

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Eric Nelson**

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

Date and place of birth: August 13, 1977, New York City, USA

Nationality: American

### **ACADEMIC POSITION**

Associate Professor of Government  
Harvard University

### **PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

- 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 Hebrew Republic: Jewish Sources and the Transformation of European Political Thought*, forthcoming from Harvard University Press.

*The Greek Tradition in Republican Thought* (Cambridge University Press, 2004)

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

### **Articles**

“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, forthcoming from W.W. Norton and Company.

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

### **Book Chapters**

“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).

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

“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, forthcoming from Brill.

## **INVITED PAPERS AND LECTURES**

“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.

## **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

2003-2006 Junior Fellowship in the 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.

## **PEER REVIEW**

History of Political Thought  
Journal of the History of Ideas  
Political Studies  
Political Theory  
Review of Politics

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Harvard**

Government 90pk: Thomas Hobbes (Fall 2005)

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

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

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

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

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

### **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).

### **LANGUAGES**

Spoken: French, Italian

Read: ancient Greek, German, Hebrew, Latin