

Ailsa Winton

Bilingual social science researcher, writer, copy-editor and translator

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Profile

I am a British bilingual (English-Spanish) social science researcher, writer, copy editor and translator. After 15 years working as an academic in Mexico, I returned to the UK in 2021 and now work independently. I have published widely in both English and Spanish, from peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and edited books, to research reports, media articles and public engagement documents. I also have extensive undergraduate and postgraduate teaching experience, and was co-director of a company providing English language services in Mexico City.

Key skills

- **Bilingual: English (native)-Spanish**
- **Specialist in writing, translating and copy-editing social science texts**
- **Experienced teacher**
- **Exacting eye for detail**
- **Fully IT proficient**

Current employment

- **Freelance researcher, translator and copy-editor (2021-date).**
- **Associate tutor (March 2022-date).** MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London.

Employment history

- **Senior Researcher (2012- 2020)** Border and Migration Studies Group, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR) Tapachula, Mexico.
- **Associate Researcher (2007- 2012)** Department of Social Geography, Geography Institute, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).
- **Postdoctoral Research Fellow (2005- 2007)** Department of Social Geography, Geography Institute, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).
- **Lecturer (2003- 2005)** Department of Geography, Queen Mary, University of London.
- **Research Associate (2002- 2003)** Department of Geography, Queen Mary, University of London.

Additional positions

- **Co-director (2008- 2011)** Verbalink Language Services. Mexico City.
- **Visiting lecturer (January-April 2004)** Department of Political Science, University of Bristol.
- **Assistant consultant (February 2003)** World Bank. (Lead Consultant Prof Caroline Moser) Project: 'Violence, fear and insecurity and the urban poor in Latin America.'
- **Assistant consultant (November-December 2001)** UK Department for International Development. (Lead consultant Prof Caroline Moser). Project: 'Violence in the Central American Region: Towards an Integrated Framework for Violence Reduction.'

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Education

- **PhD in Human Geography (1999-2003)** Queen Mary, University of London. ESRC-funded.
- **BA Human Geography (1995-1998)** Queen Mary, University of London (2.1).

Key recent publications

See <https://independent.academia.edu/WintonAilsa>

- Rojas Wiesner, M. & Winton, A. (eds) (2020) *Contornos: historias de vida y trabajo entre Guatemala y México*, Colección Región Transfronteriza México-Guatemala. (RTMG), Centro de Investigación en Ciencias de Información Geoespacial, A.C.: Mexico.
- Winton, A. (2019) in A. Güler, M. Shevtsova & D. Venturi (eds.) "I've got to go somewhere": Queer displacement in Northern Central America and Southern Mexico, in A. Güler, M. Shevtsova, & D. Venturi (eds.) *LGBTI Asylum Seekers and Refugees from a Legal and Political Perspective*. Springer: Cham.
- Rojas Wiesner, M. & Winton, A. (2018) Precarious Mobility in Central America and Southern Mexico: Crises and the Struggle to Survive, in C. Menjivar, M. Ruiz, & I. Ness (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Migration Crises*, Oxford: New York.
- Winton, A. (2018) *Desplazamiento por violencia en el Norte de Centroamérica: Historias de supervivencia*, Report #23, Observatorio Iberoamericano sobre Movilidad Humana, Migraciones y Desarrollo, Universidad Pontificia Comillas, Madrid.
- Walker, M. & Winton, A. (2017) Towards a theory of the discordant border. *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, 38(2): 245–257.
- Winton, A. (2016) Using Photography as a Creative, Collaborative Research Tool. *Qualitative Report*, 21(2): 428-449.
- Winton, A. (2015) Violence, borders and boundaries: Reframing young people's mobility. In C.N. Laoire, A. White, & T. Skelton (eds.), *Movement, Mobilities and Journeys, Geographies of Children and Young People* 6, Springer, Singapore. 131-149.

Examples of own public engagement publications:

- <https://www.elsoldemexico.com.mx/analisis/mexico-es-ciencia-desplazamiento-por-violencia-una-cuestion-de-justicia-social-2876237.html>
- <https://migration.blogs.bristol.ac.uk/2020/05/19/migrants-abandoned-lockdown-at-the-mexican-guatemalan-border/>

Recent examples of translated and edited texts available on request.