

# Jack Blumenau | Curriculum Vitae

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## Education

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### London School of Economics

*PhD, Political Science, expected September 2015*

*2012–present*

### Harvard University

*Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Visiting Scholar*

*2015*

### University of Oxford

*MPhil, European Politics and Society, Distinction*

*2010–2012*

### London School of Economics

*BSc., Political Science, First Class Honours*

*2006–2009*

## Experience

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### Data.....

#### Managing Editor

**London**

*London School of Economics General Election Blog*

*2014–2015*

Edited, managed, and contributed to this high-profile academic [blog](#) during the 2015 UK general election campaign. Duties included: writing clear, informative, and statistically literate articles for the site; commissioning and editing content from scholars around the world; promoting the site to the public and to journalists; giving regular presentations to the media; managing a team of sub-editors; managing social-media.

- A selection of my own writings for the LSE blog:
  - [Do party leader approval ratings predict election outcomes?](#) Coverage: [The Week](#)
  - [Students are likely to be under-represented in the 2015 election.](#)
  - [What would the election look like under PR?](#) Coverage: [Financial Times](#), [Washington Post](#), [Huffington Post](#).
- Media coverage of presentations includes: [The Sydney Morning Herald](#), [Helsingin Sanomat](#), [Challenges](#), [La Depeche](#), [Le Point](#), [Sud Ouest](#), [Economica.net](#).

#### Polling Assistant

**London**

*Electionforecast.co.uk (also known as the BBC's "Newsnight Index")*

*2014–2015*

Worked on the development and presentation of the [electionforecast.co.uk](http://electionforecast.co.uk) forecasting model for the 2015 UK general election. Duties included: contributing to the development of the forecasting model; writing blog posts to explain the forecasts; collecting and inputting daily polling data; preparing daily updates to feature on the [forecasting website](#) as well as on BBC's [Newsnight](#) programme.

*Selected writings on behalf of electionforecast.co.uk:*

- [Will Ed become PM?](#) Coverage: [The Independent](#)
- [Four electoral records that might be broken in May.](#) Coverage: [The Guardian](#); [The New Statesman](#)
- [The \(not so\) basic legislative arithmetic of the 2015 election](#)

## Parliamentary Assistant

London

Angela Smith, MP (now Baroness Smith of Basildon)

2005

Worked in this busy parliamentary office during the period that Lady Smith was the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. Duties included: preparing and managing constituency case work; speechwriting; preparing parliamentary questions; responding to media requests.

## Teaching

### Department of Methodology, LSE

Class teacher - Applied Regression Analysis

2014–2015

### Department of Methodology, LSE

Class teacher - Applied Statistical Computing

2014–2015

## Acting

### Various

Full CV [here](#), IMDB page [here](#)

I have acted professionally for 18 years, playing leading roles in theatre, television and film.

## Awards

### Wildenmann Prize

For the outstanding paper presented at the ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops

2010 - 2014

### Advanced Quantitative Methods Enhanced Stipend

Economic and Social Research Council, 3 year award

2010 - 2014

### Kelly Black-Iwaskow Prize, LSE

Departmental prize for best final year dissertation

2009

### Basset Memorial Prize, LSE

Departmental prize for best overall degree results

2009

### Harold Laski Scholarship, LSE

Departmental prize for best overall results in second year

2008

## Computer skills

Statistical computing: R, STATA

Level: Advanced

Type-setting:  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , Word

Level: Advanced

Other: PowerPoint, Excel

Level: Advanced

## PhD thesis

Title: *Three Quantitative Essays in Legislative Politics*

**Description:** This thesis uses advanced quantitative methods to investigate the voting and speech-making behaviour of legislators in the European Parliament and the UK House of Commons. The first paper, which was awarded the Wildenmann Prize for best paper presented at the ECPR Joint Sessions in 2012, explores how party leaders in the European Parliament restrict access to the plenary agenda so as to preserve party unity on roll call votes. The second paper uses a Bayesian ideal-point model to estimate the effect of the financial crisis on voting coalitions in the European Parliament. The final paper presents a new dataset of half a million parliamentary speeches to explain the participation of female MPs in parliamentary debates.

## Quantitative Training

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### Quantitative Research Methods

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

2014

### Advanced Quantitative Research Methodology

*University of Harvard*

2014

### Causal Inference for Experimental and Observational Studies

*London School of Economics*

2013

### Advanced Regression Analysis

*London School of Economics*

2013

### Multilevel Modelling

*University of Oxford*

2011

### Intermediate Social Statistics

*University of Oxford*

2011

### Applied Statistics for Political Scientists

*University of Oxford*

2011

## Publications and working papers

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**Title:** *Open/Closed Lists and Party Choice: Experimental Evidence from the U.K.*

Forthcoming - British Journal of Political Science

**Title:** *Never Let a Good Crisis Go to Waste: Agenda Setting and Legislative Voting in Response to External Shocks*

Under review.

**Title:** *Agenda Control and Party Cohesion in the European Parliament*

In progress.

## References

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- Professor Simon Hix, [s.hix@lse.ac.uk](mailto:s.hix@lse.ac.uk), 020 7955 7657
- Professor Sara Hobolt, [s.b.hobolt@lse.ac.uk](mailto:s.b.hobolt@lse.ac.uk), 020 7955 7580
- Dr. Benjamin Lauderdale, [b.e.lauderdale@lse.ac.uk](mailto:b.e.lauderdale@lse.ac.uk), 020 7955 6156