

ALICIA GARCÍA-SIERRA

alicia.garciasierra@unil.ch

Personal Website LinkedIn

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social stratification, equality of opportunity, child development, intergenerational transmission of (dis)advantages, life course inequalities.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Post-doctoral Researcher

Sept 2023-.

Swiss Centre of Expertise in Life Course Research LIVES, University of Lausanne.

EQUALOPP Project, PI: Michael Grätz

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Sociology

Oct 2020 - Dec 2023

University of Oxford - Nuffield College, Clarendon Scholar

Title: *Uneven Pathways: Three Novel Mechanisms of Intergenerational Transmission of (Dis)Advantages*

ECSR Dissertation of the Year 2024

M.A. in Social Sciences, with Honors

Sept 2018- July 2020

IC3JM, Universidad Carlos III & Juan March Institute, Madrid

Juan March Scholar

Dual B.A. in Sociology and Political Science, with Honors

Sept 2013- May 2018

Universidad Carlos III Madrid, Madrid

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journals

- García-Sierra, A. & Grätz, M. (forthcoming, 2026) Does Expanding Free Secondary Education Moderate the Relationship between Genes and Socioeconomic Outcomes? Evidence from the Education Act of 1944 in England. **Accepted for publication in American Journal of Sociology**.
- García-Sierra, A. (2025) Do mothers' occupation-specific skills impact children's developmental processes? **Research in Social Stratification and Mobility**.
- García-Sierra, A. (2025) The Protective Role of Parental Work Intensity for Children in Poverty in the United States. **Demographic Research**.
- Espadafor, M. & García-Sierra, A. (2025) The intergenerational effect of educational expansion: evidence from a natural experiment in Spain. **European Sociological Review**.
- García-Sierra, A. (2024) Parental Responses to Children's Early Health Disadvantages: Evidence from a British Twin Study. **European Sociological Review**.
- García-Sierra, A. (2024) Learning by Parenting: How do Mothers Respond to Changes in their Children's Developmental Processes? **Social Science Research**.
- García-Sierra, A. (2023) The Dark Side of Meritocratic Beliefs: is Believing in Meritocracy Detrimental to Individuals from Low Socioeconomic Backgrounds? **Social Justice Research**.

R&R

- Liberal and Radical Equality of Opportunity (*with Michael Grätz*). **R&R Social Forces**.

Work in progress

- Genes, Skills, and Inequality of Opportunity in Life Outcomes (*with Michael Grätz and Sonia Petrini*)
- Cross-Dimensional Parental Investments During Childhood: Linking Health and Education in Human Capital Formation (*with Aitor García*)
- Parental Nonstandard Work Schedules and Children's Physical Health: Longitudinal Evidence from the US (*with Wen-Jui Han and Pablo Gracia*)
- Tracing Inequality of Opportunity Across Cohorts (*with Michael Grätz*)
- Do Parental Income Shocks Boost the Realisation of Children's Genetic Potential? Evidence from the UK Child Tax Credit Expansion. (*with Inés Echevarría García*)

Book chapters

- The intergenerational transmission of skills in Spain. (2024) **Inequality in Spain**, Ed. Lengua de Trapo.

RESEARCH STAYS

Stone Center for Inequality Dynamics, University of Michigan

October 2024

Hosted by: Alexandra Killewald

University College Dublin

April 2024

Hosted by: Orla Doyle

Trinity College Dublin

March 2024

Hosted by: Pablo Gracia

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

PI: Money and Merit: How Financial Resources Shape Genetic Potential for Educational Success *Spring 2025*

Team: RA Inés Echevarría (Nuffield College)

Research Assistant: Siblings in the UK Project

Spring 2023

PI: Richard Breen (Nuffield College)

Research Assistant: Understanding In-Work Poverty in Europe Project *Summer 2021*

PI: Emanuela Struffolino & Zachary Van Winkle, Oxford/Berlin Research Partnership

Research Assistant: EFFORT Project, Advancing Measurement and Understanding of Parental Origin Effects *Fall/Winter 2020*

PI: Jonas Radl, Funded by the European Research Council (ERC)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer in Causal Analysis (PhD level) *Summer 2025*

LIVES Doctoral Program, University of Lausanne

Guest Lecture: Education and Social Mobility (Undergraduate level)

Winter 2025

Main instructor: Nicole Kapelle, Trinity College Dublin

Teaching Assistant: Advanced Quantitative Methods (Master level)

Winter 2023

Main instructor: Christiaan Monden, University of Oxford, Department of Sociology

Tutor: Social Policy (Undergraduate level)

Fall 2022 & Spring 2023

Course Convenor: Rossella Ciccia, University of Oxford, Department of Social Policy

Tutor: Sociological Theory (Undergraduate level)

Fall 2022

Course Convenor: Jonathan Lusthaus, University of Oxford, Department of Sociology

Teaching Assistant: Statistical Methods (Master level)	<i>Fall 2021</i>
Main instructor: Per Block, University of Oxford, Department of Sociology	
Teaching Assistant: Political Actors (Undergraduate level)	<i>Fall 2019</i>
Main instructor: Pedro Riera, UC3M, Department of Social Sciences	

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Investigate Change in Time Using R	<i>Spring 2023, University of Manchester</i>
Advancing Teaching and Learning Course (ATL)	<i>Spring 2023, University of Oxford</i>
Causal Inference for Policy Evaluation	<i>Spring 2023, National Centre for Research Methods</i>
Weighting and Imputation for Survey Non-response Course	<i>Fall 2022, Social Research Association</i>
Causality: Methods of Causal Inference in the Social Sciences	<i>Spring 2021, University of Oxford</i>
Data Visualization Course	<i>Spring 2021, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research</i>

AWARDS & GRANTS

LIVES Young Scholar Grant (5,000 CHF)	<i>February 2025</i>
ECSR Dissertation of the Year Prize (500 EUROS)	<i>Sept 2024</i>
COORDINATE Transnational Access Visit Grant (3,000 EUROS)	<i>May 2023</i>
La Caixa Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies (<i>declined</i>)	<i>May 2023</i>
Fundación Rafael del Pino Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies (<i>declined</i>)	<i>May 2023</i>
Ramón Areces Scholarship Postgraduate Studies (<i>declined</i>)	<i>May 2023</i>
Nuffield Travel Grant (400 GBP)	<i>Jan 2023</i>
Department of Sociology University of Oxford Travel Grant (300 GBP)	<i>Jan 2023</i>
Santander & University Oxford Bursar Travel Awards (1,200 GBP)	<i>Feb 2022</i>
Full DPhil Grant Clarendon Fund and Nuffield College (45,000 GBP)	<i>2020-2023</i>
Hauser Award - University of Wisconsin (<i>declined</i>)	<i>April 2020</i>
Full M.A. Scholarship: Juan March Servera Fellowship, IC3JM (30,000 EUROS)	<i>2018-2020</i>
Competitive Grant JAE Intro, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) (<i>declined</i>)	<i>July 2019</i>
Dean's Teaching Commendation for Outstanding Teaching, UC3M	<i>Feb 2019</i>
Outstanding Graduate Student Award in Sociology and Political Science, UC3M	<i>Nov 2018</i>
Excellence Award, UC3M Social Council	<i>May 2017</i>
Excellence Scholarship for Students in Situations of Hardship, Comunidad de Madrid	<i>2017-2018</i>
Competitive Research Grant funded by the Spanish Ministry of Education	<i>2017</i>

INVITED TALKS

Do Parental Income Shocks Amplify the Link Between Genes and Early Development? <i>LIVES Day Keynote</i>	<i>June 2025, Lausanne</i>
Do Structural Interventions Equalise Genetic Inequalities? Evidence from Educational and Income Reforms in the UK. <i>Invest Seminar Series on Intergenerational Inequalities</i>	<i>June 2025, Turku</i>
Economic Inequalities and Academia <i>Portuguese Association of Researchers and Society of Spanish Researchers in the UK</i>	<i>June 2025</i>

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

ECSR Annual Conference	<i>Fall 2025, Cologne</i>
ISA RC28 Spring Meeting	<i>Spring 2025, Milan</i>
ECSR Annual Conference	<i>Fall 2024, Barcelona</i>
ISA RC28 Summer Meeting	<i>Summer 2024, Providence</i>

European Population Conference	<i>Summer 2024, Edinburgh</i>
European Social Science Genetics Network Conference	<i>Spring 2024, Rotterdam</i>
PAA Annual Conference	<i>Spring 2024, Columbus</i>
In_equality Conference	<i>Spring 2024, Konstanz</i>
ECSR Annual Conference	<i>Fall 2023, Prague</i>
ECSR Spring School	<i>Spring 2023, Turin</i>
Intergenerational Inequalities and the Contemporary Family Setup	<i>Winter 2022, Bremen</i>
ECSR Annual Conference	<i>Summer 2022, Amsterdam</i>
ECSR Workshop on Compensatory Advantage	<i>Summer 2022, Florence</i>
ISA RC28 Spring Meeting	<i>Spring 2022, London</i>
PAA Annual Conference	<i>Spring 2022, Atlanta</i>
Heterogeneous Causal Effects Workshop	<i>Fall 2021, online</i>
ECSR Annual Conference	<i>Fall 2021, online</i>
ISA RC28 Spring Meeting	<i>Spring 2021, Turku</i>
European Sociological Association (ESA) Anual Conference	<i>Fall 2021, Barcelona</i>
EUI Summer School - Module on Social Stratification	<i>Summer 2019, Florence</i>

SKILLS

Software	R (proficient user and instructor), STATA (advanced), Python (basic), LaTeX, Zotero, MS Office
Languages	Spanish (native), English (proficient), French (basic)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES & MEMBERSHIIPS

Organizer	LIVES Social Inequality and the Life Course Colloquium at the University of Lausanne (with Michael Grätz)	<i>2024-</i>
	Child and Adolescent Development Steering Committee (EAPS)	<i>2023-</i>
	DemSoc Group (University of Oxford)	<i>2022-2023</i>
Reviewer	European Sociological Review, European Societies, Sociological Science, Social Forces, Advances in Life Course Research	
Member	ISA RC28, Population Association of America (PAA), European Association for Population Studies (EAPS), EAPS Child and Adolescent Development Working Group, European Sociological Association (ESA), Federación Española de Sociología (FES)	

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Michael Grätz

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) Research Professor
Swiss Centre of Expertise in Life Course Research LIVES, University of Lausanne.
Email: michael.gratz@unil.ch

Christiaan Monden

Professor of Sociology and Demography, Fellow of Nuffield College.
University of Oxford
Email: christiaan.monden@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

Jonas Radl

Head of Research Group "Effort and Social Inequality"
Associate Professor of Sociology
Department of Social Sciences, University Carlos III of Madrid
Email: jradl@clio.uc3m.es