

Jan-Willem Simons

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INTERESTS	Interethnic attitudes and behaviours; Socialisation effects; Media effects; Social norms; Negative social relations; Systematic reviews and meta-analyses; Agent-based models; Social network experiments; Social Network Analysis; Exponential random graph models; Stochastic actor-oriented models; Hidden Markov models	
EDUCATION	Utrecht University , The Netherlands	October 2025 (Expected)
	PhD Student in Sociology	
	Dissertation: TBD	
	Advisors: Prof. Dr. Eva Jaspers (University of Utrecht) and Prof Dr. Frank van Tubergen (University of Utrecht)	
	Utrecht University , The Netherlands	July 2021
	M.Sc. in Methodology and Statistics for the Behavioural, Biomedical, and Social Sciences	
	Thesis: "On the Analysis of a Sample of Exponential Random Graph Model Estimates"	
	Advisor: Prof. Dr. Marijtje van Duijn (University of Groningen)	
	Utrecht University , The Netherlands	July 2019
	B.Sc. in Sociology with a Minor in Methods and Statistics	
	Thesis: "Examining the Effect of Observation Sequence Variables on Hidden Markov Model Gibbs Sampler Inference"	
	Advisor: Dr. Emmeke Aarts (University of Utrecht)	
	Additional Activities: Honours College Faculty of Social Sciences	
PUBLICATIONS	Jaspers, E., Van Zantvliet, P. I., & Simons, J. W. (2025). How Descriptive Norms and Peer Attitudes Shape Interethnic Dating Among Adolescents in Dutch Schools. <i>Social Inclusion</i> . Forthcoming.	
	Simons, J. W. , Jaspers, E., & van Tubergen, F. (2025). Socialisation and ethnic majorities' attitudes towards ethnic minorities: a systematic review and meta-analysis of correlational evidence. <i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i> , 51(11), 2669–2694. https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2025.2472818	
	Simons, J. W. , Boverhof, B. J., & Aarts, E. (2024). The influence of observation sequence features on the performance of the Bayesian hidden Markov model: A Monte Carlo simulation study. <i>PloS One</i> , 19(12), e0314444. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0314444	
	Goossens, C., & Simons, J. W. (2024). Overbruggen van denkbelden en grenzen: De effecten van opleidingsniveau op anti-immigratie attitudes in West-en Oost-Europa. <i>Mens & Maatschappij</i> , 99(1), 33-61. https://doi.org/10.5117/MEM2024.1.003.GOOS	
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	<i>On the Analysis of a Sample of Exponential Random Graph Model Estimates</i> . European Conference of Social Networks. September, 2021.	
	<i>Balance, Status, and Negative Tie Dynamics in A High Propinquity Network Context</i> . European Conference of Social Networks. September, 2023.	
	<i>On the Design of a Social Norm Intervention to Promote Interethnic Cooperation through Tolerance: An Agent-Based Model</i> . Interdisciplinary Conference on Social Norms, Cohesion, and (De)Polarization. May, 2025.	
	<i>On the Design of a Social Norm Intervention to Promote Interethnic Cooperation through Tolerance: An Agent-Based Model</i> . 5th ISA Forum of Sociology. July, 2025.	

Tutorial group teaching

October 2021 – October 2024

Department of Sociology, Utrecht University

Activities: Taught a tutorial group each second semester from 2021 to 2024 for the course "Social Networks in Theory and Empirical Research."

Bachelor thesis supervision

October 2022 – October 2025

Department of Sociology, Utrecht University

Activities: Supervised groups of 3–5 sociology bachelor's students in writing their thesis projects during the second semester of the academic years 2022–2025.

**SKILLS AND
PROFICIENCIES****Statistical Software**R (RStudio, Markdown, Shiny), NetLogo, Python, \LaTeX , Git, *Mplus*, SPSS**Language Ability**

Native in Dutch, Near native in English, Beginner in French and German

**RELEVANT
COURSEWORK****Utrecht University (M.Sc.)**

Multivariate Statistics

Fundamentals of Statistics

Multilevel and Structural Equation Modeling

Biomedical Statistics

Statistical Analysis of Complete Social Networks

Markup Languages and Reproducible Programming

Computational Inference with R

Survey Data Analysis

Bayesian Statistics

Psychometrics

Meta-Analysis

Programming in Python

Utrecht University (B.Sc.)

Social Networks in Theory and Empirical Research

Missing Data Theory and Causal Effects

Family Sociology

Criminal Behaviour during the Lifecourse

Measurement and Modelling with Social Data

Theory Construction and Statistical Modeling

Conducting a Survey

Doing a Qualitative Research Project