

Curriculum Vitae

Evelina Akimova

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Research Interests

Social science genomics, chronotype & wellbeing, career trajectories, biodemography, quantitative 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

- 08/2023 **Incoming Assistant Professor (Courtesy appointment 2023/2024 academic year)**
Sociology Department, Purdue University, USA
- 02/2023 – present **Senior Postdoctoral Researcher in Biosocial Research**
Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford, UK
- 06/2021 – present **Non-stipendiary Research Fellow**
Nuffield College, 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

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*, 2023;, zsad023, doi: [10.1093/sleep/zsad023](https://doi.org/10.1093/sleep/zsad023)

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](https://doi.org/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](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-89020-x)
 → Mentioned in [Massive Science](#) by Kevin Bird "*The Genetic Lottery is a bust for both genetics and policy*"

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](https://doi.org/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

Working Papers

- 2022 Aoxing Liu, **Evelina T. Akimova**, Xuejie Ding, Sakari Jukarainen, Pekka Vartiainen, ..., Andrea Ganna. "The relationship of major diseases with childlessness: a sibling matched case-control and population register study in Finland and Sweden." *medRxiv*. [[link](#)]
- 2022 Douglas R. Leasure, Ridhi Kashyap, Francesco Rampazzo, ...**Evelina T. Akimova**..., Ingmar Weber, and Melinda C. Mills. "Ukraine Crisis: Monitoring population displacement through social media activity." *OSF*. [[link](#)]
- 2022 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."
- 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](#)]

Manuscripts in Preparation

*Denotes joint lead authorship

Evelina T. Akimova. "Genetics of smoking advances our understanding of heterogenous effects of smoking policies in the UK."

Evelina T. Akimova, Tobias Wolfram, Richard Breen, and Melinda C. Mills. "Nurture wins? The role of vertical pleiotropy in shaping our understanding of genetics of complex traits and behaviours."

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

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

Melinda C. Mills, Bo Zhao, Nicolò Cavalli and **Evelina T. Akimova**. "Individual perceptions and attitudes towards personal genomics: Evidence from full archival search on a popular microblogging platform."

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

Tobias Wolfram, * **Evelina T. Akimova**, * Felix Tropf, and Melinda C. Mills. "Genome-wide association study of occupational status identifies 106 independent loci and defines their role for intergenerational transition, health, and the life course".

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

Patrick Praeg, **Evelina T. Akimova**, and Christiaan Monden. “Intergenerational transmission of education: A meta-Analysis of sibling correlations.” [\[link\]](#)

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

Teaching

10/2022 – 05/2023	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 <i>Key aspect: policy evaluation using causal inference and meta-analysis methods</i>
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

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, 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

University Service

University of Oxford

- 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

Training Workshops

- 06/2022 Oxford Computational Genomics School (Unix, Python, C++), University of Oxford, UK
- 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), Saïd 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)