Katherine Nina Thompson, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Dept of Sociology, Integrated Genomics Research Centre, Purdue University

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Education

PhD in Social, Genetic, and Developmental Psychiatry, *King's College London,* Viva: Nov 2023   2020-2023
Awarded the London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership Studentship
Thesis: The link between social isolation and mental health from childhood to young adulthood: Assessing longitudinal trends, bidirectional associations, and genetic overlap, supervised by Louise Arseneault & Timothy Matthews

MSc Genes, Environment and Development in Psychology and Psychiatry, *King's College London*   2018-2019
Thesis: Age and sex-related variability in the presentation of anxiety and depression symptoms in the GLAD study, supervised by Thalia Eley & Gerome Breen

BSc Psychology, *Loughborough University*   2014-2018
Thesis: Exploring relationships between maternal depression and anxiety symptoms, child temperament and parenting principles in 8-to-12-month-old infants, supervised by Emma Haycraft

Research and Analytics

Committed to open and reproducible science: Pre-registrations on [Open Science Framework](#) and code on [GitHub](#).

Postdoctoral Research Fellow – Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS), **University College London**   2026-Present
Quantifying intersectional inequalities in youth mental health, mentored by Dario Moreno Agostino
- Developing indicators of sexism within UK longitudinal cohorts
- Co-production with young people
- Using causal inference methods to test the impact of sexism on depression in young people
- Member of the Loneliness Working Group and the Responsible Genetics Collective

Postdoctoral Research Fellow – Dept of Sociology, College of Liberal Arts, **Purdue University**   2024-2026
Integrated Genomics Research Centre (IGRC), mentored by Robbee Wedow and Erin Dunn
- Developed pipelines for a data hub to house longitudinal cohorts: Add Health, WLS, HRS, UKB, MIDUS, ELSA
- Led project using innovative mixed models to ask: To what extent do systems contribute to concurrent and longitudinal depression symptoms?
- Led project using causal inference to ask: Can social connection mitigate disparities in depression symptoms?

PhD in Social, Genetic, and Developmental Psychiatry – SGDP Centre, **King's College London**   2020-2023
Environmental Risk Longitudinal Twin Study (E-Risk), led by Prof Louise Arseneault
- Led three research projects applying cutting-edge longitudinal methods to understand the link between social isolation and mental health problems across development
- Expertise in longitudinal structural equation modelling: growth mixture modelling, latent class growth analysis, factor analysis, multinomial regression, cross-lagged panel models, random intercept cross-lagged panel models, longitudinal mediation, univariate, heterogeneity, and multivariate twin models, and independent pathway models

Research Assistant – NIHR Bioresource Centre Maudsley, **King's College London**   2019-2020
Genetic Links to Anxiety and Depression (GLAD) Study, Eating Disorders Genetics Initiative (EDGI) & Covid-19 Psychiatry and Neurological Genetics (COPING) Study, led by Gerome Breen
- Managed NHS participant recruitment and trained ~200 NHS Trusts and services on recruitment strategies
- Developed large-scale data management pipelines (N>20,000) and processing across multiple studies

Research Assistant – *Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience*, **King's College London**   2016-2018
Early Development in Tuberous Sclerosis Study, led by Charlotte Tye
- Conducted a battery of behavioural assessments in infants across the UK and in the Birkbeck Baby Lab: Eye tracking, Mullen Scales of Early Learning, Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) and EEG

Teaching and Mentoring

Teaching
Teaching materials for the Humane Genetics Curriculum (HGC): https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/hgc/21/
Senior Personnel and Instructor, Purdue University, 2026: Summer Institute for Longitudinal Data Analysis.
Guest Lecturer, Methodology Centre at Purdue University (MCAP), 2025: R Workshop
Senior Personnel and Instructor, Purdue University, 2025: Summer Institute for Longitudinal Data Analysis. Rated 4.81: 81% excellent and 19% very good.
Guest lecturer, Purdue University, 2024: Lecture for undergraduate sociogenomics class (SOC 391S)
Graduate Teaching Assistant, King's College London, 2021-2023: Introduction to Applied Statistics MSc module
Instructor, University of Greenwich 2026: Introduction to R for the Loneliness Working Group
Instructor, King's College London, 2020: R Workshop by the Translational Neuropsychiatric Genomics Lab
SLV Mental Health Placement in Sri Lanka, 2018: Clinical work at the National Institute of Mental Health

Maths Teacher, Cobden Primary School, Loughborough, 2017: After-school support

Mentoring
Mentor for Samuel Nemeth, Purdue University, 2025: PhD student in the Department of Sociology
Mentor for Aahan Bajpai, Purdue University, 2025: Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)
Statistical Supervisor for MSc Students, King's College London, 2021-2023: DEV-PP MSc programme
Member of the LISS-DTP Committee, 2022: Representative for LISS-DTP-funded PhD students 2022
PhD Student Representative, King's College London, 2021-2023: Representative for SGDP PhD students

Presentations

Invited talks
PROMENTA Genetics Network, University of Oslo, 2026: Can social connection, acceptance, and belonging reduce disparities in depression symptoms?
Social, Genetic, Developmental Psychiatry Centre Seminar, King's College London, 2025: Can social connection, acceptance, and belonging reduce disparities in depression symptoms?
Biology, Social Disparities, and Development, Max Planck Institute, 2025: Overlap between social isolation and mental health symptoms: Longitudinal independent pathway model in a nationally representative cohort
Personality, Genetics and Mental Health Research Seminar, PROMENTA Oslo, 2024: Drawing parallels across complex trait genomics and social science: A framework to combine social and genetic risk factors for depression
Research visit to Children's Psychosocial Maladjustment (GRIP) Lab, Université Laval, Quebec, 2024: Oral presentation: Drawing parallels across complex trait genomics and social science: A framework to combine social and genetic risk factors for depression
Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Research & Development Conference 2020: Oral presentation: The impact of the GLAD Study in psychiatric research and clinical practice
Science Gallery London 2020: How to communicate genetic research on anxiety and depression

international conference presentations
International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development 2026: Organised symposia: Social connection in society: Insights on mental health from four global cohorts, and presented a paper on Social connection can reduce disparities in depression symptoms
World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics 2025: Poster: Can social connection, acceptance, and belonging reduce disparities in depression symptoms?
European Social Science Genetics Network 2025: Poster: Illuminating the complex interplay of risk factors for depression within a large-scale US longitudinal cohort
Behavior Genetics Annual Meeting 2025: Talk: Illuminating the complex interplay of risk factors for depression within a large-scale US longitudinal cohort
World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics 2024: Poster: Drawing parallels across complex trait genomics and social science: A framework to combine social and genetic risk factors for depression
Behavior Genetics Annual Meeting 2024: Talk: Drawing parallels across complex trait genomics and social science: A framework to combine social and genetic risk factors for depression
Life History Research Society Conference 2024: Organised symposia: Social relationships and mental health difficulties in young people, and presented a paper on the overlap between social isolation and mental health symptoms: Longitudinal independent pathway model in a nationally representative cohort
Sociogenomics workshop Helsinki 2023: Poster: The overlap between social isolation and mental health symptoms: Longitudinal independent pathway model in a nationally representative cohort
European Social Science Genetics Network 2023: Poster: The overlap between social isolation and mental health symptoms: Longitudinal independent pathway model in a nationally representative cohort
European Psychiatric Association Paris Congress 2023: Talk: Do children with ADHD symptoms become socially isolated? Longitudinal within-person associations in a nationally representative cohort
International Convention of Psychological Science 2023: Poster: Do children with ADHD symptoms become socially isolated? Longitudinal within-person associations in a nationally representative cohort
Life History Research Society Conference at Oxford University 2022: Poster: Trajectories of childhood social isolation in a nationally representative cohort
26th Biennial Meeting of the ISSBD 2022: Poster: Trajectories of childhood social isolation in a nationally representative cohort
ETADE 2018: Poster: The associations between developmental ability and emerging ASD traits in infants with tuberous sclerosis complex

Qualifications and Training

- Introduction to Directed Acyclic Graphs Workshop and Demystifying Selection Bias with Peter Tennant 2026
- Social Inequality: Class, Race, and Gender graduate course (SOC611) led by Jeremy Reynolds at Purdue
- Genomic data cleaning and analysis led by Linus Schwantes-An, Indiana University
- International Statistical Genetics Workshop, University of Colorado Boulder
- Mental Elf Social Media Training
- Wellcome Genome Campus: Longitudinal studies conference and training

- Twin Research and Human Genetics at VU University of Amsterdam
- Longitudinal Structural Equation Modelling with CenterStat
- Growth Modelling in Mplus with Chris Stride
- LISS-DTP Introduction to Qualitative Research Programme
- Venipuncture Training Certified: Annie Barr Health Group
- Samaritans Training: Conversations with Vulnerable People

Funding and Awards

- London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (LISS DTP) Studentship ESRC 2020
- Awarded Editors' Best of 2023 by JAACAP Open: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaacop.2024.01.001
- Travel grants: ESSGN 2023; EPA 2023; SGDP Centre PhD Student Travel Grant 2022 & 2023; ISSBD 2026 Early Career Award; Purdue University Postdoc Travel Award 2026
- Maudsley 2016 Grant for Samutthana Practical and Theoretical Mental Health Training in Sri Lanka

Publications

First Author

Malerbi, K . F.[†], Brubaker, A.[†], Weindling, M.[†], Thompson, K. N.[†], et al., (2026). Developing and Teaching Curriculum to Reduce Genetic Essentialism in College Classrooms. *Behavior Genetics.* https://doi.org/10.1007/s10519-026-10251-7

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2025). The overlap between social isolation and mental health problems: a longitudinal behavioural genetic analysis in the E-Risk cohort. *European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-024-02573-w

Thompson, K. N. (2024). Current Complexities in Establishing Risk Factors for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in Longitudinal Research. *Biological Psychiatry*, *95*(9), 820-821. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biopsych.2024.02.1009

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2023). Do children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder symptoms become socially isolated? Longitudinal within-person associations in a nationally representative cohort. *JAACAP open*, *1*(1), 12-23. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaacop.2023.02.001

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2022). Trajectories of childhood social isolation in a nationally representative cohort: Associations with antecedents and early adulthood outcomes. *JCPP Advances,* 2(2), e12073. *https://doi.org/10.1002/jcv2.12073*.

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2021). Age and sex-related variability in the presentation of generalized anxiety and depression symptoms. *Depression and Anxiety*, 38, 1054–1065. https://doi.org/10.1002/da.23213

Senior Author

Geurgas, R., et al., (2025). What Machine Learning Teaches Us About Depression Prediction Across the Life Course: An Exploratory Comparison of Predictive Models. *Social Science & Medicine Population Health.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2025.101886

Under Review

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2026). Illuminating the complex interplay of risk factors for depression within a large-scale US longitudinal cohort. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology.* https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/wf52a_v1

Thompson, K. N. et al., (2026). Social connection can mitigate depression risk. *Science*. https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/j5drc_v1

Wedow, R.[†], Thompson, K. N.[†], Medland, S. E.[†], Nivard, M. G.[†], Neale, B. M.[†] (2026). Transcending the Reductionist Reputation of Behavioural Genetics. *Nature Genetics.*

Bryan, B., Thompson, K. N. et al., (2026). Investigating the interplay of loneliness and social isolation across adolescence: Findings from a nationally representative longitudinal study. *Development and Psychopathology.*

Grimes, P. et al., (2026). Transancestry GWAS of adolescent-onset depression. *Nature Genetics.* https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.09.26.25335972

Arseneault, L. et al., (2027). Chapter contribution for the Research Handbook on Loneliness and Social Connection. *Edward Elgar Handbooks*.

Brendgen, M. et al., (2027). The Cambridge Handbook of Developmental Gene-Environment Interplay: A Lifespan Perspective. *Cambridge*.

Collaborations

Dunn, E. C. et al., (2026). *Journal of Mood and Anxiety Disorders.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xjmad.2026.100171

Wedow, R., et al., (2026). *Genetics and Genomics Advances.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xhgg.2025.100548

Skelton, M. et al., (2025). *Psychological Medicine.* https://doi.org/10.1017/S0033291725101037

Morneau-Vaillancourt, G. et al (2025). *Journal of Affective Disorders.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2025.04.010

Thériault-Couture, F. et al., (2024). *Developmental Psychology.* https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001788

Bryan, B. T. et al., (2024). *Social Science & Medicine*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2024.116697

Bryan, B. T. et al., (2023). *Occupational Medicine.* https://doi.org/10.1093/occmed/kqad138

Bright, S. J. et al., (2023). *BMC Psychiatry.* https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-023-04890-x

Rayner, C. et al., (2022). *BMC Psychiatry*. https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-022-04275-6

Young, **K. S.** et al., (2022). *Psychological Medicine*. http://doi.org/10.1017/S0033291722002501

Davies, M. R. et al., (2021). *Journal of Anxiety Disorders*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.janxdis.2021.102491

Holt, H. et al., (2021). *Thorax.* https://doi.org/10.1136/thoraxjnl-2021-217487

Peel, A. J. et al., (2021). *Journal of Affective Disorders Reports.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadr.2021.100201

Other media
Organiser for Stand Up for Science Indiana Rally (2025): [Link 1](); [Link 2]()
ACAMH Panel speaker (2025): [Link]()
IoPPN Media (2022, 2023). Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week: [Link1]() [Link2]() [Link3]()
Edit Lab Blog (2022). [Link]()