excellence in ecclesiastical history)
5. **Archbishop Cranmer Prize**, 2020 (awarded by Cambridge History Faculty for excellence in ecclesiastical history)
6. **Honorary Vice-Chancellor’s Award**, Cambridge Trust, 2017–21 (250 highest-ranked PhD applicants)
7. **Arts and Humanities Research Council DTP Studentship** (fully funded), 2017–20
8. **Quentin Skinner Prize, *Proxime Accessit***, 2017 (2<sup>nd</sup> placed in MPhil cohort)
9. **History of Parliament Trust Dissertation Prize**, joint winner, 2016 (best undergraduate dissertation in the country on British or Irish political history)
10. **Cambridge Historical Society Prize**, 2015 (ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the year in Part I coursework)

#### VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

2022	<b>British and Commonwealth Scholarship</b> , Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, Venice (July–August)
2020	<b>Maddock Research Fellowship</b> , Marsh’s Library, Dublin (Feb)
2019	<b>AHRC-funded Visiting Researcher</b> , Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice (Jan–July)

#### TEACHING

##### COURSES CONVENED

**Utopias and Dystopias**, Quest 1 Course, University of Florida (2025–)

**Political Thought: Plato to Rousseau**, finals paper, University of Oxford (2022–24) - delivered across 16 lectures and 8 tutorials

**Politics 1 – Introduction to Political Theory**, Astrophoria PPE foundation year, University of Oxford (2023–24) - designed syllabus and delivered across 6 lectures and 6 tutorials

##### OTHER COURSES TAUGHT

##### Tutorials (pairs or one-on-one)

- **Political Thought: Bentham to Weber**, undergraduate tutorials, Oxford (2023–24)
- **Theory of Politics**, undergraduate tutorials, Oxford (2022–24).
- **Theories of the State**, undergraduate tutorials, Oxford (2021–24).
- **British History 4: 1500–1700**, undergraduate tutorials, Oxford (2021–23).
- **European and World History 3: 1400–1650**, undergraduate tutorials, Oxford (2021–22).
- **Machiavelli’s *Discorsi* - Foreign Text Paper**, undergraduate tutorials, Oxford (2021–22).

- **Political Thought to 1700 (Paper 19/POL 7)**, undergraduate tutorials, Cambridge (2017–21)

### Classes

- **Introduction to the Theory of Politics**, undergraduate seminars, Oxford (2022-24)
- **Approaches to History**, undergraduate seminars, Oxford (2021-22)
- **Disciplines of History**, undergraduate seminars, Oxford (2021-22)
- **Religion in British Political History 1688-1886**, undergraduate source class, Cambridge (2019)
- **Writing a Political Thought Essay**, MPhil methods seminar, Cambridge (2018)
- **Time**, undergraduate revision lecture and seminar for third-year 'Historical Argument and Practice' paper, Cambridge (2020)

### RESEARCH SUPERVISION

#### Graduate

**MPhil in Political Theory** (2022-2024), Oxford

**MSc in Study of Religions** (2022-2023), Oxford

#### Undergraduate

Supervised third-year dissertations in Politics, History and Theology, Cambridge and Oxford

### LANGUAGES

Full command for research purposes: English (native), Latin, Italian, German, French

### ACADEMIC SERVICE & ACTIVITIES

#### CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR ORGANISATION

- Organiser (with Richard Calis), '**Global Protestantism: Evangelization, Encounter and Empire**', two panel series, Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Chicago (March 2024)
- Convenor (with Alana Mailes), '**Stuart Serenissima: Anglo-Venetian Cultural Exchange, 1603-1714**', conference at Trinity College, Cambridge (Jan 2023). Funded by the Oxford Centre for Early Modern Studies and Cambridge History Faculty Trevelyan Fund
- Convenor (with Thomas Langley and Odile Panetta), '**The Patristic Legacy in Early Modern Culture**', conference at Queens' College, Cambridge (Sept 2019). Funded by the AHRC
- Convenor (with Hetty van Hensbergen), '**The Body and Politics**', graduate conference at Pembroke College, Cambridge (March 2019). Funded by the Royal Historical Society and the Cambridge School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Convenor (with Hetty van Hensbergen), '**Women's History Seminar Lunches** (2018–19), lunchtime seminar series which aimed to increase female participation in the History of Political Thought. Funded by the AHRC
- Conference Assistant, '**Political Thought, Time and History**' (May 2018), conference at Clare College, Cambridge, convened by Professor John Robertson,
- Seminar Assistant, '**Cambridge Political Thought and Intellectual History Seminar** (2017–18)
- Conference Assistant, '**History, Politics, Law: Thinking Through the International**' (May 2016), conference at Clare College Cambridge convened by Annabel Brett, Megan Donaldson and Martti Koskenniemi

#### PEER REVIEWER

- Durham University Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies Press

- *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*
- *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy*

## UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

### Academic Administration

- **Main Organising Tutor (Director of Studies) in Politics**, Oriel College, Oxford (2022–24)
- **Political Theory Course Lead**, Astrophoria Foundation Year in PPE, University of Oxford (2023–24)
- **Organising Tutor (Director of Studies) in History**, Pembroke College, Oxford (2021–22), for second year and joint schools
- **Coordinator for Visiting Students in History**, Pembroke College (2022)

### Academic Committee Membership

- **Political Theory Panel** (reserved and unreserved), Department of Politics and International Relations (DPIR), University of Oxford (2022–24)
- **PPE Coordinating Committee**, Astrophoria Foundation Year (2023–24)
- **Tutorial Committee**, Oriel College (2022–24)

### Job Panel Membership

- **Departmental Lectureship appointment committee**, DPIR, Oxford (2024)
- **Stipendiary Lectureship appointment committee**, Oriel College (2024)
- **Stipendiary Lectureship appointment committee**, Pembroke College (2022)

### Pastoral Care

- **College Advisor**, graduate students in Politics and Law, Oriel College (2022–24)
- **Pastoral Tutor**, History undergraduates, Pembroke College, Oxford (2021–22)

### Examining (undergraduate)

- **Lead examiner**, 'Political Thought: Plato to Rousseau', PPE finals paper, DPIR (2023, 2024)
- **Lead examiner**, 'Politics 1 – Introduction to Political Theory', Astrophoria PPE foundation year, Oxford (2024)
- **Examiner**, 'Theory of Politics', PPE finals paper, Department of Philosophy, Oxford (2024)
- **Examiner**, 'Political Thought: Bentham to Weber', PPE finals paper, DPIR (2023)
- **Examiner**, Third-Year dissertations, DPIR & History Faculty, Oxford (2023, 2024)

### Examining (graduate)

- **Examiner**, DPhil Transfer of Status, DPIR, Oxford (2024)
- **Examiner**, MPhil dissertations, DPIR, Oxford (2023, 2024)
- **Examiner**, 'Political Theories from Machiavelli to Burke', MPhil Political Theory, examined option paper, DPIR (2023, 2024)

### Admissions

- **Lead Admissions Tutor in Politics**, Oriel College (2022, 2023)
- **Admissions Interviewer**, History and joint schools, Pembroke College, Oxford (2021)
- **Admissions Interviewer**, Human, Social and Political Sciences (HSPS), Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (2020)
- **Graduate Admissions Assessor**, assessing applications for the MPhil in Political Theory, MSc in Political Theory and DPhil in Political Theory, DPIR, Oxford (2023, 2024)

## INVITED TALKS

2024

1. 'Traiano Boccalini and the politics of alliance', Reason of State and the Emergence of the Public Sphere Research Colloquium, History Faculty, Oxford (June 2024)
2. 'How the print revolution created a market of ideas', Engelsberg Seminar, Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation for Public Benefit, Sweden (June 2024)
3. Guest Speaker, Rousseau's *Social Contract*, The Fortescue Society, Oxford (June 2024)
4. 'The political career of Robert Harley (1661–1724) in religious context', Harley 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Colloquium, The British Library, London (April 2024)
5. 'Paolo Sarpi's *History of the Council of Trent* (1619/20) and early modern conciliar thinking', Oxford Political Thought Seminar (February 2024)

2023

6. 'Writing anti-papal history between England and Venice: the context for Paolo Sarpi's *History of the Council of Trent* (1619/20)', Tudor and Stuart Seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London (Dec 2023)
7. 'Venice as a model for English Civil Religion, 1660-1714', History of Christianity Seminar, Cambridge (Oct 2023)
8. 'Corporate Bodies and the Politics of Conversion in Early Seventeenth-Century England', Body Politic(s) seminar series, University of Aarhus (Aug 2023)
9. 'The Christian Civic Humanism of Coluccio Salutati', Dante and the Secularisation of Politics Colloquium, Pusey House, Oxford (June 2023)
10. 'Robert Harley (1661–1724): the real first Prime Minister', after dinner talk, The Canterbury Institute, Oxford (April 2023)
11. Invited contributor, 'The Dynamics of Global Anglicanism: Money, Trade and Belief 1607-2020' Colloquium, Global Anglicanism Network, University of Kent (March 2023)
12. 'The first Anglican mission? The English in Venice, 1607–1610', *Recollections* lecture series, Pusey House, Oxford (March 2023)
13. Guest Speaker, Pembroke College Annual History Dinner, Oxford (Feb 2023)
14. Commenter, Roundtable on *The Currency of Politics: The Political Theory of Money from Aristotle to Keynes* by Stefan Eich, Oxford Political Thought Seminar (Feb 2023)
15. 'William Bedell and the pursuit of global Reformation in early seventeenth-century England', British History in the Seventeenth Century Seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London (Feb 2023)

2022

16. 'William Bedell and the Making of a Missionary Church in England, 1603–1642', Centre for Anglican History and Theology, University of Kent (Dec 2022)

17. 'England's Lost Renaissance? Anglo-Venetian Politics between the Household of Prince Henry and the Court of James VI & I', 'ePublic of Letters' Seminar, Warwick/online (Nov 2022)
18. 'The 'English' Sarpi and the Glorious Revolution', *L'antipapa: Nuove prospettive su Paolo Sarpi nel quadricentenario della morte* (workshop on new work on Paolo Sarpi, organised by Vittorio Frajese), Rome/online (Oct 2022)
19. Guest Speaker, The Mary Kenyon Memorial Lecture, Chelmsford County High School, Chelmsford (Sept 2022)
20. 'A Training Ground for Godly Diplomacy: Cambridge's 'Puritan' Colleges on the European Confessional Stage, 1603–1625', *The Mind is its Own Place? Early Modern Intellectual History in an Institutional Context*, Oxford-Edinburgh Conference, New College, Oxford (May 2022)
21. 'Resistance theory and the Church of England: from William Bedell to Gilbert Burnet', Religious History of Britain Seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London [online] (Feb 2022)
22. 'Religious politics and cultural exchange in early-seventeenth century England and Venice', Italian Studies at Oxford Seminar, Oxford. With comment by Filippo de Vivo (Feb 2022)

#### 2021

23. 'Venice and the polemical works of James VI & I', Early Modern Britain Seminar, Oxford (Oct 2021)
24. 'England's Lost Renaissance? Interest in Venice in the circles of Henry, Prince of Wales (1594–1612)', Early Modern Seminar, Cardiff University [online] (Oct 2021)
25. 'Paolo Sarpi's Venice and the English debate over Church–State relations', History of Political Ideas Early Career Seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London [online] (Oct 2021)
26. Commentator, Roundtable on *Counsel and Command in Early Modern English Thought* by Joanne Paul, alongside Mark Goldie, Lisa Kattenberg and the author [online] (May 2021)
27. 'Reformed but not converted: Paolo Sarpi and the English mission in Venice, 1607–10', Conscience and Conversion Workshop, 'Europe's Short Peace (c.1595-1620)' research network, Clark Library, Los Angeles [online] (April 2021)

#### 2018–2020

28. 'The Church of England's response to the Venetian Interdict crisis (1606-7)', Religious History of Britain Seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London [online] (Sept 2020)
29. 'The significance of Venetian anti-papal polemic for Jacobean politics and religion', Early Modern British and Irish History Seminar, Cambridge (Jan 2020)
30. 'Henry Wotton (1568-1639) and the Civil Law', Intellectual History Workshop, European University Institute, Florence (March 2019)
31. 'The Education of Henry Wotton (1568-1639)', Early Modern Scholarship and Religion Seminar, Cambridge (Nov 2018)

32. 'Saint Augustine and the emergence of Florentine civic humanism', *Cities and Citizenship after Rome*, Impact of the Ancient City Conference, Cambridge (October 2017)

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. "'Like our adversaries at Rome"? The Seventeenth-Century Church of England and Anti-Jesuit Evangelism', Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Chicago (March 2024)
2. 'Grand Designs: James VI and I and Plans for Perpetual Peace in Early Seventeenth-Century Europe, 1603-1625', North American Conference on British Studies (NACBS), Baltimore (Nov 2023)
3. Commentator, Roundtable on 'Defining the Stuart Serenissima', *Stuart Serenissima: Anglo-Venetian Cultural Exchange, 1603-1714* Conference, Trinity College, Cambridge (Jan 2023)
4. 'Religious Refugees or Faithless "Convertitoes"? Venetian Exiles at the English Jacobean Court', Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Dublin (March 2022)
5. 'Between confessional polemic and personal experience: marriage in the early seventeenth-century "Republic of Letters"', *The Churches and Rites of Passage*, Ecclesiastical History Society Conference [online]. *Attended as fully funded EHS Bursary holder* (July 2021)
6. 'Sarpi, Micanzio and Bedell: a new source for the Anglo-Venetian encounter at the monastery of Santa Maria dei Servi', *The Church of Santa Maria dei Servi and the Servite Community in Venice (XIV – XVIII centuries)*, 'Chiese di Venezia. Nuove Prospettive di Ricerca' project conference, Venice [online] (Dec 2020)
7. 'Scholastic theology and the politics of the city in the works of Catherine of Siena', *Scholasticism in Medieval and Early Modern History*, St John's College, Oxford (Sept 2019)
8. 'English Politics and the Blasphemy Act of 1698', *The Church and the Law*, Ecclesiastical History Society Annual Conference, Cambridge. *Attended as fully funded EHS Bursary holder* (July 2018)

### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND ACCESS

#### PUBLIC, ACCESS AND EXTRACURRICULAR TALKS/CLASSES

1. Meet the Tutor, Oriel College Open Days (2022–24)
2. Convenor, Plato Reading Group for Oriel undergraduate and graduate students, fortnightly meetings (2022–24)
3. 'Emmanuel Puritans: Shaking up European Politics and Diplomacy', talk for the 'Emma Experience' undergraduate enrichment programme, Emmanuel College, Cambridge (May 2024)
4. 'The Politics of Dante's *Commedia*', Oxford seminar for UF visiting students (May 2024)
5. Introduction to PPE talk, DPIP Open Day, Oxford (2023)
6. What to expect from a Politics Interview, UNIQ Summer School talk, Oxford (2023)
7. 'The Gunpowder Plot in European Perspective', talk to the Historical Association, Oxford Branch (Jan 2023)
8. 'Beyond Shakespeare: Why Venice mattered in Jacobean England', talk to Oxford University History Society (May 2022)



9. Open Day History of Political Thought Masterclass, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (April 2021)
10. Classes for the Cambridge Sutton Trust Summer School (for disadvantaged sixth form students) on 'The role of the Diplomat in Early Modern History' (online, 2020) and 'The Print Revolution' (in person, 2019)
11. Presentations at schools, including 'Spying, dissimulation and early modern "Fake News"' at Chelmsford County High School and 'The religious policy of James VI & I' at Westcliff High School
12. 'Rome, Liberty, and Rhetoric', an interview with Dr Valentina Arena (UCL) for *Interventions: The Intellectual History Podcast*, June 2018
13. Researcher and technical assistant, 'Early Modern Fake News', Cambridge Festival of Ideas (Oct 2017)

#### PUBLIC WRITING

1. 'J.G.A. Pocock's roads not taken', *Engelsberg Ideas*, Dec 2023
2. 'Paolo Sarpi: opponent of papal power', *Engelsberg Ideas*, Oct 2023
3. 'The first prime minister', *Engelsberg Ideas*, Aug 2023
4. 'Thoughts on "The Churches and Rites of Passage"', *Ecclesiastical History Society blog*, Aug 2021
5. 'William Bedell, Venice and the Irish Language', *Marsh's Library blog*, Feb 2020
6. 'An eighteenth-century solution to Brexit', *The British Interest magazine*, Oct 2019
7. 'Honest Men Lying Abroad', *London Review of Books blog*, June 2019
8. 'Blasphemy: a very modern crime', *Ecclesiastical History Society blog*, Jan 2019