

# Felix C. Tropf, PhD

fctropf@gmail.com

Born 14.10.1984, Alzenau; German

Adresse: Am Apfelgraben 20a, 63755 Alzenau, Germany

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Sociogenomics, (Social) Demography, Sociology, Methods

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

---

### **Purdue University**

Associate Professor Sociology

2023 - present

### **Centre for Longitudinal Studies, University College London**

Associate Professor Population Data Science

2023 - present

### **École Nationale de la Statistique et de L'administration Économique ENSAE, Paristech**

Assistant Professor Social Science Genetics

2019 - 2023

### **Center for Research in Economics and Statistic, CREST**

Assistant Professor Social Science Genetics

2019 - 2023

### **Nuffield College**

Associate Member

2018 - Present

### **Queensland Institute for Medical Research**

Visiting Scientist

2017 - 2023

### **Broad Institute, Harvard & MIT**

Visiting Researcher

April - 2022

### **Centre for Fertility and Health, Oslo**

Visiting Researcher

March - 2022

### **Nuffield College, Oxford**

Visiting Researcher

February - 2022

### **University of Oxford**

Departmental Research Lecturer Sociology

2018 - 2019

### **Nuffield College**

Non-Stipendiary Research Fellow

2015 - 2018

### **University of Oxford**

Senior Research Officer Sociogenomics

2017 - 2018

### **University of Oxford**

Research Officer Sociogenomics

2015 - 2017

### **Nuffield College**

Young Visiting Scholar

2014

### **University of Queensland, Brisbane**

Medical Laboratory Scientist & External Member Peter Visscher's Lab

2014-2016

### **University of Groningen/ ICS**

Doctoral Student & Teacher Sociology

2011-2015

## PUBLICATIONS WORKING PAPERS

---

**ORCID:** [orcid.org/0000-0003-2445-515x](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2445-515x)

- Akimova, E, T, Wolfram, X Ding, **FC Tropsf**, MC Mills (accepted). Polygenic predictions of occupational status GWAS elucidate genetic and environmental interplay for intergenerational status transmission, careers, and health.
- Grätz, M, **FC Tropsf** et al. (RnR). No Evidence for Causal Effects of Maternal and Paternal Ages at First Birth on Children's Test Scores at Age 10.
- Wolfram, T, C Rahal & **FC Tropsf** (RnR). Short Essays Written During Childhood Predict Cognition and Educational Attainment Close to or Better than Expert Assessment.
- Silva, L, T Wolfram & **FC Tropsf** (RnR). Mind the gap: The interplay between genes, neighborhood.
- Jugessur, A, ..., **FC Tropsf**, ..., WRP Denault (in Progress). Assisted reproductive technology reduces fetal growth and alters fetal and maternal DNA methylation.
- Tropsf, FC**, A Abdellaoui, T Wolfram (in Progress). How genetic selection biases GWAS results in the UK Biobank.
- Mathieson, I, F R Day, N Barban, **FC Tropsf** et al. (2023). Genome-wide analysis identifies genetic effects on reproductive success and ongoing natural selection at the FADS locus. *Nature human behaviour*: 1-12.
- Mills, MC, **FC Tropsf** et al. (2021). Identification of 371 genetic variants for age at first sex and birth linked to externalising behaviour. *Nature human behaviour*: 1-14.
- Mills, MC, N Barban, and **FC Tropsf** (2020). An Introduction to statistical genetic data analysis. *MIT Press*: Cambridge, London.
- Mills, MC, and **FC Tropsf** (2020): Sociology, Genetics and the Coming of Age of Sociogenomics. *Annual Review of Sociology*. 46.
- Engzell, P, **FC Tropsf** (2019). Heritability of education rises with intergenerational mobility. *Proceedings of the National Acedemy of Sciences* 116(51): 25386-25388.
- Nolte, IM, **FC Tropsf**, H Snieder (2019). Missing Heritability of Complex Traits and Diseases. *eLS*: 1-9.
- Verweij, RM, ... **FC Tropsf**..., H Snieder (2019). Using polygenic scores in social science research: unravelling childlessness. *Frontiers in Sociology*.
- Ding, X, N Barban, **FC Tropsf** and MC Milla (2019). The relationship between cognitive decline and a genetic predictor of educational attainment. *Social Science Medicine* 239: 112549.
- Mills, MC, N Barban and **FC Tropsf** (2018). The Sociogenomics of Polygenic Scores of Reproductive Behavior and Their Relationship to Other Fertility Traits. *RRSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 4(4): 122–36.
- Kretschmer, T, **FC Tropsf** and NMD Niezink (2018). Causality and pleiotropy in the association between bullying victimization in adolescence and depressive episodes in adulthood. *Twin research and human genetics* 21(1): 33-41.
- Tropsf, FC** et al. (2017). Hidden heritability due to heterogeneity across seven populations. *Nature Human Behaviour* 21(1): 33-41.1: 757-765 (Cover of Volume)
- Tropsf, FC**, JJ Mandemakers. (2017). Is the association between education and fertility postponement causal? The role of family background factors. *Demography* 54(1): 71-91.

**Selected Media Attention** *The International Business Times online, Science Daily, iNews, Mirror, Mail Online*

Briley, DA, **Tropf, FC**, and MC Mills (2017). What Explains the Heritability of Completed Fertility? Evidence from Two Large Twin Studies. *Behavior Genetics* 47(1): 36-51.

Verweij RM, MC Mills, **FC Tropf** (2017). Sexual dimorphism in the genetic influence on human childlessness. *European Journal of Human Genetics* 47(1): 25(9), 1067.

Realo, A, ..., **FC Tropf**, H Snieder and J Ormel (2017). SNP-Based Heritability Estimates of Common and Specific Variance in Self- and Informant-Reported Neuroticism Scales. *Journal of Personality* 85(6), 906-919.

Courtiol\*, A, **FC Tropf\***, and MC Mills\* (2016). When genes and environment disagree: Making sense of trends in recent human evolution. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 113.28: 7693-7695.  
"\*" = Authors contributed equally

Mehta, D, **FC Tropf** et al., (2016). Evidence for Genetic Overlap Between Schizophrenia and Age at First Birth in Women. *JAMA psychiatry* 73(5): 497-505.

Barban, N ... **FC Tropf** ... MC Mills.(2016). Large-scale genomic analysis identifies 12 loci harbouring genes for human reproductive behaviour and infertility. *Nature Genetics* 48(12): 1462-1472.

#### **Selected Media Attention**

*The International Business Times online, Yahoo!, CBS News*

**Tropf FC** et al. (2015). Genetic influence on age at first birth of female twins born in the UK, 1919-68. *Population Studies* 69(2):129-145.

**Tropf FC** et al.(2015). Human Fertility, Molecular Genetics, and Natural Selection in Modern Societies. *PLoS One* 10:e0126821.

#### **Selected Media Attention**

*The Guardian, The Times, The Independent*

#### **Award**

*Top 10% most cited article from 2015*

Stulp G, Barrett L, **Tropf FC**, Mills MC. (2015). Does natural selection favour taller stature among the tallest people on earth? *Proc R Soc London B* 282(1806): 20150211.

#### **Selected Media Attention**

*The New York Times, The Guardian, The Times*

Mills MC, **Tropf FC** (2015). The Biodemography of Fertility: A Review and Future Research Frontiers. *Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie* 282(1806): 20150211.

## **EDUCATION**

---

### **University of Groningen/ICS**

2016

PhD in Sociology

Thesis: *Social Science Genetics and Fertility*

Committee: *Hans-Peter Kohler, Clara Mulder, Michael Murphy*

Awards: *Alliance European Demography Award; European Consortium for Sociological Research Award (3rd)*

### **University of Bamberg**

2011

Diploma/Master in Sociology with focus on Methods of Empirical Social Research

Thesis: *Sex-specific differences in Elderly Care*

Committee: *Henriette Engelhardt, Gerhard Schulze*  
Awards: *Distinction; Allianz Newcomer Award in Demography*

## TEACHING

---

<b>Purdue</b>	
Social Demography	2025 - present
<b>ENSAE/CREST</b>	
Social Science Genetics	2019 - 2023
Social Demography	2019 - 2023
<b>University of Oxford</b>	
Advanced Quantitative Methods	2018-2019
Demography and Population	2016/2017
Probationary Research Seminar	2015-2016
Sociological Analysis	2016
<b>University of Groningen</b>	
Statistics I (Tutor)	2014-2015
<b>University of Bamberg</b>	
Methods of Empirical Social Research (Tutor)	2008-2012

## GIVEN WORKSHOPS/TRAINING PROGRAMS

---

<b>THL, Helsinki</b>	
Introduction to Social Science Genetics	2023
<b>University of Oslo</b>	
Introduction to Social Science Genetics	2022
<b>University of Turku</b>	
Introduction to Social Science Genetics	2020
<b>GESIS/ Leibniz Institut, Köln</b>	
Introduction to Behavioural Genetics	2018, 2020
Integrating Molecular Genetic Data into Social Science	2018, 2020
<b>Population Association of America, Austin</b>	
Social Science Genetics and Genodemography	2019
<b>ENSAE/CREST</b>	
Using Molecular Genetic Data in Social Science	2018
<b>University of Oxford</b>	
An introduction to combining social science and molecular genetic research	2017

## ACADEMIC SUPERVISION

---

<b>Saul Newman</b>	Senior Postdoc CLS, UCL	2024-Present
<b>Laura Sheppard</b>	Postdoc CLS, UCL	2024-Present
<b>Rafael Geurgas</b>	Postdoc Sociology, Purdue University	2024-Present
<b>Katherine N Thompson</b>	Postdoc Sociology, Purdue University	2024-Present
<b>Nadia Harerimana</b>	PhD, University of Bielefeld	2023-Present
<b>Tobias Wolfram</b>	PhD Sociology, University of Bielefeld/ENSAE	2020-Present
<b>Daniel Snow</b>	MSc Sociology, University of Oxford	2018-2019
<b>Sabrian Piwek</b>	MSc Sociology, University of Oxford	2018-2019
<b>Simin Dai</b>	Mphil Sociology & Demography, Oxford	2018-2019
<b>11 Theses</b>	BA, University of Groningen	2012-2014

## INVITED SPEAKER

---

External Seminar	Purdue, Online	2022
Forschungskolloquium Analytical Sociology	LMU, München	2022
HEC Data Day	Paris	2021
Notestein Seminar, Office of Population Research	Princeton, Online	2021
DGS, ÖGS und SGS Discussion Panel Biosociology	Vienna, online	2021
Centre for Fertility and Health, Norwegian Institute of Public Health	online	2021
Demography Brown Bag Seminar UC Berkeley	online	2020
New York Genome Center	New York	2019
University of Zürich (Prof. Shanahan)	Zürich	2018
ENSAE/CREST	Paris	2018
Center of Health and Wellbeing	Princeton	2018
Eastern Sociological Society	Baltimore	2017
European University Institute	Florence	2018
Centre for Interdisciplinary Research	Bielefeld	2016
University of Kassel	Kassel	2016
Q-Step Program	Warwick	2016
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	London	2015

## AWARDS

---

<b>PLOS ONE</b>	
10% most cited paper from 2015	2019
<b>Population Europe &amp; Allianz</b>	
European Demography Award (PhD)	2017
<b>Behavior Genetics Association</b>	
Travel Scholarship (Annual Meeting)	2014
<b>German Association for Demography (DGD) &amp; Allianz</b>	
Allianz Newcomer Award in Demography (Master's Thesis)	2013
<b>University of Bamberg</b>	
Diploma/Master with distinction	2012
<b>Sociology Heute (Sociology Today)</b>	
Writing Competition Sociology	2011

## FUNDING AWARDS/GRANTS

---

<b>ERC Starting Grant - now UKRI</b>	
FINDME (~ 1,500,000 Euro)	2022
<b>Maupertius Program, Institute Francais in Helsinki</b>	
Workshop Week (~ 6,000 Euro)	2022

<b>Mourou/Strickland Program</b>	
Research Visit (~ 5,000 Euro)	2020
<b>Labex/Ecodec</b>	
Research Visit (~ 5,000 Euro)	2020
Social Science Genetics Paris ( 10.000 Euro)	2019
<b>Labex/Ecodec</b>	
Gene-environment interaction (~ 5.000 Euro)	2019
<b>Economic and Social Research Council UK (ECSR)</b>	
NPIF Early Career Research Industry Secondments (~ 20.000 GBP)	2017
<b>Economic and Social Research Council UK (ECSR)</b>	
Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) (~ 50.000 GBP)	2017
<b>Economic and Social Research Council UK (ECSR)</b>	
National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM) (~ 800.000 GBP)	2015
<b>Scientific Crowdfunding</b>	
Sciecestarter.de (~ 1.500 Euro)	2014

## MEMBERSHIPS AND (REGULAR) CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

---

**European Association of Population Studies (EAPS)**  
European Population Conference (EPC)

**Population Association of America (PAA)**  
PAA conference

**Behavior Genetics Association (BGA)**  
BGA Conference

**European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR)**  
ECSR Conference

**Integrating Genetics and the Social Sciences (IGSS)**  
IGSS Annual Meeting, Boulder

## REVIEWER FOR

---

In Sociology/Demography: *American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Demography, European Sociological Review, Population and Development Review, Social Forces, Population Studies, Advances in Life Course Research, Sociological Methodology, Biodemography and Social Biology, European Journal of Population, Journal of Family Research*

In Genetics/ Life Science: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences - also guest editor, Clinical Epigenetics, Nature Human Behaviour, PLOS Genetics, Behavior Genetics, Human Nature, American Journal of Human Genetics, Genetic Epidemiology*

For Awards: *ERC Advanced Grant, European Demography Award, Horizon Synergy Grant*

## ELSE

---

**Social Science Genetics Paris**  
Founder, organizer, head research group 2019 - Present

**Population Europe**  
Expert, award committee 2020 - Present

**SciencesPo**  
Thesis committee Laura Silva 2022

**European Population Conference**  
Session Chair, Groningen 2022

**European Social Science Genomics Network**

Scientific Committee, Bologna

2022

Member, Supervisor

2022-Present

**Nuffield College, Oxford**

Organizer Post-doc seminar

2015 - 2017

Co-Organizer Summer School in Genetic Data Analysis

2017