



Wim Casteels

Lecturer | Physicist | AI Specialist | Keynote Speaker

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Profile

Physicist and AI specialist with a background as researcher, data scientist, and lecturer. Currently coordinating the **IT & AI specialization** at **AP University of Applied Sciences, Antwerp**, bridging academic expertise with industry collaboration in applied AI. Author of *Het Masker van AI* (2025), a book examining the societal challenges and opportunities of artificial intelligence.

Key Highlights

- 10+ years of combined academic and industry experience in physics, data science, and artificial intelligence.
- Expertise in applied AI, curriculum development, and cross-sector collaboration.
- Published researcher with an international track record and contributions to both scientific and public discourse.

Links

-  [\[Work Website\]](#)
-  [\[Personal Website\]](#)
-  [\[LinkedIn\]](#)
-  [\[Google Scholar\]](#)

Work Experience

Lecturer and Coordinator IT & AI - AP University of Applied Sciences, Antwerp

January 2022 – Present

- Developing IT & AI curriculum
- Liaising with industry professionals
- Teaching and coaching in AI
- Managing and performing applied AI research

Professor - University of Antwerp and Royal Meteorological Institute (RMI)

September 2021 – December 2021

- Led the AI for meteorological applications research track.

Senior Researcher - imec

December 2019 – August 2021

- Worked on industrial AI applications at [IDLab, Antwerp](#).
- Managed research projects
- Supervised PhD students and junior researchers
- Participated in writing various successful project proposals

Data Scientist - Argenta

September 2018 – November 2019

- Part of the central Data & Analytics Office
- Supported migration to AWS cloud infrastructure
- Applied AI for use cases as marketing, risk assessment and fraud detection

Science Teacher - Pius X College

February 2018 – June 2018

- Taught applied physics, mathematics, and sciences to secondary school students

Postdoctoral Researcher - Université Paris Diderot & University of Antwerp

September 2013 – August 2017

- Worked at the [Materials and Quantum Phenomena \(MPQ\) lab](#) and the [Theory of Quantum Systems and Complex Systems \(TQC\) group](#)
- Studied quantum properties of ultracold atoms and photons
- Collaborations with various theoretical and experimental researchers

Education

Teacher Training Program - AP University of Applied Sciences, Antwerp

September 2019 – June 2021

- Graduated with distinction

PhD in Physics - University of Antwerp

September 2009 – June 2013

- Thesis: '[Ultracold Gases as a Quantum Simulator for the Polaron.](#)'

Master in Physics - University of Antwerp

September 2007 – June 2009

- Graduated summa cum laude (89%)

Bachelor in Physics - University of Antwerp

September 2004 – June 2007

- Graduated with distinction

Additional Information

Publications

- 46 academic publications with over 2000 citations (see [Google Scholar Profile](#))
- Author of the book "[Het Masker van AI](#)", published in 2025 with LannooCampus, on the societal challenges of AI for a broad audience
- Various blogposts and op-eds (see <https://wimcasteels.be/blog/> for an overview)

Skills

Technical

- *AI & Data Science:* Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence
- *Programming & Tools:* Python, R, Data Visualization, IT Systems
- *Domain Expertise:* Physics, Data Science Methodology, Research Design

Professional

- Teaching & Coaching
- Project Management
- Industry-Academia Collaboration
- Communication of Complex Ideas to Non-Experts

Languages

Dutch (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate), Spanish (basic)

Interests

Science, Societal challenges of AI, (Trail-)running