

BEN NOBLE

University College London
School of Slavonic and East European Studies
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Academic positions

- 2017 — Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Russian Politics, University College London, School of Slavonic and East European Studies
- 2017 — Senior Research Fellow, Laboratory for Regional Political Studies, National Research University – Higher School of Economics, Moscow
- 2019-2020 Visiting Researcher, IRES, Uppsala University
- 2017-2018 Visiting Fellow, Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki
- 2015-2017 Herbert Nicholas Junior Research Fellow in Politics, New College, University of Oxford

Education

- 2016 DPhil in Politics, University of Oxford
Winner of the Political Studies Association's Sir Walter Bagehot Prize
- 2010 MPhil (*Distinction*) in Russian and East European Studies, University of Oxford
Winner of the Michael Kaser Prize, St Antony's College, University of Oxford
- 2008 BA(Hons) (*First Class*) in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, University of Oxford

Book manuscript

Title: *Bulldogs in the Duma: Executive Factionalism and Lawmaking in Russia.*

Manuscript accepted for review by Oxford University Press (New York).

Articles and book chapters

- 2019 **Noble, B.** 'Authoritarian amendments: Legislative institutions as intra-executive constraints in post-Soviet Russia.' *Comparative Political Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0010414018797941>.
- J. Gandhi, **Noble, B.**, and M. Svoboda. 'Legislatures and legislative politics without democracy.' *Comparative Political Studies*.
- **Noble, B.** 'Regional legislatures and national lawmaking.' *Journal of Legislative Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13572334.2019.1570597>.
- 2018 **Noble, B.** 'Parliamentary politics in Russia.' In R. Sakwa, H. Hale, and S. White (eds), *Developments in Russian Politics* (9th edition). Basingstoke; New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan. <https://www.macmillanihe.com/page/detail/Developments-in-Russian-Politics-9/?K=9781352004670>.

- **Noble, B.**, and E. Schulmann. ‘Not Just a Rubber Stamp: Parliament and Lawmaking.’ In D. Treisman (ed.), *The New Autocracy: Information, Politics, and Policy in Putin’s Russia*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press. <https://www.brookings.edu/book/the-new-autocracy/>.
- 2017 **Noble, B.** ‘Amending budget bills in the Russian State Duma.’ *Post-Communist Economies*, 29(4): 505-522. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14631377.2017.1333791>.
 Republished in S. Fortescue (ed.). 2018. *The Russian Budget*. Abingdon: Routledge. <https://www.routledge.com/The-Russian-Budget/Fortescue/p/book/9781138322721>.
- Baumgartner, F., M. Carammia, D. Epp, **B. Noble**, B. Rey, and M. Yildirim. ‘Budgetary change in authoritarian and democratic regimes’, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 24(6): 792-808. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2017.1296482>.
- **Noble, B.** ‘The State Duma, the “Crimean Consensus,” and Volodin’s reforms.’ In A. Barbashin and Ol’ga Irisova (eds), *Russia: Three Years After Crimea*. Warsaw: The Centre for Polish-Russian Dialogue and Understanding.
- 2013 **Noble, B.** ‘Decriminalising sex between men in the former Soviet Union, 1991-2003: Conditionality and the Council of Europe’. In K. Goodall, M. Malloch, and B. Munro (eds), *Building Justice in Post-Transition Europe? Processes of criminalisation within Central and Eastern European societies*, Abingdon: Routledge.
- In progress Ananyev, M., **B. Noble**, and P. Schuler. ‘Conditional criticism: Parliamentary scrutiny of the executive in Russia.’
- **Noble, B.**, P. Schuler, and C. Westerland. ‘An elite consolidation theory of authoritarian legislative closures.’
- **Noble, B.**, A. Starodubtsev, and M. Zavadskaya. ‘Unpopular decisions and the electoral connection in authoritarian regimes.’
- Morgenbesser, L., and **B. Noble**. ‘Closing parliaments in Southeast Asia.’
- **Noble, B.** ‘Regions with the initiative: Russian federal subjects as federal law-making agents, 1996-2016.’

Awards and grants

- 2019 British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award
- 2018 SEDA PDF Learning, Teaching, and Assessing Award — mapped at Descriptor 2 to the UK Professional Standards Framework for Teaching and Supporting Learning in Higher Education
 - Special Commendation Award from the Oxford Learning Institute — for portfolio submitted for the SEDA PDF Learning, Teaching, and Assessing Award
- 2017 Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts
 - Sir Walter Bagehot Prize, Political Studies Association
- 2016 Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace
- 2015 Norman Chester Fund travel grant, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford
- 2014 APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant
 - Research grant, New College, University of Oxford
- 2013–2014 Departmental studentship, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford
- 2013 Research grant, New College, University of Oxford
- 2012–2013 Leverhulme Study Abroad Studentship, The Leverhulme Trust

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| 2011–2012 | Alfa Fellowship, Alfa Bank |
| 2011 | Scatcherd European Scholarship, University of Oxford (declined) |
| — | Research grant, New College, University of Oxford |
| 2010–2013 | 1379 Society Old Members Scholarship: The Graeme Gates Award, New College, University of Oxford |
| 2010–2012 | Honorary Senior Scholarship, New College, University of Oxford |
| 2010–2011 | Departmental bursary, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford |
| 2010 | Michael Kaser thesis prize, St Antony’s College, University of Oxford |
| 2009 | Fieldwork grant, School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, University of Oxford |
| 2008–2010 | Bursary, School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, University of Oxford |
| 2008 | Final Honour School award, New College, University of Oxford |

Book reviews

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| 2019 | Noble, B. Book review: ‘Parliamentary elections in Russia: A quarter-century of multiparty politics.’ <i>Slavonic and East European Review</i> . |
| 2018 | Noble, B. Book review: ‘The Origins of Dominant Parties: Building Authoritarian Institutions in Post-Soviet Russia.’ <i>Europe-Asia Studies</i> (https://doi.org/10.1080/09668136.2018.1533335). |
| 2017 | Noble, B. Book review: ‘Pluralism by Default: Weak Autocrats and the Rise of Competitive Politics.’ <i>Europe-Asia Studies</i> , 69(3). |
| — | Noble, B. Book review: ‘No Illusions: The Voices of Russia’s Future Leaders.’ <i>Slavonic and East European Review</i> , 95(2): 390-392 (http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5699/slaveasteurorev2.95.2.0390). |
| 2015 | Noble, B. Book review: ‘Clientelism, Social Policy, and the Quality of Democracy.’ <i>East European Politics</i> , 31(2): 249-251 (http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/21599165.2015.1027814). |

Media

Articles & blog posts

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| 2019 | Noble, B. ‘When and why parliaments are closed by political leaders.’ <i>British Academy</i> , 2 September https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/blog/when-why-parliaments-closed-political-leaders |
| — | Noble, B. ‘President Vladimir Putin’s ”Direct Line”.’ <i>Presidential Power</i> , 26 June https://presidential-power.com/?p=9761 |
| — | Noble, B. ‘Preparing for regional elections in Russia.’ <i>Presidential Power</i> , 15 February https://presidential-power.com/?cat=114 |
| 2018 | Noble, B. ‘Gubernatorial elections in Russia.’ <i>Presidential Power</i> , 7 November https://presidential-power.com/?p=8894 |
| — | Noble, B. ‘Russia: new research shows even authoritarian regimes struggle to pass laws.’ <i>The Conversation</i> , 1 October 2018 https://theconversation.com/russia-new-research-shows-even-authoritarian-regimes-struggle-to-pass-laws-104084 |
| — | Noble, B. ‘Sub-national elections in Russia.’ <i>Presidential Power</i> , 12 September https://presidential-power.com/?p=8589 |

- Noble, B. ‘Executive oversight in Russia.’ *Presidential Power*, 5 September <http://presidential-power.com/?p=8542>
- Hetherington, P., and B. Noble. ‘Russia doesn’t just violate international law – it follows and shapes it too.’ *The Conversation*, 23 March <https://goo.gl/qQXnxv>
- Noble, B. ‘The Russian parliament is a “rubber stamp”. But we’d lose a lot by ignoring it.’ *Medium*, 23 March <https://goo.gl/j4vPBZ>
- 2017 Noble, B. ‘Presidential proxies: Cloaked law-making in contemporary Russia.’ *Presidential Power*, 8 May <http://presidential-power.com/?p=6420>
- 2016 Noble, B. ‘Volodin’s Duma.’ *Intersection*, 13 December <http://intersectionproject.eu/article/politics/volodins-duma>
- Noble, B. ‘Putin just won a supermajority in the Duma. That matters.’ *The Washington Post*, The Monkey Cage, 1 October <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/10/01/putin-just-won-a-super-majority-in-the-duma-that-matters/>
- Noble, B. ‘Russians will be voting on Sunday. Here’s what you need to know.’ *The Washington Post*, The Monkey Cage, 16 September https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/09/16/russians-will-be-voting-on-sunday-heres-what-you-need-to-know/?tid=a_inl

Quotes

- 2019 Roache, M. ‘Why does Alexei Navalny rattle the Kremlin.’ *Al Jazeera*, 30 July, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/07/alexei-navalny-rattle-kremlin-190730011624727.html>
- Roache, M. ‘Poll shows Russia’s trust in Putin falls to all-time low.’ *Al Jazeera*, 23 January, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/01/poll-shows-russia-trust-putin-falls-time-190122184309853.html>
- 2018 Amos, H. ‘The Banality of Disappointment.’ *The New Republic*, 19 March <https://newrepublic.com/article/147531/banality-disappointment>

Podcasts

- 2018 Rothrock, K. ‘Ben Noble on the State Duma.’ *The Russia Guy*, 26 March <https://soundcloud.com/kevin-rothrock-803892713/e31-ben-noble-on-the-state-duma>

Interviews

- 2018 Nice, A. ‘Regional Elections 2018 Look-ahead: An interview with Ben Noble.’ *Bear Market Brief*, 7 September <https://bearmarketbrief.com/2018/09/07/regional-elections-2018-look-ahead-an-interview-with-ben-noble/>

Teaching

UCL

- 2018 Political Analysis (MA module — module coordinator)
 - Understanding & Analysing Data (BA module — module provider)
- 2017 — Russian Politics and Society (2nd-year undergraduate module — module provider)
- 2017 — Understanding Politics II: How Politics Works (1st-year undergraduate module — module provider)
- 2017 — Political Analysis (MA module — co-teacher)
- 2017 — Researching Politics and Society (2nd-year undergraduate module — co-teacher)

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| | Oxford |
| 2015–2017 | College Tutor in Introduction to Politics: The Practice of Politics, New College, University of Oxford |
| 2015–2017 | College Tutor in Comparative Government, New College, University of Oxford |
| 2014–2017 | College Tutor in Political Sociology, St John’s College, University of Oxford |
| | College Tutor in the Politics of Russia and the former Soviet Union, St John’s College, University of Oxford |
| | College Tutor in the Politics of Russia and the former Soviet Union, Lincoln College, University of Oxford |
| 2013–2017 | College Tutor in Political Sociology, New College, University of Oxford |
| 2011 | Tutor in Political Sociology (revision classes), New College, University of Oxford |
| | Co-tutor with Dr Elizabeth Frazer — Introduction to Politics: Theorising the Democratic State, Rousseau’s <i>The Social Contract</i> , New College, University of Oxford |

Conference presentations and talks

- 2019 **Noble, B.** ‘The State Duma’s Role in Russian Politics.’ Presentation for the Great Britain—Russia Society’s talks programme, Pushkin House, London, 19 September.
- M. Ananyev, **B. Noble**, and P. Schuler. ‘Conditional Criticism: Parliamentary Scrutiny of the Executive in Russia.’ Paper prepared for the ECPR general conference, University of Wrocław, 4-7 September.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Parliamentary Oversight in Non-Democracies: The Case of Post-Soviet Russia.’ Presentation for the Institute of Russian and Eurasian Studies’ seminar series, Uppsala University, 3 September.
- M. Ananyev, **B. Noble**, and P. Schuler. ‘Conditional Criticism: Parliamentary Scrutiny of the Executive in Russia.’ Paper prepared for the ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments conference, Leiden University, 27-29 June.
- M. Ananyev, **B. Noble**, and P. Schuler. ‘Conditional Criticism: Parliamentary Scrutiny of the Executive in Russia.’ Paper prepared for the annual meeting of the British Association of Slavonic and East European Studies, Cambridge, 12-14 April.
- **Noble, B.**, P. Schuler, and C. Westerland. ‘An elite consolidation theory of authoritarian legislative closures.’ Paper prepared for the annual conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 4-7 April.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Why bother studying the Russian Federal Assembly?’ SSEES Alumni Association lecture, University College London, 7 March.
- 2018 M. Ananyev, **B. Noble**, and P. Schuler. ‘Conditional Criticism: Parliamentary Scrutiny of the Executive in Russia.’ Paper prepared for the ASEES annual conference, Boston, 6-9 December.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Executive-legislative relations in Russia’s regions: 2018 – shifting balance of power or momentary wobble?’ Keynote talk at the ‘Russian Readings’, University of Oxford, 30 November.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Making sense of Vladimir Putin’s fourth presidential term.’ Talk given to the UCL International Relations Society, University College London, 20 November.
- Organiser and chair, ‘SSEESing Salisbury.’ University College London, 14 November.

- M. Ananyev, **B. Noble**, and P. Schuler. ‘Conditional Criticism: Parliamentary Scrutiny of the Executive in Russia.’ Paper prepared for the Uppsala-BASEES conference, Uppsala University, 13-14 September.
- M. Ananyev, **B. Noble**, and P. Schuler. ‘Conditional Criticism: Parliamentary Scrutiny of the Executive in Russia.’ Paper prepared for the APSA annual conference, Boston, 30 August – 2 September.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Bulldogs in the Duma: Executive Factionalism and Lawmaking in Russia.’ Presentation prepared for the Aleksanteri Institute Visiting Fellows Research Seminar series, University of Helsinki, 5 April.
- **Noble, B.** ‘The State Duma and Intra-Executive Factionalism.’ Panel presentation at ‘Russia After the Elections’ seminar organised by the King’s Russia Institute and the War Studies Russian & Eurasian Security Research Group of King’s College London, Pushkin House, London, 19 March.
- Organiser and chair, ‘SSEESing Putin.’ University College London, 9 March.
- Co-organiser and chair, ‘*McMafia*: The Reality.’ University College London, 7 February.
- 2017 **Noble, B.** ‘Bulldogs in the Duma: Explaining Legislative Politics in Russia.’ Talk given as part King’s Russia Institute and the War Studies’ Russian & Eurasian Security Research Group, King’s College London, 27 November.
- **Noble, B.** ‘State Duma 2016-18: Volodin and Regional Initiatives.’ Roundtable presentation at the ASEES annual conference, Chicago, 9-12 November.
- **Noble, B.**, B. Rey, H. Wang, and M. Yildirim. ‘Information processing capacity and budgetary change in authoritarian regimes.’ Paper prepared for the Comparative Agendas Project conference, Edinburgh, 15-17 June.
- Conference organiser, ‘The New Politics of Authoritarianism’, University of Oxford, 14-15 March.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Amending budget bills in the Russian State Duma.’ Presentation for the Negotiated Texts Network launch event, Pembroke College, University of Oxford, 8 April.
- Organiser and chair, ‘PPE Symposium on Russia’, New College, University of Oxford, 18 January.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Cabinet 2.0: Legislative Institutions as Intra-executive Constraints in Authoritarian Policy-making.’ Paper prepared for the annual conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 6-9 April.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Ministers with the Initiative: Russian Ministries as Actors in the Law-making Process.’ Paper prepared for the annual conference of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies, Cambridge, 31 March – 2 April.
- 2016 **Noble, B.** ‘Authoritarian legislatures and intra-executive constraints’. Paper prepared for the annual conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 7-10 April.
- **Noble, B.** ‘An odd type of “rubber stamp”: Intra-executive conflict in the Russian State Duma.’ Presentation prepared for the Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre’s Advanced Research Seminar, St Antony’s College, University of Oxford, 29 February.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Intra-executive policy conflict in the Russian State Duma.’ Presentation prepared for the workshop ‘Policy-making in Russia: Process, objectives and perspectives’, Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki, 28 January.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Amending budget bills in the Russian State Duma’. Paper prepared for the annual conference of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies, Cambridge, 2-4 April.
- 2015 Baumgartner, F., P. Bishtawi, M. Carammia, D. Epp, **B. Noble**, B. Rey, and M. Yildirim. ‘Authoritarian Budgeting’. Paper prepared for the Comparative Agendas Project conference, Lisbon, 22-24 June.

- **Noble, B.** ‘Fixing the Figures: Amending Budget Bills in Authoritarian Legislatures’. Paper prepared for the 2015 Comparative Agendas Project conference, Lisbon, 22-24 June.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Rethinking “Rubber Stamps”: Amending Executive Bills in the Russian State Duma, 2003-2013’. Paper prepared for the 2015 annual conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 16-19 April.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Legislative politics and “big data”: patterns, processes, and methodological challenges’. Paper prepared for the research workshop, ‘Using multiple research methods in social sciences’, supported by the British Council, the University of Cambridge’s Faculty of Education, and the Eurasian National University in Astana, Kazakhstan, 24-27 February.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Is Parliament too old-fashioned?’ Presentation prepared for the Oxford Parliament Day, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, 19 November.
- 2014 **Noble, B.** ‘Executive bill failure under authoritarianism: Evidence from the Russian Federation’. Paper prepared for the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, 28-31 August.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Authoritarian amendments: Executive bill change in non-democracies — evidence from the Russian Federation, 2008-2013’. Paper prepared for the 2014 Comparative Agendas Project conference, Konstanz, 12-14 June.
- **Noble, B.** ‘Non-democratic political systems and contemporary Russia.’ Cheney School Sixth Form International Conference, Oxford, 30 January.
- 2013 **Noble, B.** ‘“Authoritarian” agendas? Can the Comparative Agendas Project travel to non-democratic regimes?’ Paper prepared for the 2013 Comparative Agendas Project conference, Antwerp, 27-29 June.

Posts

- 2018 — BASEES Ordinary Committee Member
- 2018 — SSEES Policy & Intelligence Centre academic lead
- 2018 — UCL Public Policy — SSEES “Policy Champion”
- 2017 — Convener of the SSEES Post-Soviet Press Group

Languages

- Russian | Advanced-high speaking and writing (ACTFL score: 2.9)
- Programming | R, L^AT_EX