

Curriculum Vitae

Evelina Akimova

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Research Interests

Social science genomics, chronotype & wellbeing, occupations & career trajectories, computational methods & causal inference

Education

- 2016 – 2021 **PhD in Sociology, University of Oxford, UK**
Supervisors: Melinda Mills, David Brazel; ESRC Advisor: Richard Breen
Thesis: "Advances and current methodological problems in understanding depression: A sociogenomic approach"
- 2015 – 2016 **MSc in Sociology, University of Oxford, UK**
- 2010 – 2015 **BA in Sociology, Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU), Russia**

Research Positions

- 08/2024 – present **Assistant Professor**
Sociology Department, Purdue University, USA
- 09/2024 – present **Associate Member**
Nuffield College, University of Oxford, UK
- 06/2021 – 08/2024 **Non-stipendiary Research Fellow**
Nuffield College, University of Oxford, UK
- 02/2023 – 08/2024 **Senior Postdoctoral Researcher in Biosocial Research**
Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford, UK
- 06/2021 – 02/2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher in Biosocial Research**
Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford, UK
- 09/2020 – present **Fellow - Consortium on Analytics for Data-Driven Decision-Making**
McGill University, Canada <https://www.mcgill.ca/cand3/>
- 10/2020 – 05/2021 **Graduate Research Assistant/ Analyst**
Bennett Institute for Applied Data Science & Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford, UK
Predicting Health Vulnerability, British Academy research into the long-term societal impacts of COVID-19 projects

- 03/2019 – 08/2019 **Visiting student researcher (Prof. Jeremy Freese)**
Sociology Department, Stanford University, US
- 2017 – 2020 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Sociogenome & Family Size Matters projects, Sociology Department & Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford, U

Grants & Projects

- 07/2022 – 03/2023 **Genomic Diversity Monitor** £22,650
ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) Grant
P.I. M. Mills, Co-A.s E. Akimova, D. Leisure, C. Rahal
- 03/2022 – 12/2026 **European Social Science Genetics Network** Σ £2,860,700
European Commission, Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)
P.I. S. von Hinke, Co-A.s. (from University of Oxford): M. Mills, A. Kong, E. Akimova, X. Ding
- 09/2021 – 07/2022 **Oxford Summer School in Computational Social Science** [\[link\]](#) Σ £34,450
P.I.s. E. Akimova, R. Kashyap, C. Rahal, F. Rampazzo, T. Ruttenauer

Research Articles

Published & Forthcoming

*Denotes joint lead authorship

- 2024 (Accepted, *Nature Human Behavior*) **Akimova, Evelina T.,*** Tobias Wolfram,* Xuejie Ding, Felix C. Tropf, and Melinda C. Mills. Polygenic predictions of occupational status GWAS elucidate genetic and environmental interplay for intergenerational status transmission, careers, and health. *bioRxiv*. [\[link\]](#)
- 2024 (Forthcoming, *Demography*) 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. *OSF* [\[link\]](#)
- 2024 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](#)
- 2024 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, no. 1: 54-60. doi: [10.1136/jech-2023-220793](#)
- [Overview](#) of the study available on the University of Oxford's Nuffield Department of Population Health news page
- 2024 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](#)

- The coverage by the University of Oxford "[Early-life diseases linked to lifelong childlessness](#)". Media coverage: BBC 1 (radio 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](#)
 - The coverage by the University of Oxford "[Using social media activity to monitor and respond to population displacement in Ukraine](#)". Media coverage: the [Big Questions](#) podcast with Dr Douglas Leasure

- 2023 **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](#)
 - The coverage by the University of Oxford "[Having the genetics of a night owl protects night shift workers against sleep loss](#)". Media coverage: Technology Networks, Mirror, MyScience and others.

- 2023 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 **Evelina T. Akimova**, 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](#)

- 2021 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](#)
 - International media coverage including Daily Mail, Scienmag, Genetic Literacy Project, and others; 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](#)]
 - Led to [policy response](#) in July, 2020 on face masks for general public, was featured in [SPI-B report](#) on behavioural aspects for non-pharmaceutical interventions by Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies, was a featured study in Excellence in Impact Award

- 2020 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](#)]

→ Featured in [SPI-B report](#) on behavioural aspects for non-pharmaceutical interventions by Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies

Manuscripts in Preparation

Evelina T. Akimova, Tobias Wolfram, Ramina Satoudeh, Melinda C. Mills, Felix C. Tropf, Stefania Benonisdottir, and Shuang Song. "Nurture wins? The role of vertical pleiotropy in shaping our understanding of genetics of complex traits and behaviours." [preliminary results will be presented at IGSS Stanford]

Evelina T. Akimova, Richard Breen, Tobias Rutenauer. "Robustness Analysis Method for Collider Bias with Unobserved Confounders." (+R Package)

Evelina T. Akimova. "Worklessness, Genetic Risks of Depression, and Gene -Environment Correlations."

Evelina T. Akimova, Jiewei Wesley Wang. "Changing Polygenic Prediction of Depression in the UK: The role of historical contexts and birth cohorts."

Evelina T. Akimova, Shuang Song. "Moving towards Variance: Gene-Environment Interplay and the Role of Economic Recessions on our Understanding of Wellbeing."

Jiewei Wesley Wang, **Evelina T. Akimova**. "Exploring the Interplay of Childhood Adversity and Epigenetic Ageing: A Structured Life Course Modelling Approach."

Kasimir Dederichs, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Nan Dirk de Graaf. "Who Remains Single? Educational Gradients in Long-term Singlehood among Ethnic Majority and Minority Members in the Netherlands."

Agnes Fauske, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Melinda C. Mills, Torkild H. Lyngstad. "The Social and Genetic Contributions to the Intergenerational Transmission of Fertility."

Evelina T. Akimova, Agnes Fauske, Melinda C. Mills, Torkild H. Lyngstad. "Fertility intentions: disentangling the role of genes in multi-generational study design."

Evelina T. Akimova, Ramina Sotoudeh. "The rise of genetic samples for demographic research: concerns over healthy volunteer effect, socio-demographic, and mortality selections."

Ramina Sotoudeh, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Dalton Conley. "Heterogenous Effects of Environments on Antenatal Selection."

Xuejie Ding, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Bo Zhao, Melinda C. Mills. "Night Shift Work and Sleep Health: The Role of Individual, Social, and Environmental Moderators."

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."

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](#)]

Honours & Awards

- 10/2021 Excellence in Impact Award - UK Economic and Social Research Council (Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science team award)
- 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 - present **SOC319 Sociogenomics (BA & BSc)**
Sociology Department, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University
- 08/2024 - present **SCLA 102 Transformative Texts: Critical Thinking and Communication (BA & BSc)**
Sociology Department, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University
- 10/2022 – present **Tutor & Guest Lecturer (Biodemography)**
Demography & Population (BSc Human Sciences, BSc PPE), University of Oxford, UK
- 06/2022 – 08/2022 **UNIQ+ Supervisor**
Research Design (designed 6-week summer course and research project), Nuffield College, University of Oxford, UK
- 09/2021 – 07/2022 **Oxford Summer School in Computational Social Science Co-conveyor**
Teaching and project syllabus, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, UK
- 01/2019 – 03/2020 **Seminar Leader/ Examiner**
Evidence and Public Policy Module (MA Public Policy), Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, UK
Key aspect: policy evaluation using causal inference and meta-analysis methods
- 09/2019 – 12/2019 **Teaching Assistant/ Seminar Leader**
Sociological Analysis (MSc Sociology), Sociology Department, University of Oxford
- 01/2019 – 03/2019 **Teaching Assistant/ Seminar Leader**
Advanced Quantitative Methods (MSc Sociology), Sociology Department, University of Oxford

Presentations

2024	Integrating Genetics and Social Sciences, 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
2019	Integrating Genetics and Social Sciences, ISA RC28 Spring Meeting
2018	Research Methods Festival, Integrating Genetics and Social Sciences, Nuffield Sibling Models Workshop
2017	Understanding Society Scientific Conference

Professional Activities

Referee: 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

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

University Service

University of Oxford

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

Lomonosov Moscow State University

2013 – 2015	Student Council President
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Training Workshops

*Online courses are not included

06/2022	Oxford Computational Genomics School (Unix, Python, C++), University of Oxford, UK
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11/2020	Topics in Digital and Computational Demography (R, Python), Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Germany
08/2020	Programming with Python, McGill University Coding Camp, Canada Programming with R, McGill University Coding Camp, Canada
06/2019	Genomics for Social Scientists (GeSS) Summer Workshop (R, Python), Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, US
03/2018	Understanding Society Genetic Data Workshop, University of Essex, UK
08/2017	SLLS Summer School on Longitudinal and Life Course Research, University of Zurich, Switzerland
06/2017	An Introduction to Combining Social Science and Molecular Genetic Research Summer School (R, Python), Nuffield College, University of Oxford, UK
2016 - 2017	Advanced Quantitative Methods Module (R), Said Business School, University of Oxford, UK

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), Uzbek (basic)