

# Jan-Willem Simons

Academic Curriculum Vitae in August 2025

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INTERESTS	Interethnic attitudes and behaviours; Socialisation effects; Media effects; Social influence; Social norms; Negative social relations; Systematic reviews and meta-analyses; Agent-based models; Social network experiments; Social Network Analysis; Exponential random graph models; Hidden Markov models	
EDUCATION	<b>Utrecht University</b> , The Netherlands	October 2025 (Expected)
	PhD Student in Sociology	
	Thesis (working title): <i>Social Influences as Determinants of and Pathways for Changing Interethnic Relations: Evidence from Systematic Reviews, Agent-Based Modelling, and Social Network Experiments</i>	
	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 Methodology and Statistics for the Behavioural, Biomedical, and Social Sciences	
	Thesis: <i>On the Analysis of a Sample of Exponential Random Graph Model Estimates</i>	
	Advisor: Prof. Dr. Marijtje van Duijn (University of Groningen)	
	<b>Utrecht University</b> , The Netherlands	July 2019
	B.Sc. in Sociology with a Minor in Methods and Statistics	
	Thesis: <i>Examining the Effect of Observation Sequence Variables on Hidden Markov Model Gibbs Sampler Inference</i>	
	Advisor: Dr. Emmeke Aarts (University of Utrecht)	
ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS	Additional Activities: Honours College Faculty of Social Sciences	
	[5] Heo, I., <b>Simons, J.-W.</b> , & Liu, H. (in press). A Tutorial on Bayesian Model Averaging for Exponential Random Graph Models. <i>British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology</i> . <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/bmsp.70007">https://doi.org/10.1111/bmsp.70007</a>	
	[4] 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>	
	[3] <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>	
	[2] <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>	
	[1] 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	[5] Heo, I. (presenter), <b>Simons, J.-W.</b> , & Liu, H. <i>A Bayesian multi-model inferential approach to exponential random graph modeling</i> [Poster Presentation]. 133rd Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association. Denver, The United States of America. August, 2025.	
	[4] <b>Simons, J.-W.</b> (presenter), Tolsma, J., Jaspers, E. <i>On the Design of a Social Norm Intervention to Promote Interethnic Cooperation through Tolerance: An Agent-Based Model</i> [Conference Presentation].	

5th ISA Forum of Sociology. Rabat, Morocco. July, 2025.

- [3] **Simons, J.-W.** (presenter), Tolsma, J., Jaspers, E. *On the Design of a Social Norm Intervention to Promote Interethnic Cooperation through Tolerance: An Agent-Based Model* [Conference Presentation]. Interdisciplinary Conference on Social Norms, Cohesion, and (De)Polarization. Utrecht, The Netherlands. May, 2025.
- [2] **Simons, J.-W.** (presenter), Jaspers, E. *Balance, Status, and Negative Tie Dynamics in A High Proximity Network Context* [Conference Presentation]. European Conference of Social Networks. Ljubljana, Slovenia. September, 2023.
- [1] **Simons, J.-W.** (presenter), Van Duijn, M. A. J. *On the Analysis of a Sample of Exponential Random Graph Model Estimates* [Conference Presentation]. European Conference of Social Networks. Online. September, 2021.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<b>Tutorial group teaching</b> <span style="float: right;">October 2021 – October 2024</span>	
	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> <span style="float: right;">October 2022 – October 2025</span>	
	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