

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	Heo, I., Simons, J. W. , & Liu, H. (2025). A Tutorial on Bayesian Model Averaging for Exponential Random Graph Models. <i>British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology</i> . In press.	
	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> , 13. https://doi.org/10.17645/si.10034	
	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	
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	Goossens, C., & Simons, J. W. (2024). Overbruggen van denkbeelden en grenzen: De effecten van opleidingsniveau op anti-immigratie attituden in West-en Oost-Europa. <i>Mens & Maatschappij</i> , 99(1), 33-61. https://doi.org/10.5117/MEM2024.1.003.GOOS	
	<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.	

On the Design of a Social Norm Intervention to Promote Interethnic Cooperation through Tolerance: An Agent-Based Model. 5th ISA Forum of Sociology. July, 2025.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	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, <i>Mplus</i> , SPSS		
	Language Ability		
	Native in Dutch, Near native in English, Beginner in French and German		
RELEVANT COURSEWORK	Utrecht University (M.Sc.)		
	Multivariate Statistics	Computational Inference with R	
	Fundamentals of Statistics	Survey Data Analysis	
	Multilevel and Structural Equation Modeling	Bayesian Statistics	
	Biomedical Statistics	Psychometrics	
	Statistical Analysis of Complete Social Networks	Meta-Analysis	
	Markup Languages and Reproducible Programming	Programming in Python	
	Utrecht University (B.Sc.)		
	Social Networks in Theory and Empirical Research	Measurement and Modelling with Social Data	
	Missing Data Theory and Causal Effects	Theory Construction and Statistical Modeling	
	Family Sociology	Conducting a Survey	
	Criminal Behaviour during the Lifecourse	Doing a Qualitative Research Project	