

KATY MORRIS

British; ✉ k.m.morris@leeds.ac.uk; 🔗 <https://katymorris.owlstown.net/>

📍: School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, United Kingdom

PROFILE

Quantitative sociologist interested in the social and political consequences of spatial inequality. I investigate how and why spatial inequality shapes labour market outcomes, inequality beliefs and political behaviour.

EDUCATION

2021	PhD in Political and Social Sciences; European University Institute
2012	MRes Politics and Policy; Birkbeck, University of London
2007	BA Honours Geography; University of Cambridge

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds	
2026 – pres	Lecturer in Quantitative Social Research
Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI), Stockholm University	
2026 – pres	Affiliated Researcher
2025 – 2026	Presidential Fellow
Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lausanne	
2022 – 2025	Junior Lecturer (Centre LIVES)
2019 – 2022	FNS Senior Researcher (NCCR-LIVES)
International Inequalities Institute, London School of Economics	
2017	Research Assistant

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

2013 – 2015	Senior Researcher (Deputy Director of Research), Education and Employers Taskforce
2010 – 2013	Head of Policy & Research, Million+
2007 – 2010	Researcher, The Work Foundation

PUBLICATIONS

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- (12) **Morris, K.** (2026) The Labour Market Link: An explanation of Brexit support. *Political Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11109-026-10210-2>
- (11) Ostermann, K., Patzina, A. & **Morris, K.** (2026) Stratified Scars: Social inequality in the labour market consequences of apprenticeship dropout. *European Sociological Review*; <https://doi.org/10.1093/esr/jcag010>
- (10) Oesch, D., Lipps, O., Shabazian, R., Bihagen, E. & **Morris, K.** (2026) Occupational Earning Potential: A new measure of social hierarchy in Europe and the United States. *European Sociological Review* 42 (3): 421–441; <https://doi.org/10.1093/esr/jcaf035>
- (9) **Morris, K.** (2025) A Tale of Two Cities: Occupational change in London 1991 – 2021. *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* 11: 1-4; <https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231251329409>

- (8) Oesch, D., **Morris, K.** & Westenberger, G-J (2025). Polarised Upgrading: The changing class structure of British and German cities 1991 – 2021. Journal for Labour Market Research 59: 32; <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12651-025-00420-2>
- (7) **Morris, K.** (2025) Getting A Foot In The Door: Local labour markets and the school-to-work transition. Journal of Youth Studies 28(1): 137-157; <https://doi.org/10.1080/13676261.2023.2248905>
- (6) **Morris, K.** & Oesch, D. (2025) Uneven Shifts: The geography of occupational change in France, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom 1992 – 2018. European Societies 27 (1): 4-30; https://doi.org/10.1162/euso_a_00015
- (6) **Morris, K.** (2025) Getting A Foot In The Door: Local labour markets and the school-to-work transition. Journal of Youth Studies 28(1): 137-157; <https://doi.org/10.1080/13676261.2023.2248905>
- (5) **Morris, K.** & Lampropoulos, D. (2024) The Progressive Place Paradox: Status-based health inequalities are magnified in more economically progressive Swiss localities. Health and Place 86: 103215; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2024.103215>
- (4) **Morris, K.** (2023) Where DESO Disappears: Spatial inequality and social stratification at labour market entry. European Sociological Review 39 (1): 85-103; <https://doi.org/10.1093/esr/jcac027> [Winner: European Sociological Review Best Paper 2024 – Runner Up]
- (3) **Morris, K.**, Bühlmann, F., Sommet, N. & Vandecasteele, L. (2022) The Paradox of Local Inequality: Meritocratic beliefs in unequal localities, British Journal of Sociology 73(2): 421-460, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-4446.12930>
- (2) Lee, N., **Morris, K.** & Kemeny, T. (2018) Immobility and the Brexit Vote, Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society 11(1): 143-163, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rsx027> [Winner: Understanding Society Best Paper Prize 2019]
- (1) Jones, S., Mann, A. & **Morris, K.** (2016) The ‘Employer Engagement Cycle’ in Secondary Education: Analysing the testimonies of young British adults, Journal of Education and Work 29 (7): 834-856; <https://doi.org/10.1080/13639080.2015.1074665>

UNDER REVIEW

- Enggist, M., Westenberger, G-J. & **Morris, K.** (2026) Testing the Individual Pessimism Hypothesis: Regional decline and radical right voting in Europe. Forthcoming at West European Politics
- Berriochoa, K., **Morris, K.**, & McNeil, A. Local versus National: The effect of income (mis)perceptions on inequality beliefs and preferences. Submitted to Comparative Political Studies

SELECTED POLICY PUBLICATIONS

- Morris, K.**, Kashefpakdel, E. & Mann, A. (2015) Languages and Labour Market Outcomes. British Academy: London
- Morris, K.** & McVitty, D. (2012) Never Too Late To Learn: Mature students in UK higher education. million+ and NUS: London
- Morris, K.**, Jones, A. & Wright, J. (2010) Anchoring Growth: The role of anchor institutions in the regeneration of UK cities. The Northern Way: Newcastle
- Morris, K.** (2010) Flat or Spiky? The changing location of the British knowledge economy. The Work Foundation: London
- Morris, K.** & Jones, A. (2010) Managing Change: Responding to public spending reductions in Yorkshire and Humber. The Work Foundation: London

Lee, N., Jones, A. & **Morris, K.** (2009) *Recession and Recovery: How cities can respond to the recession.*
 London: The Work Foundation: London / OECD: Paris

RESEARCH GRANTS

2027 – 2029 Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet): SEK 4.5 million
 PI: Has the Swedish labour market upgraded or polarised? Multiverse & spatial analyses

2025 – 2027 Stockholm University Presidential Fellowship

2025 – 2027 Wenner-Gren Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined)

2024 University of Lausanne LIVES Young Scholar award: CHF 8,000

HONOURS & AWARDS

2024 European Sociological Review: Best Paper – Runner Up

2019 University of Essex: Understanding Society Best Paper (with Neil Lee and Tom Kemeny)

RESEARCH VISITS

January 2025 SOFI, Stockholm University

June 2023 Dipartimento di Scienze Umane e Sociali, University of Salento

Spring 2018 Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (DIW), Berlin

October 2017 International Inequalities Institute, London School of Economics

Summer 2017 Department of Sociology, University of Turku

INVITED TALKS

2025 *The Labour Market Link: Local occupational change and Brexit support*
 Trinity College Dublin, Sociology Research Seminar

Local versus National: The effect of income (mis)perceptions on beliefs and preferences
 London School of Economics, International Inequalities Institute Seminar
 Uppsala University, Higher Sociology Seminar
 University of Lausanne, LIVES Comes Alive Seminar

2023 *Uneven Shifts: The geography of occupational change in Europe 1992 - 2018*
 University of Bologna, Socio-Economic Inequalities after COVID-19 workshop keynote

From School-to-Work: A spatial perspective
 University of Geneva, LIVES Doctoral workshop

2018 *Immobility and the Brexit vote*
 European University Institute, Political Behaviour Colloquium

2017 *The youth labour market in Europe*
 University of Florence, Centro di eccellenza Jean Monnet lecture series

RECENT CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

2026 Atkinson Conference on Economic and Social Inequality, University of Oxford
 Northern Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) Workshop, University of York
 RC28 Spring Meeting, Pablo de Olavide University, Seville

2025 Uppsala Center for Labor Studies Workshop: Inequalities in working life
 ECSR Annual Conference, University of Cologne

Uppsala Center for Labor Studies Spring Meeting, Uppsala University
 RC28 Spring Meeting, University of Milan
 Swiss Political Science Association Annual Conference, University of Geneva

2024 LIVES Annual Conference, University of Geneva
 ECSR Annual Conference, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona
 Social and Political Consequences of Deindustrialisation workshop, INED, Paris,
 Regional Studies Association Annual Conference, University of Florence
 ECSR Geography and Educational Inequality Research Workshop, UNED Madrid

TEACHING & SUPERVISION

2026 – pres Lecturer in Quantitative Social Research
 School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds
 School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds

2025 – 2026 MA Thesis Supervisor
 Department of Sociology, Stockholm University

2022 – 2025 Junior Lecturer
 Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lausanne

2023 – 2025 Guest Lecturer
 Institute of Sociology, University of Neuchatel

2018 Temporary Lecturer
 Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Florence

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Grant reviewer: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation) 2025

Review board: Social Science Research: Early-Career Review Board

Reviewer: Acta Sociologica; British Journal of Sociology, Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Societies; European Societies; European Sociological Review; Journal of Youth Studies; Research in Social Stratification and Mobility; Social Forces; Social Science Research; Socio-Economic Review

Moderator: SocArXiv (2022 – present)

Convenor: LIVES Comes Alive seminar series, University of Lausanne (2022 – 2025)
 WHISPER academic writing group, University of Lausanne (2023 – 2025)

Committees: ECSR Annual Conference 2026, scientific committee on educational inequalities
 Wealth Inequality, Mobility & Labor Markets Workshop 2026 scientific committee
 RC28 Spring Meeting 2025, scientific committee on labour market inequalities

Member: British Academy: Early Career Researcher Network
 British Sociological Association
 Political Studies Association
 RC28 Social Stratification and Mobility
 Understanding Society Data User Group (2023 – 2029)