



Thomas Frissen, Ph.D.

By nature, I am creative, curious, and entrepreneurial. By training, I am strategic, analytical, and data minded. I thrive on teamwork, using data analytics to understand and predict human behavior and culture. I am passionate about teaching, especially scientific findings and methods to a variety of audiences, from students to experts.

Work Experience

- 2019-Today ● **Lecturer and Postdoctoral Researcher**
KU Leuven, Faculty of Social Sciences
Teaching in Master in Communication Sciences (NL) and Master in Digital Media and Society (EN).
 - Research Designs and Digital Methods (5 ECTS)
 - Psychology of Social Media (4 ECTS)
 - Debunking Myths about Media Violence (6 ECTS)Conducting research on information warfare and fake news using computational social science methods

- 2015-2019 ● **Research and Teaching Assistant**
KU Leuven, Institute for Media Studies
Conducting PhD research (Mixed Methods)
Supervising Masters' theses
Teaching seminars on research methods
Presenting work on international conferences
Grant proposal writing

- 2014-2015 ● **Research Assistant**
KU Leuven, School for Mass Communication Research
Conducting research
Grant proposal writing

- 2010-2014 ● **Founder and Director**
Injectie Media
Managing projects and people for my own small communication consultancy start-up. Among our clients: ABN AMRO, Trimbos Institute, TNO, and others.

Education

- 2015-2019 ● **Doctor of Social Sciences (PhD)**
KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Dissertation title: (Hard)wired for Terror: Unraveling the Mediatized Roots and Routes of Radicalization.

- 2013-2014 ● **Master in Communication Sciences (MSc.)**
KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Master of Science in Strategic Communication & Media Psychology;
Magna Cum Laude

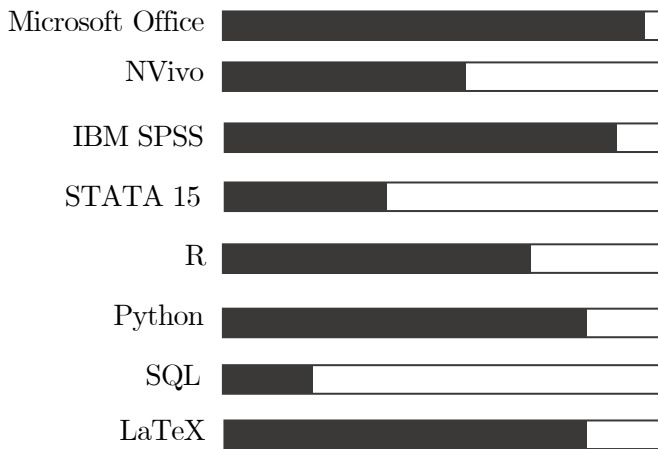
- 2012-2013 ● **Pre-master Communication Sciences**
KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Pre-master trajectory (fast-track bachelor) towards
Master in Communication Sciences.

- 2007-2012 ● **Bachelor in Media & Entertainment Management (B.Ec.)**
Inholland, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Bachelor of Economics in Media and Entertainment Management.

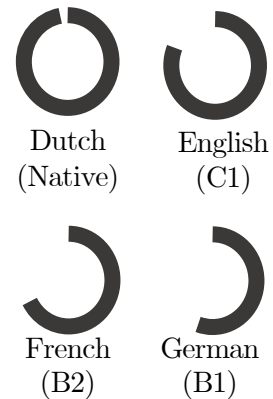
Certificates

- 2019 ● **Analyzing Data with Python**
IBM (Edx Course)
- 2018 ● **Social Media Intelligence (SOCMINT)**
I-Intelligence
- 2018 ● **Advanced Open Source Intelligence**
I-Intelligence
- 2018 ● **Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)**
I-Intelligence
- 2017 ● **International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP)**
U.S. State Department
- 2016 ● **Essential Tools for R**
Flanders Training Network for Methodology and Statistics (FLAMES)
- 2016 ● **Understanding Terrorism and the Terrorist Threat**
University of Maryland, College Park (Coursera Course)

Software



Languages



Awards

Top Paper Award: For my study on Islamic State's propaganda strategy I won a top paper award in 2017 from the International Communication Association (ICA)

2nd place in Facebook Global Digital Challenge: I was the project leader of the award-winning countering violent extremism (CVE) initiative, 'YOU-nite' that won the 2nd place in Facebook Global Digital Challenge.

Grants

Postdoctoral Mandate. I received a scholarship from the research council of KU Leuven to continue my research on information warfare, memetic warfare and conspiracy theories using digital and computational methods.

FWO Travel Grant. For my research stay at McGill University, department of Transcultural Psychiatry, Montréal (Canada), I received a competitive travel grant from the Flemish Research Council (FWO).

International Mobility

- Jan-April 2018 ● **Visiting Scholar McGill University; Montréal, Québec, Canada**
Department of Transcultural Psychiatry
Working on an interdisciplinary and cross-national comparison of radicalization in the general population
- Jan-Feb 2017 ● **International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), U.S. Department of State; Washington, New York, & San Francisco, U.S.A.**
In the context of our award-winning Countering Violent Extremism initiative (*YOU-nite*), I took part in an IVLP tour organized by the United States Department of State

Institutional Responsibilities

- 2019-2020 ● **Member of the POC Communication Sciences**
- 2015-2019 ● **Member (as representative of the academic staff) of the Committee Research Policy Social Sciences**

Recent publications

- Ichau, E., **Frissen, T.**, & d'Haenens, L. (2019). From #Selfie to #Edgy. Hashtag Networks and Images Associated with the Hashtag #Jews on Instagram. *Telematics and Informatics*.
- Scherr, R., Arendt, F., **Frissen, T.**, Oramas M., J. (2019). Detecting Intentional Self-Harm on Instagram: Development, Test, and Validation of an Automatic Image Recognition Algorithm to Discover Cutting-Related Posts. *Social Science Computer Review*.
- Frounfelker, R., **Frissen, T.**, Rousseau, C., & d'Haenens., L. (2019). Exploring the discrimination-radicalization nexus: Empirical evidence from youth and young adults in Belgium. *International Journal of Public Health*.
- Frissen, T.**, Smets, K., d'Haenens, L. (2019). The Cumulative Role of Different Types of Media in the Radicalization Puzzle. In: N. Clycq, C. Timmerman, D. Vanheule, R. Van Caudenberg, S. Ravn (Eds.), *Radicalisation: A Marginal Phenomenon or a Mirror to Society?*, Chapt. 6, (153-192). Leuven: Leuven University Press. ISBN: 9789462701588. [Open Access](#)

See <http://tinyurl.com/tfrissen> for all academic publications

Feel free to connect

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