

Dr. Carla Xena

Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), University of Essex

cxenag@essex.ac.uk

EDUCATION

PhD in Government (Political Behaviour), University of Essex	2015
MSc in Political Behaviour, University of Essex	2010
MA in Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra	2009
BA in Political Science and Public Administration, Universitat Pompeu Fabra	2007

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Research Officer, ISER, University of Essex	2019-current
Adjunct Lecturer, Open University of Catalonia	2019-current
Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Oxford (Merton College)	2016 – 2018
Adjunct Lecturer, Fordham University (London)	2015-2016
Adjunct Lecturer, University of Surrey	2014
Teaching Assistant, Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis	2011-2014
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Government, University of Essex	2010-2015

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Data Working Group Member, “The True European Voter”, COST Action ISO806	2010-2014
Study Abroad Officer, Department of Government, University of Essex	2013- 2014
Research Executive, Urban Quality Strategies (Social Policy Consultancy, Barcelona)	2009

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

Scotto, T., **Xena, C.** and Reifler, J. (2021) “Alternative Measures of Political Efficacy: The Quest for Cross-Cultural Invariance with Ordinally Scaled Survey Items” in *Frontiers in Political Science, Methods* (3).

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpos.2021.665532>

Pardos-Prado, S. and **Xena, C.** (2019) “Skill Specificity and Attitudes toward Immigration” in *American Journal of Political Science* 63 (2): 286 – 304. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/45132478>

Technical Reports and Working Papers

Xena, C. and Kaminska, O. (2025) “Non-response in Address-based Surveys”. *Understand Society Working Paper Series*, 13. <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/research/publications/working-paper/understanding-society/2025-13/>

Ghilleri, N., Lynn, P., **Xena, C.** et al. (2024) “Quality Report for the European Social Survey Round 10:

Overall face-to-face fieldwork and data quality report” London: European Social Survey ERIC.
https://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/sites/default/files/2024-09/ESS10_Quality_Report.pdf

Lynn, P. and **Xena, C.** (2024) “A Comparison of Non-Response Patterns over Time in Countries that Switched to Self-Completion at Round 10”
https://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/sites/default/files/2024-09/ESS_Sample_Composition_report_sc_Round_10.pdf

Lynn, P. and **Xena, C.** (2024) “Technical Report on ESS R10 Weighting”. European Social Survey ERIC
https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5118905

Lynn, P. and **Xena, C.** (2021) “Exploration of statistical weighting in the Graduate Outcomes Survey: technical report”. Higher Education Statistics Agency, Cheltenham. <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/files/ISER-Graduate-Outcomes-weighting-report-20210720.pdf>

Lynn, P. and **Xena, C.** (2020) “Technical Report on ESS R9 Weighting”. European Social Survey ERIC.
https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5118895

Under review

Pardos-Prado, S. and **Xena, C.** (2026) “Immigration and Support for Progressive Taxation” (*R&R*)

Book chapters

Scotto, T. and **Xena, C.** (2015) “Political Efficacy” in International Encyclopedia for the Social and Behavioural Sciences. 301-307. Elsevier.
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/B9780080970868930368?via%3Dihub>

Thesis (PhD)

Xena, C. (2015) “Old Measures, New Implications: The Meaning of Political Efficacy across Political Contexts” PhD thesis, University of Essex. <https://repository.essex.ac.uk/15492/>

HONOURS & AWARDS

Associate Fellow of the UK <i>Higher Education Academy</i>	since 2014
Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) +3 Studentship Quota Award	2010-2013
Spanish Ministry of Education and Science Scholarship for Master Studies	2007-2009

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

MSc Survey Methods for Social Research (Lecturer), University of Essex <i>Introduction to Survey Design and Management</i>	2025-current
National Centre for Research Methods, NCRM (Lecturer) <i>Ensuring Comparability in Cross-National Surveys: Methods and Key Topics</i>	2025
MSc in Political Analysis (Adjunct Lecturer), Open University of Catalonia <i>Quantitative Analysis and Qualitative Analysis</i>	2019 -current
Fordham University (London, Lecturer)	2015-2016

Comparative European Politics

Department of Politics (Lecturer), University of Surrey
Introduction to Econometrics

2014

Department of Government (Graduate Teaching Assistant), University of Essex
Scientific Reasoning for the Social Sciences, Comparative Political Analysis, Politics and Economic Policies, Institutions of Democracy, Political Analysis, Introduction to Politics.

2010-2015

Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis (Teaching Assistant)
Applying Regression and Structural Equation Models with Mplus.

2011-2014

REVIEWER

Journals: *Electoral Studies, British Journal of Political Science, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Political Behavior, Migration Studies.*

Grants: member of the panel selected by the *Data Strategy and Infrastructure Programme at the Economic and Social Research Council (UKRI ESRC)* to assess funding applications for the World Value Survey 2025- 2027 (up to £1,027,780) and the International Social Survey Programme 2025-2027 (up to £970,000).

OTHER

Software: Stata (advanced), Mplus (advanced), SPSS (intermediate).

Languages: Catalan (native), Spanish (native), English (proficient), Portuguese (proficient), French (intermediate).

Last updated April 2026.