

Frans Hinskens was trained at the universities of Utrecht and Amsterdam (UvA). He taught sociolinguistics and phonology at the university of Nijmegen, where he defended his PhD-thesis in 1993. In 1996-1997 he was a visiting professor at the department of Linguistics at Ohio State University. From 1998 till 2002 he was chair of the Department of Dutch at the university of Leipzig. At present he is a senior research fellow at the Department of Variation Linguistics at the Meertens Instituut (KNAW), Amsterdam, and professor of Language Variation and Language Contact at the Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen.

In 1998 he was one of the founders of the International Conference on Language Variation in Europe (ICLaVE) and he is a member of the international scientific committee of the conference. In 2006 he was the main founder of the book series 'Studies in language variation', published by Benjamins, which he edits with Peter Auer (Freiburg, G) and Paul Kerswill (York, UK).

He is co-editor of *Variation, change and phonological theory* (with Roeland van Hout and Leo Wetzels, 1997), of *Dialect convergence and divergence across European borders* (with Jeffrey Kallen and Johan Taeldeman, 2000), of *Dialect change. The convergence and divergence of dialects in contemporary societies* (with Peter Auer and Paul Kerswill, 2005), of *Afrikaans. Een drieluik* (with the late Hans den Besten and Jerzy Koch, 2009) and of *Language and Space: Dutch* (with Johan Taeldeman, 2013). He has published in journals such as *Nederlandse Taalkunde*, *Folia Linguistica*, *Linguistics*, *Lingua*, *Journal of Germanic Linguistics* and *Journal of Linguistic Geography*. He has also published overview chapters in the recent *Handbook of Dialectology* (Charles Boberg et al. eds, 2017) and *The Handbook of Historical Linguistics*, Volume II (Richard Janda et al. eds, to appear 2019).

Among his main research interests are the diachronic development and embedding of sound change, ethnolectal variation, as well as the conceptual and methodological tensions between dialectology, sociolinguistics and contact linguistics on the one hand and formal linguistic theory on the other.