

Jacob Williams
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Education

University of Oxford (2023-), PhD in Political Theory, ongoing

Thesis: 'Postliberalism and its Discontents -- Responding to the New Right-Wing Critique of Liberal Pluralism'

Supervisor's expected completion date: January 2026

Activities: Co-organised and taught a seminar series, "Islam and Justice in Religiously Plural Societies" (

[OIJP Final Syllabus](#))

Convened a reading group on conservative political thought (

[MT24 Oxford Conservative Thought Reading Group - Reading List](#))

Conferences:

Heterodox Academy -- New York, June 2025 -- Invited as presenter on 'From Mill to Marcuse?

Responding to the Postliberal Challenge to Academic Freedom'

'Religion, Freedom, Equality' -- Oxford, June 2024. Paid research assistant (responsible for logistics and circulating papers)

King's College London (2020-2022), MA Religion, Distinction

Overall score: 76

Dissertation: 'Scruton and George on religion and liberalism: to what extent does religious conservatism undermine political liberalism?' (75)

Religion and the Modern State: Jewish and Other Perspectives (80)

Religion and Politics in Western Societies (77)

Issues and Themes in Contemporary Islamic Thinking (80)

The Idea of Beauty in Islam (75)

Introduction to the Intellectual History of the Muslim World (70)

Intermediate Arabic (82) (with Reflective Report (68) weighted at 25%)

Awards

Hanson Prize for final year MA student with the highest average mark in Philosophy of Religion

Ulrich Simon Prize for the highest average MA mark in the Department of Religious Studies

University of Oxford (2012-16), BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics, 2.1

Finals papers: *Theory of Politics* (66), *Ethics* (66), *Knowledge and Reality* (57), *Post-Kantian Philosophy* (69), *Philosophy of Science and Social Science* (62), *British Politics and Government* (60), *International Relations* (57), *Sociological Theory* (66)

Publications

"Islamic Traditionalists: 'Against the Modern World'?" 2023. *Muslim World* 113 (3): 333–54.

<<https://doi.org/10.1111/muwo.12475>>

"The Rise of 'Woke': Is Kaufmann's Account the Best?" 2024. *Academic Questions* 37 (4): 82-89.

<<https://www.nas.org/academic-questions/37/4/the-rise-of-woke-is-kaufmanns-account-the-best>>

Employment

2020-24: Director, JPW Academy (<https://jpwtutors.com/>)

- >Grew an online tutoring business from 0 to 600 enrolled students, focusing on high school exams.
- >Expanded into providing business coaching and consulting services for other private tutors.
- >Developed an innovative group instruction method combining individualisation with scalability
- >Led a team of five full- and part-time contractors and delegated day-to-day running of the business, limiting my involvement to around five hours per week.
- >Grew revenues to over \$100,000 per month at 50% profit margins

2018-19: Teacher of A-Level Politics, North Bridge House School, Canonbury, London.

- >Taught an introductory course on Political Ideologies to 17-to-18-year-old students

2017-20: Independent private tutor teaching humanities and social science subjects up to undergraduate level.