

# Dr. Alexander Thompson

[athomp3@ed.ac.uk](mailto:athomp3@ed.ac.uk)

---

## **Current Activities**

### **Qualifications**

#### *Postgraduate*

Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in Mathematics at King's College London (2024-2025)

Doctor of Philosophy. The evolution of contract law during the industrial revolution (2021-2025). Supervised by Professor David Ibbetson.

Visiting Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory, Frankfurt (2023)

Visiting Researcher at the University of Milan, LERU. (2025)

#### *Undergraduate*

Triple first from Cambridge in Law. Top paper in Legal History (2019); starred first in Criminology, Sentencing, and the Penal System (2020).

#### *Scholarships*

Homerton Second-Year Scholarship for scoring top 10% in part 1A and 1B.  
Maitland Fund Scholarship for Historical Legal Research

### **Teaching**

#### *University*

- Undergraduate tutor (*Critical Legal Thinking*), University of Edinburgh (current); Undergraduate tutor (*Scots Contract law*), University of Glasgow (current); Undergraduate supervisor (*Studies in Educational Ideas*), University of Cambridge (current).
- Stipendiary lecturer (*Civil Law*), St Catherine's College, Oxford (2024). Tutor in Legal History (2023).
- University of Cambridge: Supervisor in Civil Law I and Legal History (2021-2023). Organized a project with four Cambridge students digitizing the English Law Reports from 1800-1900 to make them available to the general public. We digitized over 15,000 pages of reports over the course of 2-3 months.
- Organized a series of legal history field trips to "Association of Young Legal Historians" (AYLH) conference (Istanbul 2022; Sarajevo 2023; Milan 2024), where students presented papers.
- Tutor on the Oxford English contract law exchange course, University of Tokyo, Kobe University, and Rikkyo University. (2022-2025).

#### *Editing*

Editor-in-Chief of the Cambridge Law Review (2021-2022)

Senior Editor of the Cambridge Law Review (2020-2021)

Deputy Editor for *Per Incuriam*, the Cambridge undergraduate law journal (2019-2020)

#### *Mooting*

Judge for the XIII International Roman Law Moot (2020)

Mooting judge for the Cambridge University Law Society (2023)

Mooting judge for the Oxford University mooting society (2025)

#### *University Administrative Work*

Marker for the UCL Notary Roman Law Examinations (2024)

LNAT Marker (2022)

Marker for Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education (ICE) in law (2024)

Admissions Interviewer, Homerton College Cambridge (2022-2025)

## Access

- Cambridge Tutoring Initiative tutor (2020-2021); Zero Gravity Mentor (2024-2025). Lecturer for the Linacre Institute on a variety of legal topics, including a series of mock interviews for Linacre institute students preparing to apply to Cambridge. (2022-2024).
- Supervisor, examiner, and marker for the Caius BME conference on Law (2022); seminar leader for the Caius 'Eleven Up' taster sessions in (2022), including a delivering a lecture on working as a legal professional in (2023). Delivered a series of lectures, seminars, and supervisions as part of the Kings 2021 bridging program for incoming Cambridge Law students.

## Research

### Articles

- Thompson, A. 'Turing Complete Law' in Bettina Heiderhoff; Ilaria Quierolo (eds) 'EU and Private International Law: Trending Topics in Contracts, Successions, and Civil Liability' (2023) *Editoriale Scientifica* (Naples/Napoli), pp. 347-375.
- Valvoda, J; Thompson, A; Cotterell, R; Teufel, S. (2024) 'The Ethics of Automating Legal Actors', *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics* (TACL). Arxiv pre-print available [here](#).
- Thompson, A. (2024) 'Rethinking Historical Jurisprudence: Review', *Cambridge Law Journal* (CLJ). Available [here](#), pp. 389-392.
- Thompson, A. (2025) 'Calculating a Child's Future to Two Decimal Places', forthcoming in *Law & Social Inquiry*.

### Select Conference Papers

- Presented a paper at the Quantitative Methods and Doctrinal Work symposium titled 'Are we inventing new legal techniques?' 2023.
- Presented a paper titled "Calculating a Child's Future to Two Decimal Places" at the Harvard University *Just Computation* conference 2023.
- Presented a paper at the Edinburgh Postgraduate Law Conference 2021 on the possibility of an open-access legal database, including the E-R chart for prototype SQL database. The title was 'Legal Perfection and the Case for Manual Data Entry.'

## Other Writing

Thompson, A. (2023) *Daydreams and Thought Experiments*, Wooden Books. Japanese edition forthcoming October 2025.

6 Part Series on Law, Wooden Books, *under Contract*:

- Thompson, A. (2026) *Legal Science*, forthcoming May 2026.
- Thompson, A. (2027) *Jurisprudence*
- Thompson, A. (n.b.) *Legal Techniques*
- Thompson A. (n.b.) *The Common Law*
- Thompson A. (n.b.) *International Law*
- Thompson A. (n.b.) *Legal Systems*

Current project: *Isn't It Beautiful?* Historical survey of the hardest English literature secondary examinations in England, Scotland, and America between 1880-2020.