

POLITICAL SCIENCE BEFORE HOBBS: THE ARISTOTELIAN TRADITION

Sophie Smith

Sophie Smith is a Junior Research Fellow at Christ Church, Oxford. She holds a BA in History from Gonville and Caius, Cambridge and an MPhil and PhD from Trinity College, Cambridge. Her thesis 'Nature, Knowledge and the City: John Case and the Aristotelian Tradition' was completed under the supervision of Annabel Brett. Alongside her work on early modern political thought, she is the co-editor (with Katrina Forrester) of the forthcoming volume *Political Thought and the Environment*.

This paper reassesses prevailing accounts of 'political science' before Hobbes and offers in turn a new historical perspective on the development of that concept.