



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 and am passionate about digital media & technology, quantitative data, and telling stories to a wide range of people from students to experts.

Work experience

- 2020-Today ● **Assistant Professor in Digital Technology and Society**
Maastricht University, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Teaching in BA Digital Society & BA Data Science and Artificial Intelligence
- Quantitative Data Analysis (DSO2001)
 - Working With Big Data (DSO 2003)
 - Qualitative Research Methods (DSO2504)
 - Digital Society (KEN3111)
 - Supervising Master students
- Conducting research on 'synthetic media' (memes, deepfakes, disinformation, NFT, blockchain)
- 2019-2020 ● **Lecturer and Postdoctoral Researcher**
KU Leuven, Faculty of Social Sciences
Teaching in MSc. Communication Sciences (NL) and MSc. 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 digital media strategies using computational social science and data scientific methods
- 2015-2019 ● **Research and Teaching Assistant**
KU Leuven, Institute for Media Studies
PhD research: (Hard)Wired for Terror: Unraveling the Roots and Routes of Radicalization
- Supervising Masters' theses & teaching seminars on research methods
 - Presenting work on international conferences
 - Coordinating award-winning countering violent extremism initiative
 - Grant proposal writing
- 2014-2015 ● **Research Assistant**
KU Leuven, School for Mass Communication Research
Conducting research
Grant proposal writing
- 2010-2014 ● **Founder and Creative Director**
Injectie Media
Own media and communication consultancy agency. Among our clients: ABN AMRO, Trimbos Institute, TNO, and others

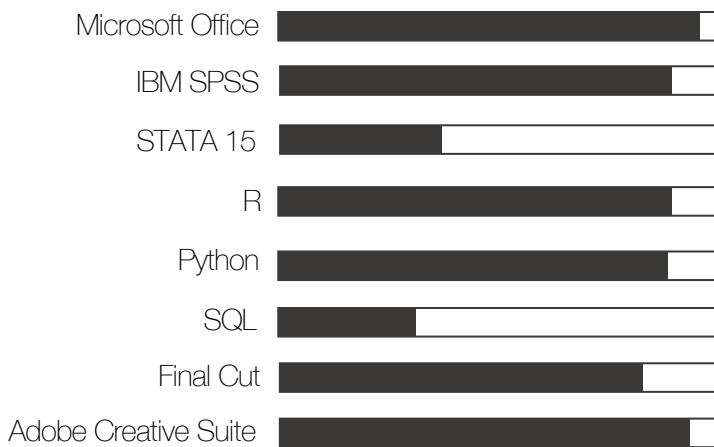
Education

- 2015-2019 ● **Doctor of Social Sciences (Ph.D.)**
KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Dissertation title: (Hard)wired for Terror: Unraveling the Mediatized Roots and Routes of Radicalization
- 2012-2014 ● **Master in Communication Sciences (M.Sc.) - Magna Cum Laude**
KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
Master of Science in Strategic Communication & Media Psychology
- 2007-2012 ● **Bachelor in Media & Entertainment Management (B.Ec.)**
Hogeschool IN-Holland, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Bachelor in Media & Entertainment Management; specialization in film production

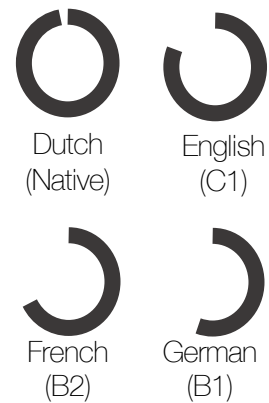
Certificates

- 2022 ● **University Teaching Qualification**
Maastricht University
- 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 (MLP)**
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

2021: FASoS Best Teacher Prize for BA Digital Society.

2017: 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)

2017: 2nd place in Facebook Global Digital Challenge: I was the project leader of the award-winning countering violent extremism initiative, 'YOU-nite' that won the 2nd place in Facebook Global Digital Challenge

Grants

2022: ART (FASoS / UM): interdisciplinary research on cultural transmission of memes with Dr Tullio Viola

2021: ART (FASoS / UM): research on synthetic media.

2020: Postdoctoral Mandate (KU Leuven): research on information warfare, memetic warfare and conspiracy theories using digital and computational methods.

2018: 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).

Other service

- Jan 2022- Today ● Member editorial board Psychology of Violence
- Sep 2021- Today ● Member Task Force FASoS Digital Studies Lab

Selection of recent publications

Zeid, N., **Frissen, T.**, Scherr, S. (2022) **جمال_خاشقجي** #JamalKhashoggi: Unraveling Multilingual Twitter Sentiment Dynamics in a Longitudinal Comparative Analysis of Tweets in Arabic and English. *Presented at the 72nd annual conference of the International Communication Association 2022, Paris, France.*

Frissen, T., d'Haenens, L., Opgenhaffen, M. (2021) Extreme Right and Mis/Disinformation. In Tumber, H., & Waisbord, S., (Eds.). *Routledge Companion to Media Misinformation and Populism*. Routledge.

De Coninck, D., **Frissen, T.**, et al. (2021) Beliefs In Conspiracy Theories And Misinformation About COVID-19: Comparative Perspectives On Exposure To And Trust In Information Sources. *Frontiers in Psychology* [IF:2.07]

Frissen, T., et al. (2021) Longitudinal Evidence of How Media Audiences Differ in Public Health Perceptions and Behaviors During a Global Pandemic. *Frontiers in Public Health*. [IF:2.48]

Courtois, C., **Frissen, T.** (2021) Computer Vision and Internet Meme Genealogy: An Evaluation of Image Feature Matching as a Technique for Pattern Detection. *Presented at the 71st annual conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Gold Coast, Australia [virtual conference]*

Frounfelker, R., **Frissen, T.**, et al. (2021) Transnational Evaluation of the Sympathy For Violent Radicalization Scale: Measuring Population Attitudes Toward Violent Radicalization in Two Countries. *Transcultural Psychiatry*. [IF:1.94]

Frissen, T. (2020). Internet, The Great Radicalizer? Exploring Relationships Between Seeking for Online Extremist Materials and Cognitive Radicalization in Young Adults. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 114, 106549. [IF:5.00]

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*. [IF:4.14]

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*. [IF:2.70]

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*. [IF:2.83]

Frissen, T., Toguslu, E., Van Ostaeyen, P., & d'Haenens, L. (2018). Capitalizing on the Koran to Fuel Online Violent Radicalization: a Taxonomy of Koranic References in ISIS's Dabiq. *Telematics and Informatics*, 35(2), 491-503 [IF:7.14]

for all academic publications see: <https://scholar.google.nl/citations?user=I9bbCrUAAAAJ&hl=en&authuser=1>

Pipeline

Courtois, C., **Frissen, T.** (Revise & Resubmit) Computer Vision and Internet Meme Genealogy: An Evaluation of Image Feature Matching as a Technique for Pattern Detection. *Communication Methods and Measures* [IF:7.88]

Zeid, N., **Frissen, T.**, Scherr, S. (under review) جمال خاشقجي #JamalKhashoggi: Unraveling Multilingual Twitter Sentiment Dynamics in a Longitudinal Comparative Analysis of Tweets in Arabic and English. *New Media and Society* [IF:4.18]

Frissen, T., Pinto Teixeira, C. (in preparation). HashtagsMatter: Mapping and Understanding the Black Lives Matter (Online) Discourse

Frissen, T., Sapir, E. (in preparation). Trust, Fear, and anything in-between: COVID-19 vaccine online discourse and emotions. *Nature: Humanities and Social Sciences Communication*

Tyagi, K., **Frissen, T.**, Kaminski, J. (in preparation). Regulating intermediaries and balancing free speech in Web 2.0: Analysing Twitter from A Comparative and Inter-disciplinary perspective

Feel free to connect

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