

ROB SIPS

Academic Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

- 2016 - 2022** Doctor in Biomedical Sciences (PhD), Center for Contextual Psychiatry, Research group Psychiatry, department of Neurosciences, faculty of Medicine, KU Leuven. (publicly defended December 6th, 2022, Leuven)
- 2014-2016** MA in Philosophy, University of Antwerp, *magna cum laude*.
- 2010-2014** BA in Philosophy, University of Antwerp, *cum laude*.

Academic positions

December 2023 – current

University teacher in medical ethics and qualitative research at research institute of Health, Ethics and society / Metamedica, **Maastricht University**

Teacher in courses:

- 3th year Dutch bachelor of medicine: health law and health ethics;
 - Run 3, januari 2024: Health law and health ethics regarding **scarcity and distributive justice in care.**
 - Acute scarcity;
 - Structural scarcity;
 - Scarcity and unjust inequality on a global scale;
 - Scarcity due to a lack of reconciliation with death.
 - Run 4, spring 2024: **medical professionalism and responsibilities of doctors.**
 - Professional standards;
 - Private versus public (e.g. opinions on covid);
 - Non-medical treatments;
 - Dissident doctors

Classes with masterstudents of medicine on different topics in health law and health ethics on relations between norms, practice and law. Different co-assistents (“co-schappen”), the students are interns in different branches of medicine during their masters in medicine. The ethics sessions apply on those different branches.)

For some students prepare with papers they write and that we grade, based on sources provided by us, serve as content for the discussion, dialogues and presentations. Others start open from material, papers and articles, given to the students to read beforehand.

- **Reflective psychiatry**, active small group class discussions/conversations/dialogues on topics:
 - Gender dysphoria in DSM-V and the (contested) roles and functions of psychiatry in gatekeeping treatments; reflections on gender, decision making, consequences, trajectories, ... Aim to make students see the complexities and think them through from the position of psychiatric care.
 - Illness, disorder, labeling and illness marketing in psychiatry with ADHD as a case study;

- **Responsible decision making in psychiatry**, active small group class discussions/reflections/conversations/dialogues, in relation to health law, practice and ethics on topics:
 - Euthanasia in mental health care;
 - Extramural and transmural care in health care;
 - Limitations on freedom in health care;
 - Legal incapacity (wilsbekwaamheid) and legal representation.

- **Co-assistents Contemplative (beschouwend), sessions on:**
 - Fitting care and prevention;
 - Planetary health and health care;
 - Ethical questions surrounding use, prescription and pollution in regards to medicines.

- Ethical questions with co-assistents (master students medicine) in **General Practitioner and social medicine**
 - Public health: on ethical questions surrounding doctors in professional sport, questions on vaccination of children,
 - Health law and ethics: on relations between professional norms in action, the role and function of disciplinary law and the influence on the actions of GP's. (e.g. "defensive medicine")
 - Decisions surrounding the end of life: on euthanasia, non-treatment decisions, palliative sedation, stopping with eating and drinking; ..
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- Ethical questions with co-assistents (master students) in **surgery**
 - Norm and practice: concepts of professional norms in relation to health law. (e.g.: how to deal with incidents, calamities, mistakes, ..; role and function of informed consent before surgery (how to verify, who's responsibility, language barriers, ..); shared decision making (vs other positions of dr.); ..)
 - Disciplinary and complaint law: case discussions of disciplinary law cases, to learn from both the cases as on the workings, goal and function of disciplinary law.

- Co-assistents (master students) in section of **Women, mother and child:**
 - **moral deliberation** with case examples with groups of master students, students describe different cases and pick one together, after which we enact a moral deliberation on the case. (e.g. on refusal of life saving blood transfusion with newborn of Jehova's witnesses legal options in regards to ethical decision making.)
 - **Position taking:** group discussions on controverses in relation to woman, mother and child. E.g. on forced anticonception, abortion, prenatal screening, ...

- **Coordination and teaching in Qualitative research:**
 - English Bachelor of medicine
 - 1st year, on "the sick role", lecture and workshops in function of an interview assignment for students, who work in learning teams.
 - 2nd year, on understanding and interpreting qualitative research papers in function of a research question. (e.g. stress and cannabis use) Students produce a research paper in learning teams.
 - Dutch bachelor of health sciences:
 - Introductory lecture on qualitative research methods in function of an assignment for students, a small qualitative interview study conducted with a learning team, on health and food.

April – Juli 2023 Ethics Lecturer TU Eindhoven, one course, Challenge Based Learning format on the ethics of Organoid Intelligence, 2 groups of in total approximately 90 first year bachelor students.

PUBLICATIONS

PhD thesis

2022 Sips, R., Germeys, I., Kasanova, Z., & van Duppen, Z. (2022). *The Phenomenology of Psychosis. A qualitative study investigating the lived experience of psychosis.*

Peer-reviewed journal articles

2024 Achterhof R., Kirtley O.J., Lafit G., Hiekkaranta, A.P., Hagemann, N., Hermans, K., Lecei, A., Boets, B., Henquet, C., Schneider, M. Sips, R., Vaessen, T., van Winkel, R., Viechtbauer, W., Reininghaus, U., Myin-Germeys, I., Social processes as the missing link: cross-sectionally testing a conceptual model on social mediators of early psychopathological development. *Psychological Medicine*. 2024;54(13):3591-3601.
doi:10.1017/S0033291724001594

2024 Akcaoglu, Z., Vaessen, T., Teixeira, A., Sips, R., Achterhof, R., Van Duppen, Z., Feyaerts, J., Myin-Germeys, I., Social Disconnectedness in psychosis: a qualitative perspective. *Philosophical Psychology*, 1-27, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2024.2366424>

2023 de Thura, L., Kiekens, G., Sips, R., Teixeira, A., Kasanova, Z., Myin-Germeys, I. Using Experience Sampling Methods to support clinical management of psychosis: The perspective of people with lived experience. *Psychiatry Res.* 2023 Jun;324:115207. doi: 10.1016/j.psychres.2023.115207. Epub 2023 Apr 21. PMID: 3708781

2023 Feyaerts, J., Sips, R., The Philosophies of Madness: An Introduction, *Philosophical Psychology*, 36(7), doi:10.1080/09515089.2023.2258311

2020 Sips, R., van Duppen, Z., Kasanova, Z., De Turah, L., Teixeira, A., Feyaerts, J., Myin-Germeys, I., Psychosis as a Dialectic of Aha- and Anti-aha-experiences: A Qualitative study, *Psychosis*, 13(1), pp. 47-57, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17522439.2020.1798492>

2018 Sips, R., Psychosis as a Dialectic of Aha- and Anti-aha-experiences, *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, 45(5), pp. 952-955, <https://doi.org/1093/schbul/072>

2018 Van Duppen, Z. & Sips, R., Understanding the Blind Spots of Psychosis: A Wittgensteinian and First-Person Approach, *Psychopathology*, 51(4),276-284, <https://doi.org/10.1159/000490257>

Article based on conference presentation

2020 Sips, R., (2020), Psychosis and intersubjectivity: Alterations in social relations throughout psychotic crises, In: Kusters, W., Pienkos, E., Sips, R., Feyaerts, J., *Beyond adaptation, beyond the negative. Phenomenological reflections on schizophrenic existence.*, Utrecht: Stichting Psychiatrie en Filosofie.

Book chapter

2018 Sips, R., Niveaus van herstel na psychose: filosofie en ervaring, In: Boertien, D., Kusters, W. & Leegsma, M. (eds.), *Filosofie bij Herstelondersteuning. Opnieuw denken over geestelijke gezondheid*, Utrecht: Kenniscentrum Phrenos, Werkplaats herstelondersteuning & Stichting Psychiatrie en Filosofie.

Book review

2023 Sips, R., Review of the book *Chance Encounters – A Bioethics for a Damaged Planet* by Kristien Hens, *Stichting Psychiatrie en Filosofie*: Utrecht, <https://www.psychiatrieenfilosofie.nl/recensie-chance-encounters>.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016 – 2022 Setting up and executing a qualitative study into the phenomenology of psychosis, using mixed qualitative methods, combining focus groups and in depth interviews with philosophical approaches to psychopathology.

SERVICE

2022 – 2024 (end of project) for the “*Renewing Phenomenological Psychopathology project*”, located at the University of Birmingham, led by prof. dr. Matthew Broome, prof. dr. Giovanni Stanghellini, dr. Lucienne Spencer and dr. Roxana Baiasu.

This includes reviewing fellowship applications and other grant applications.

2022 - 2023 Guest editor for special issue of journal *Philosophical Psychology* with prof. dr. Jasper Feysaerts (University of Ghent); to appear end of 2023.

2016 – 2020 reviewer for papers in *Mental Health and Prevention* and *Psychological Medicine*;

2016 Member of **board of advisors for SIGMA study**, a prospective cohort study in young adolescent by the Center for Contextual Psychiatry led by prof. dr. Inez Myin-Germeys.

SUPERVISION

2018-2019 Daily supervision of three master students psychology in writing their master thesis, on qualitative data collected in the PhD.

2017-2018 Daily supervision of a master student in biomedical sciences in writing her master thesis, using data collected on experiences of anti-psychotic medication, collected in the PhD project.

INVITED TALKS/ORGANIZED TALKS

2024 Invited Lecture at **Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik Zurich** on a lecture of project **Renewing Phenomenological Psychopathology** entitled “Delusions at the intersection”. The title of my lecture was: “Examining experience through a qualitative lens. Attempts in bridging the eidetic, intersubjective and contextual planes.”, 26th and 27th of February

2023 Invited for 2 hours lecture at **UPC Duffel**. “Psychose als proces van existentiële detemporalisatie (onttijdelyking). Inleidende gedachten.” + parts from presentation PhD defense, June 6th

2023 Conference presentation at **Too Mad to be true**, dr. Guislain Museum Gent, organised by Jasper Feysaerts and Wouter Kusters. “Psychosis as a process of existential

detemporalisation. Some introductory ideas.”, May 27th – 28th. <https://t.co/0OU0wd2oYf>
password: Gent2023

2022 Organised, planned, executed and moderated, through beGeesterd, with dr. Kinge Bergends and dr. Irmgard Mestdag lecture on **Wittgenstein, psychiatry and aberrant salience**.
Invited speakers: Wouter Kusters, Rosanna Wahnberg, Olivia de Picker, September 24th.

2022 Online dialogue “Experts ‘with’ experience in mental health care and research”, with dr. Nev Jones & promovendus Alke Haarsma-Wisselink, November 9th.

2021 Goodbye symposium prof. Dr. Jaap van Weeghel, *Niveaus van herstel bij psychose*, stadion Galgenwaard Utrecht, september 9th.

2019 Presentation Vlaamse Vereniging voor Psychiatrie (VVP), sectie filosofie, *Een fenomenologische benadering van psychose*, UPC Kortenberg, February 1st.

2018 Presentation at symposium Filosofie en Herstel, organized by Stichting Psychiatrie en Filosofie, *Niveaus van herstel na psychose. Filosofie en ervaring*, Utrecht, May 18th.

2019 Discussant in panel on movie Crazywise, with prof. Stijn Vanheule & prof. Piet Bracke, organized by *Studium Generale*, Gent, March 19th.

CONFERENCES

Passed conferences

2019 Presentation and organization of parallel session at ISPS conference Rotterdam, as a collaboration of beGeesterd and Stichting Psychiatrie & Filosofie, Rotterdam, August 31st.

2018 Keynote speaker at conference Herstelgericht Werken, organized by Psychosenet, *Psychose en herstel. Ervaring, theorie en praktijk*, provinciehuis Leuven, December 14th.

2018 Panel Psychosenet on *GGZ conference*, Antwerp, September 18th.

2018 Presentation on GGZ conference, *Een perspectief op psychose. Wat kunnen we leren uit ervaring?* Antwerp, September 18th.

2018 Participation in *Reconceiving Cognition conference*, Center for Philosophical Psychology, Antwerp, June 27th-29th.

2018 Participation in conference *Philosophical Issues in Psychiatry V: The Problems of Multiple Levels of, Explanatory Pluralism, Reduction and Emergence*, Center for Subjectivity Research, Copenhagen May 28th-

30th.

2018 Poster presentation at conference 4E Cognition and the landscapes of mental disorder, *The Aha- and Anti-aha-experience. Insight and perplexity in psychosis*, University of Exeter, Exeter, April 5th-6th.

2017 Participation SAA Conference, University of Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette, June 15th-17th.

TRAINING/ WORKSHOPS OUTSIDE PhD PROGRAM

2025 Basiskwalificatie Onderwijs (BKO), lopend, volgen nog sessies.

2024 Small group teacher training, four days course, Maastricht University;

2024 Introduction to “Probleem Gestuurd Leren”, one day course, September.

2023 Two day challenge based learning course, TU Eindhoven;

2017 Course on Focus groups, University of Oxford, May 8th.

2017 Participation in *Living Lab* on adherence, invited by organized by Vincent Van Gogh GGZ, Vught, April 7th-8th.

2016 ESM Workshop, University of Maastricht, September 13th-14th.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

September 2021 – July 2022

Volunteer Auxillia vzw, homework support for children.

Sept 2020 – February 2021

Volunteer food distribution OCMW Antwerp.

2019

Visiting Soteria house for treatment of psychosis in Gangelt with a team of GGZ professionals, on invitation of psychiatrist Ludi van Bouwel, March 8th.

2018 – 2023 (end beGeesterd)

Board member of **beGeesterd**, Center for philosophy and psychiatry, Organisation of lectures, symposia, summer school, reading groups, film evenings. - <https://www.begeesterd.com/>

2017

Participation in project “Ik trap gewoon door” from TeGek!?, a project with the goal to inform the general public on perception of psychosis.

2012-2013

Project Klimop, Associatie van Universiteiten en Hogescholen Antwerpen, presentations in high schools to inform and motivate students with a migration and other backgrounds regarding higher education.