Prof.dr. W.P.M.S. (Wilbert) Spooren
Emeritus-professor of Discourse studies of Dutch

Obtained his PhD in 1989 from Radboud University Nijmegen. His main interests centre on the relationship between discourse structure and text efficiency, with a specific attention to the language of new media. He uses genre theory to account for problems with effective communication. He was one of the initiators of the NWO theme program Comprehensible Language (2012-2017).

Training
MA Dutch Language and Literature (University of Utrecht, 1982)
PhD Arts (University of Nijmegen, 1989)

Career
1983-1986: PhD Student Z.W.O. (Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research) (Interfaculty Research Unit of Language and Speech, University of Nijmegen)
1987-1990: Postdoc Discourse Studies Group (Faculty of Arts, Tilburg University)
1990-1998: Assistant Professor Discourse Studies (Faculty of Arts, Tilburg University)
1999-2002: Associate Professor Discourse Studies of Dutch (Faculty of Arts, VU University Amsterdam)
2002-2012: Professor of Language and Communication (Faculty of Arts, VU University Amsterdam)
2012-2023: Professor of Discourse Studies of Dutch (Faculty of Arts, Radboud University Nijmegen)
2014-2020: Vice-dean of Faculty of Arts (Radboud University Nijmegen)
2023-present: Emeritus-professor of Discourse Studies of Dutch (Faculty of Arts, Radboud University Nijmegen)

Academic recognition
- Education director of RUNOMI (Radboud University Network on Migrant Inclusion) (2021-2023)
- Vice-dean of Faculty of Arts (Radboud University Nijmegen) *(*2015-2020*)*
- Member of the Vici review committee Humanities and Social Sciences (2015) (NWO)
- Reviewer of master programs Teacher Training Dutch at the request of the National Council Professional Masters Higher Vocational Training (Landelijk Overleg Vakmasters HBO) (2014).
- Head of the department of Dutch Language and Culture (September 2013-December 2014) and of the department of German Language & Culture (January 2014-September 2014
- Co-initiator of the NWO thematic program 'Comprehensible Language' (together with Ted Sanders (Utrecht), Carel Jansen (Nijmegen/Groningen), Leo Lentz (Utrecht) and Claes de Vreese (UvA)) (2012-2017)
- Head of the department of Language & Communication (Faculty of Arts, VU Amsterdam) (february-august 2012).
- Temporary chair of the Vici-committee Humanities (NWO) (2011)
- Member of the midterm Review Committee of CLS-Nijmegen (2009)
- Member of the board of the National Graduate School for Linguistics (LOT) (2008-2011)
- Member of the board of Vereniging Interuniversitair Overleg Taalbeheersing (VIOT) (2008-2011)
- Member of the Advisory Board CLS-Nijmegen, 2008-2012)

- Sabbatical at UCL Louvain-la-Neuve (guest of prof. L. Degand; spring 2008).
- member of the Vidi review committee Humanities (2007-2009) (NWO)
- Member and chair of different education committees and exam committees at the Faculty of Arts, VU Amsterdam.
- Member of the faculty board, Faculty of Arts, KU Brabant, Tilburg (1997-1998)
- Sabbatical semester at University of California at Berkeley (USA) (guest of prof. E. Sweetser; spring 1997)
- Site manager of CLS (Centre for Language Studies) site in the DANDELION project (E.C. Basic Research Action 6665) (1992-1995)

Reviewing activities
Cognitive Linguistics; Journal of Pragmatics; Discours; Text and Talk; Dutch Journal of Applied Linguistics; International Review of Applied Linguistics in Language Teaching, Tijdschrift voor Taalbeheersing; Journal of Writing Research, Discourse Processes, Taal & Tongval, Frontiers in Psychology
NWO, FWO
Various national and international conferences.

Editorships
Editor *Gramma, tijdschrift voor taalkunde* (1990-1991).
Editor *Document Design/Information Design Journal* (1999-2005)
Editorial board *Discours, Tijdschrift voor Taalbeheersing, Tekst[blad]*
Editor *Converging Evidence in Language and Communication Research* (CELCR) (Benjamins, Amsterdam, 1998-2015)
Editorial board *Converging Evidence in Language and Communication Research* (CELCR) (Benjamins, Amsterdam, as of 2016)
Guest editor of special issues of *Journal of Pragmatics, Discourse Processes*, *Information Design Journal, Tijdschrift voor Taalbeheersing*

Research grants
- The digitalisation of medical consultation and professional practice (PhD project iHub-CLS; 2021; 250k€; together with Wyke Stommel and Berber Pas)
- The Automatic Coherence Analysis of Dutch (2017; Clariah-NL, postdocs and programmers; together with Utrecht University; 51k€)
- The impact of computer-mediated communication on literacy (2012; NWO, PhD in the Humanities; application by L. Verheijen, W. Spooren, A. van Kemenade; 200k€)
- Interviewing child-witnesses: managing diverging institutional tasks (2012; CLS-PhD position; 200k€, application by G. Jol, W. Stommel, W. Spooren)
- VU-DNC (2011; Clarin-NL; 1 postdoc; 80k€)
- Visual metaphor: a psycholinguistic perspective (2008; NWO, 'klein programma'; together with Gerard Steen (then at VU), Hans Hoeken (Nijmegen), Margot van Mulken (Nijmegen), Joost Schilperoord (Tilburg) and Fons Maes (Tilburg); 1 postdoc, 2 PhD projects; 800k€)
- Funding grant Language, Cognition & Communication VU University (2008; €800k€; Faculty of Arts; together with senior researchers LCC)
- Intertextuality in judicial settings (2007; NWO, 'klein programma', together with Martha Komter; 2 postdocs + 1 PhD position; 800k€)
- Funding grant CAMeRA (2007; €850k€; University Board VU; together with senior researchers LCC)
- VU Ster (2004; together with Gerard Steen; 2 phd projects on the role of language in public communication; 400k€)

Key publications

1. Hoek, J., Sanders, T.J.M. & Spooren, W.P.M.S. (2021). Automatic coherence analysis of Dutch. Testing the subjectivity hypothesis on a larger scale. *Corpora, 16* (1), 129-155. doi: 10.3366/cor.2021.0211
2. Sanders, T.J.M. & Spooren, W.P.M.S. (2015). Causality and subjectivity in discourse: The meaning and use of causal connectives in spontaneous conversation, chat interactions and written text. *Linguistics, 53* (1), 53-92.
3. Sanders, T.J.M. & Spooren, W.P.M.S. (2013). Exceptions to rules: a qualitative analysis of backward causal connectives in Dutch naturalistic discourse. *Text & Talk, 33* (3), 399-420.
4. Stukker, N., Spooren, W. & Steen, G. (Eds.) (2016). *Genre in Language, Discourse and Cognition*. Berlin etc.: Mouton de Gruyter.
5. Verheijen, L. & Spooren, W.P.M.S. (2021). The impact of WhatsApp on Dutch youths' school writing and spelling. *Journal of Writing Research, 13* (1), 155-191. doi: 10.17239/jowr-2021.13.01.05

Ph.D. supervision completed

1. B. Bekker (2006). *De feiten verdraaid. Over tekstvolgorde, talige markering en sprekerbetrokkenheid*. Dissertatie Universiteit van Tilburg (together with L. Noordman)
2. T. van Charldorp (2012). *The interactional construction of the written report of a police interrogation* (together with M. Komter and F. van der Houwen). VU Amsterdam.
3. I. Dubbeldam (2016). *De dokter vertelt mij wel wat er loos is: een kwalitatief onderzoek naar patronen in het informatiegedrag van zorggebruikers* (together with M. van den Haak, F. Meijman and J. Sanders). Dissertatie VU Amsterdam.
4. A. van Hekken (2018). Check This! Empowering people to plan for retirement. The role of persuasive message strategies and readability (first promotor: Enny Das; second promotor: Wilbert Spooren). Radboud University Nijmegen.
5. G. Jol (2020). Police interviews with child witnesses – a conversation analysis (together with Wyke Stommel). Dissertation Radboud University Nijmegen. Amsterdam: LOT.
6. M. Onrust (2013). Vermijd de naamwoordstijl. Een onderzoek naar de houdbaarheid van een schrijfadvies. VU Amsterdam.
7. T. Pasma (2011). *Metaphor and register variation: The personalization of Dutch news discourse* (together with Gerard Steen). VU Amsterdam.
8. A. Rafiee (2023). Informing the public in different cultures: A discourse analytical comparison of Iranian and Dutch crime news. (together with José Sanders). Radboud University.
9. A. Santana Covarrubias (2019). *Is porque more like because or like omdat? An exploration of causality and subjectivity in Spanish backward causal connectives* (together with Ted Sanders and Dorien Nieuwenhuijsen). Utrecht University. Utrecht: LOT.
10. K. Sliedrecht(2014). Formulations in institutionele interactie: de praktijk van het 'samenvatten' in politieverhoor, sollicitatiegesprek en journalistiek interview (together with M. Komter, F. van der Houwen and M. Schasfoort). Dissertation VU Amsterdam. Utrecht: LOT.
11. I. Smulders (2017). #Politie. Twittergebruik door wijkagenten & de veiligheidsbeleving van de burger (together with Emile Kolthoff). RU Nijmegen, Open University, and Juridische Hogeschool Avans/Fontys.
12. L. Stoffelsma (2014). Improving the academic English reading proficiency of first-year students in Ghana: an educational design research approach. Dissertation VU Amsterdam and RU Nijmegen. (together with Wim Kouwenhoven and John de Jong)
13. F.C.M. Straatsma (2009). *Typically typographic: The effects of typographic layout on the processing of product advertisements*. VU Vrije Universiteit (Amsterdam).

14. L.M. Tavecchio. (2010). *Sentence patterns in English and Dutch: A contrastive corpus analysis*. VU Vrije Universiteit (499 pag.) (Utrecht: LOT). (together with M. Hannay)
15. L. Verheijen (2019). *Is textese a threat to traditional literacy? Dutch youths' language use in written computer-mediated communication and relations with their school writing* (together with Ans van Kemenade). Radboud University. Utrecht: LOT.
16. C. Veugen (2011). *Computer Games as a Comparative Medium*. VU University Amsterdam (together with Ed Tan and Heidi de Mare).
17. K. Vis (2011). *Subjectivity in news discourse. A corpus linguistic analysis of informalization* (together with J. Sanders and G. Steen). VU Amsterdam.
18. H. Xiao (2020). *Subjectivity, causality and connectives in Mandarin Chinese: Converging evidence from written, spoken and social media discourse*. Radboud University. Utrecht: LOT (together with Ted Sanders)

Complete publication list
see https://scholar.google.nl/citations?user=1tp-JDkAAAAJ&hl=en