

**Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences  
Research Seminar Program 2022**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL (12-1pm)**

**To be held via Teams Meeting**

**Dr Felix Waldmann**

Felix Waldmann studies early modern European intellectual history and the history of political thought. He is editing the critical edition of Locke's *Two Treatises of Government* and Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion* for OUP, and he is completing a book on political thought and philosophy in eighteenth-century Naples and Sicily for the *Ideas in Context* series with Cambridge University Press. He has published in *The Journal of Modern History*, *Historical Journal*, *Modern Intellectual History*, and the *Journal of British Studies*. His latest article on Neapolitan history appeared in December's *Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes*.



***"Gianvincenzo Gravina, maternal dominium, and Thomas Hobbes in Rome, 1699-1714"***

My talk is on Gianvincenzo Gravina's *Originum juris civilis* (Naples, 1708) and its discussion of Thomas Hobbes's conception of 'maternal *dominium*'. Gravina's work is the first published examination of Hobbes's *De Cive* or *Leviathan* in Italy. The paper asks why Gravina decided to criticise Hobbes's conception of a mother's right to her child in the state of nature; what this might tell us about the intellectual culture of late Counter-Reformation Rome; and what we might learn about the European reception of this highly unusual aspect of Hobbes's work.