

Jacob Williamson
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Education:

2012-Present: Somerville College, University of Oxford.

- BPhil in Philosophy. (Outcome pending).
 - Monthly 5,000 word essays written on topics including: the ethics of balancing freedom of information and national security in journalism, climate change and against the right to pornography. My academic work is available [here](#).
 - Thesis to be written on liberalism and education.

2009-2012: Somerville College, University of Oxford.

- First-class honours in BA Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE).
 - Award for best philosophy thesis.
 - Required to write two 2,000 word essays every week.
 - Distinction in all three subjects in preliminary examinations.
 - Finals papers including Ethics, International Relations and Political Theory.

2002-2009: Adams' Grammar School.

- A-Levels: 4As (Maths, Politics, German and Religious Studies).

Journalistic experience:

2012-Present: Blogger. Founder of [Liberal Reflections](#).

- 27,000 views, 900 posts.
- Linked to by [The Week](#) and [Big Think](#) and on *Twitter* by journalists at [Al Jazeera](#), [The Washington Post](#), [The Independent](#) and [ThinkProgress](#).
- Featured on Andrew Sullivan's blog [The Dish](#), which [linked](#) to my writing, [embedded](#) it as part of a wider debate and used it to [spur](#) further thoughts.
- I comment on current events and respond to opinion articles featured elsewhere. I also write about my work, [the arts](#), and have occasionally [live-blogged](#) *Question Time*. A representative sample of my posts is available [here](#).

2010-2012: Film blog critic. Founder of [Swoons and snarls](#).

- 60,000 views, 300 posts.
- Reviewed every film I watched for two years.

2010-2012: Writer for [Cherwell](#).

- Reviewed new films as they reached the cinema for Oxford's student newspaper.

Writer for [*Liberal Conspiracy*](#).

- Permission was requested to cite in court my article defending Damien Shannon's decision to sue St. Hugh's college.

Letters published in *The Times*.

- On topics including [parties and principles](#), [referenda](#) and [vegetarianism](#).

Further volunteering experience and activities:

2013: Researcher for *Giving What We Can*.

- Conducted [independent research](#) on the problem of micronutrient bioavailability.
- Summarised my findings on the organisation's blog.
- Spurred an ongoing reevaluation of their endorsement of *Project Healthy Children*.

2013: Content curator for *Action 4 Justice*.

- Volunteer up to four hours a week contributing to a new website that will help to enable public interest litigation on issues such as social and economic rights.
- Backed by Joss Saunders of *Oxfam*, Richard Lord QC and a coalition of partners at NGOs such as *Greenpeace* and *Transparency International*.

2013: Campaigning for ethical eating.

- Working with *Oxford Students For Animals* to encourage people to move away from factory farming for health, animal welfare and environmental reasons.
- Personally organising a regular leafleting group in Oxford, in coordination with *Vegan Outreach* and *Compassion in World Farming*.
- Personally engaging with local churches to encourage their use of ethical suppliers.

2010-Present: *Magdalen Film Society* committee member.

- Involved with designing the society's programme, running twice-weekly screenings and writing blurbs for a 100+ capacity cinema.
- Personally built a social media presence by running a Facebook page with 1,000 fans.
- Convinced the President to pledge profits to effective charities.

Awards:

Elizabeth Anscombe Prize.

- Award for writing the best Final Honour School philosophy thesis.

Faculty of Philosophy Studentship.

- Award covering my tuition fee, college fee and living expenses during the BPhil.

Mary Somerville Prize.

- Award of £100 from Somerville College for receiving First-class honours in Finals.