

# 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	<b>Utrecht University</b> , 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)	
	<b>Utrecht University</b> , The Netherlands	July 2021
	M.Sc. in <a href="#">Methodology and Statistics for the Behavioural, Biomedical, and Social Sciences</a>	
	Thesis: "On the Analysis of a Sample of Exponential Random Graph Model Estimates"	
	Advisor: Prof. Dr. Marijtje van Duijn (University of Groningen)	
	<b>Utrecht University</b> , The Netherlands	July 2019
	B.Sc. in <a href="#">Sociology</a> with a Minor in <a href="#">Methods and Statistics</a>	
	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., & <b>Simons, J. W.</b> (2025). How Descriptive Norms and Peer Attitudes Shape Interethnic Dating Among Adolescents in Dutch Schools. <i>Social Inclusion</i> , 13. <a href="https://doi.org/10.17645/si.10034">https://doi.org/10.17645/si.10034</a>	
	<b>Simons, J. W.</b> , 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. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2025.2472818">https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2025.2472818</a>	
	<b>Simons, J. W.</b> , 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. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0314444">https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0314444</a>	
	Goossens, C., & <b>Simons, J. W.</b> (2024). Overbruggen van denkbeelden en grenzen: De effecten van opleidingsniveau op anti-immigratie attitudes in West-en Oost-Europa. <i>Mens &amp; Maatschappij</i> , 99(1), 33-61. <a href="https://doi.org/10.5117/MEM2024.1.003.GOOS">https://doi.org/10.5117/MEM2024.1.003.GOOS</a>	
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.	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<b>Tutorial group teaching</b>		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."		
	<b>Bachelor thesis supervision</b>		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	<b>Statistical Software</b>		
	R (RStudio, Markdown, Shiny), NetLogo, Python, $\LaTeX$ , Git, <i>Mplus</i> , SPSS		
	<b>Language Ability</b>		
	Native in Dutch, Near native in English, Beginner in French and German		
RELEVANT COURSEWORK	<b>Utrecht University (M.Sc.)</b>		
	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	
	<b>Utrecht University (B.Sc.)</b>		
	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	