

EVELINA T. AKIMOVA

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September 2025

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor Since August 2024
Sociology Department, Purdue University

Assistant Professor (by courtesy) Since April 2025
Department of Statistics, Purdue University

Faculty Associate Since April 2025
The Methodology Center at Purdue (MCAP), Purdue University

Faculty Associate Since September 2025
Center on Aging and the Life Course (CALC), Purdue University

Associate Member Since September 2024
Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Postdoctoral Researcher in Biosocial Research 2021–2024
Sociology Department, LCDS & Nuffield College, University of Oxford

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Oxford 2016–2021

Visiting student, Stanford University Spring 2019

M.Sc. in Sociology, University of Oxford 2015–2016

B.Sc. in Sociology, Lomonosov Moscow State University 2010–2015

RESEARCH FIELD

Social demography & genomics, social stratification, family demography, fertility, life course, sleep & mental health, causal inference

PUBLICATIONS

2025

Akimova, Evelina T.,* Tobias Wolfram,* Xuejie Ding, Felix C. Tropf, and Melinda C. Mills. Polygenic prediction of occupational status GWAS elucidates genetic and environmental interplay in intergenerational transmission, careers and health in UK Biobank. *Nature Human Behaviour*. doi: 10.1038/s41562-024-02076-3 *Denotes joint lead authorship

Coverage: University of Oxford, “Genetics, childhood aspirations and family background work together to shape status, career and health”.

Dederichs, Kasimir, **Evelina T. Akimova**, and Nan Dirk de Graaf. Who Remains Single? Educational Gradients in Long-Term Singlehood Across Ethnic Groups. *Journal of Marriage and Family*. doi: 10.1111/jomf.70017

Ding, Xuejie, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Bo Zhao, and Melinda C. Mills. Night Shift Work and Sleep Duration among Middle and Older Age Adults: The Role of Individual, Social, and Environmental Moderators. *Social Science & Medicine*. 118443. doi: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2025.118443

2024

Praeg, Patrick, Lewis Anderson, **Evelina T. Akimova**, and Christiaan Monden. The Total Effect of Social Origins on Educational Attainment. Meta-Analysis of Sibling Correlations from 18 Countries. *Demography*, 61 (5): 1637–1666. doi: 10.1215/00703370-11579806

Tilstra, Andrea, Antonino Polizzi,* Sander Wagner, and **Evelina T. Akimova**. The Long-term Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on US Population Structure. *Nature Communications*, 15(1), 2409. doi: 10.1038/s41467-024-46582-4 *Graduate student

Ding, Xuejie, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Bo Zhao, Kasimir Dederichs,* and Melinda C. Mills. Prepayment meters strongly associated with multiple types of deprivation and emergency respiratory hospital admissions: an observational, cross-sectional study. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 78(1): 54–60. doi: 10.1136/jech-2023-220793 *Graduate student

Overview: Nuffield Department of Population Health news page.

Liu, Aoxing, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Xuejie Ding, Sakari Jukarainen, Pekka Vartiainen, Tuomo Kiiskinen, Sara Koskelainen et al. Evidence from Finland and Sweden on the relationship between early-life diseases and lifetime childlessness in men and women. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1–12. doi: 10.1038/s41562-023-01763-x

Coverage: University of Oxford, “Early-life diseases linked to lifelong childlessness”. Media: BBC Radio 1 (interview with Prof. Melinda Mills).

2023

Leasure, Douglas R., Ridhi Kashyap, Francesco Rampazzo, Claire A. Dooley, Benjamin Elbers, Maksym Bondarenko, Mark Verhagen, **Evelina T. Akimova** et al. Nowcasting daily population displacement in Ukraine through social media advertising data. *Population*

and Development Review. doi: 10.1111/padr.12558

Coverage: University of Oxford, “Using social media activity to monitor and respond to population displacement in Ukraine”. Media: *The Big Questions* podcast with Dr Douglas Leasure.

Evelina T. Akimova, Riley Taiji, Xuejie Ding, Melinda C. Mills. Gene-x-environment analysis supports protective effects of eveningness chronotype on self-reported and actigraphy-derived sleep duration among those who always work night shifts in the UK Biobank. *Sleep*, zsad023. doi: 10.1093/sleep/zsad023

Coverage: University of Oxford, “Having the genetics of a night owl protects night shift workers against sleep loss”. Media: Technology Networks, *Mirror*, MyScience, others.

Iain Mathieson, Felix R. Day, Nicola Barban, Felix C. Tropf, David M. Brazel, . . . **Evelina T. Akimova** . . . , Ken K. Ong, Melinda C. Mills, and John R. B. Perry. Genome-wide analysis identifies genetic effects on reproductive success and ongoing natural selection at the FADS locus. *Nature Human Behaviour*. doi: 10.1101/2020.05.19.104455

2021

Akimova, Evelina T., Richard Breen, David M. Brazel, and Melinda C. Mills. “Gene-environment dependencies lead to collider bias in models with polygenic scores.” *Scientific Reports*, 11, 9457. doi: 10.1038/s41598-021-89020-x

Melinda C. Mills, Felix C. Tropf, David M. Brazel, Human Reproductive Behaviour Consortium (. . . **Evelina T. Akimova** . . .), eQTLGen Consortium, BIOS Consortium, Ken K. Ong, Marcel den Hoed, Nicola Barban, and Felix R. Day. “Identification of 371 genetic variants for age at first sex and birth linked to externalising behaviour.” *Nature Human Behaviour*. doi: 10.1038/s41562-021-01135-3

Coverage: International media including *Daily Mail*, Scienmag, Genetic Literacy Project; featured in *Behavioural & Social Sciences* by *Nature*.

2020

Melinda C. Mills, Charles Rahal, and **Evelina T. Akimova**. “Face masks and coverings for the general public: Behavioural knowledge, effectiveness of cloth coverings and public messaging.” Report for the SET-C Group. *The Royal Society*. [link]

Policy & Award: Led to UK policy response (July 2020) on face masks for the general public; featured in SPI-B behavioural NPI report by SAGE; featured in *Excellence in Impact Award*.

Jennifer B. Dowd, Xuejie Ding, **Evelina T. Akimova**, and Melinda C. Mills. “Health and inequality: The implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.” *The British Academy*. [link]

Policy: Featured in SPI-B behavioural NPI report by SAGE.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Jiewei Wesley Wang,* **Evelina T. Akimova**. “Biological Ageing Through Childhood Adversity: Impacts on Health and Life History Strategies.” [*Draft*] *Graduate student

Agnes Fauske,* **Evelina T. Akimova**, Melinda C. Mills, Torkild H. Lyngstad. “The

Social and Genetic Contributions to the Intergenerational Transmission of Fertility.” [Draft]
*Graduate student

Rafael Geurgas, Katherine N. Thompson, Saul J. Newman, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Robbee Wedow, and Felix C. Tropf. “What Machine Learning Teaches Us About Depression Prediction Across the Life Course: An Exploratory Comparison of Predictive Models.” [Under Review, *SSM - Population Health*]

Evelina T. Akimova, Agnes Fauske,* Ruth Eva Jørgensen,* Alexandra Havdahl, Elizabeth C Corfield, Melinda C. Mills, Torkild Hovde Lyngstad. “Evocative effects on family dynamics: An analysis of the Norwegian Mother-Father-and-Child Study.” [Draft]
*Graduate student

Riley Taiji, **Evelina T. Akimova**, and Melinda C. Mills. “Do night owls and morning larks flock together? Exploring homophily and convergence on morningness/eveningness amongst 43,000 UK couples.” [Draft]

Evelina T. Akimova, Jiewei Wesley Wang,* Melinda C. Mills. “Changing Polygenic Prediction of Depression in the UK: The Role of Historical Contexts and Birth Cohorts.” [Draft] *Graduate student

Evelina T. Akimova. “Worklessness, Genetic Risks of Depression, and Gene–Environment Correlations.” [Draft]

ONLINE PREPRINTS

2023

Joseph Millard, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Bo Zhao, Xuejie Ding, and Melinda C. Mills. “Stringent COVID-19 government restrictions were associated with a marked increase in Twitter activity in Europe.” *OSF*. [link]

2020

Melinda C. Mills, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Sofia Gieysztor, and Jan O. Jonsson. “Follow ‘the science’? Anders Tegnell’s and Swedish Public Health Agency’s evidence is in favour of recommending face coverings.” *OSF*. [link]

GRANTS & PROJECTS

2025

Genetic Pathways and Social Impact: Innovating Sociogenomic Research with Instrumental Variables Approach

CLA Summer Completion Incentive Award Competition

P.I.: E. T. Akimova

2022 – 2023

Genomic Diversity Monitor £22,650

ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) Grant

P.I.: M. Mills, Co-A.s: E. T. Akimova, D. Leisure, C. Rahal

2022 – 2026

European Social Science Genetics Network Σ £2,860,700

European Commission, Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

P.I.: S. von Hinke, Co-A.s (University of Oxford): M. Mills, A. Kong, E. T. Akimova, X. Ding

2021

Oxford Summer School in Computational Social Science Σ £34,450

P.I.s: E. T. Akimova, R. Kashyap, C. Rahal, F. Rampazzo, T. Ruttenauer

HONOURS & AWARDS

10/2021 Excellence in Impact Award — UK Economic and Social Research Council

2016 – 2020 ESRC Advanced Quantitative Methods (AQM) DPhil Stipend

2015 – 2016 Oxford Hill Foundation MSc Stipend

2012 – 2014 MSU High Achievement State Scholar Award

TEACHING

08/2024 – SOC319 Sociogenomics (BA & BSc)
present Sociology Department, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University

08/2024 – SCLA 102 Transformative Texts: Critical Thinking and Communication
present (BA & BSc)
Sociology Department, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University

10/2022 – Tutor & Guest Lecturer (Biodemography)
01/2025 Demography & Population (BSc Human Sciences, BSc PPE), University
of Oxford, UK

06/2022 – UNIQ+ Supervisor
08/2022 Research Design (designed 6-week summer course and research project),
Nuffield College, University of Oxford, UK

09/2021 – Oxford Summer School in Computational Social Science, Co-convenor
07/2022 Teaching and project syllabus, Nuffield College, University of Oxford,
UK

01/2019 – Seminar Leader / Examiner
03/2020 Evidence and Public Policy Module (MA Public Policy), Blavatnik
School of Government, University of Oxford, UK

09/2019 – Teaching Assistant / Seminar Leader
12/2019 Sociological Analysis (MSc Sociology), Sociology Department, University
of Oxford

01/2019 – Teaching Assistant / Seminar Leader
03/2019 Advanced Quantitative Methods (MSc Sociology), Sociology Depart-
ment, University of Oxford

MENTORSHIP

08/2025 – present Wesley Wang, Graduate student, Sociology Department, Purdue University

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS

2025: American Sociological Association Conference, Guest lecture (Sociology Department, University of Oxford), Social Inequality and Population Dynamics Symposium, University of Oslo, ISG Group Meeting, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2024: Invited talk (Leverhulme Senter for Demographic Science, University of Oxford), Integrating Genetics and Social Sciences (IGSS, Stanford University), Social Science Genomics Workshop (University of Oslo), Biosocial Lab Meetings (Princeton University, University of Oxford).

2023: Population Association America, European Social Science Genetics Network Conference, Advance in Social Genomics Conference (University of Wisconsin-Madison), American Sociological Association Conference.

2022: ISA RC28 Spring Meeting, European Social Science Genetics Network Conference, European Population Conferences, American Sociological Association Conference, American Human Genetics Conference.

2021: Division of Psychiatry - University of Edinburgh, Integrating Genetics and Social Sciences.

2020: Integrating Genetics and Social Sciences, ISA RC28 Spring Meeting.

2019: Research Methods Festival, Integrating Genetics and Social Sciences, Nuffield Sibling Models Workshop, Understanding Society Scientific Conference.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Refereeing: *Nature Human Behaviour*; *Nature Communications*; *European Sociological Review*; *Sociological Science*; *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*; *Behaviour Genetics*; *BMC Medicine*; *Journal of Health and Social Behaviour*; *Social Science & Medicine*; *Molecular Psychiatry*.

Memberships: American Human Genetics Society; International Sociological Association; American Sociological Association; Population Association of America; European Association of Population Studies; European Social Science Genomics Network (ESSGN).

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Purdue University

2024 – present Hiring Committee, Broad Area of Social Genomics, Behavioral Genomics and Related Fields

01/2025 – present Academic Advisor, Research Discussion Club (Student Organisation, President: Nasser Sanwari, SCLA 102 student)

University of Oxford

2023 – 2024 SOCGEN Reading Group Seminars — Co-convener
2019 – 2020 Sociology Department Athena SWAN Self-Assessment Team (SAT)
2017 – 2019 Sociology Department Graduate Research Seminars Series — Co-convener
2018 – 2020 SOCGEN Reading Group Seminars — Convener
2017 – 2018 Population Festival 2018 at Nuffield College — Co-convener

Lomonosov Moscow State University

2013 – 2015 Student Council President

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION SERVICE

2025 – present Secretary & Treasurer, Biology & Society Section, American Sociological Association

STATISTICAL SOFTWARE

Unix (data and computational cluster management); Python (plink, genetic data QC and imputation, PC analyses, polygenic scores, social media analyses); R (data management and statistical analyses, social media analyses, meta-analyses); Stata (data management and statistical analyses)

LANGUAGES

English (fluent); Russian (native)