

CURRICULUM VITAE ~ DR. ERICA VAN DER SIJPT

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2012-present: Post-doctoral researcher, Department of Anthropology, University of Amsterdam
2016: Visiting scholar (1 month) at New York University, United States of America
2014-2015: Research associate (1.5 years), Department of Sociology, University of Bucharest, Romania
2012: Visiting scholar (1 month) at New York University, United States of America
2011-2012: Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Amsterdam
2007: Visiting scholar (6 months) at *Institute de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques* (IFORD), Université de Yaoundé I, Cameroon
2006-2011: Ph.D. scholar, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR), University of Amsterdam
2005: Lecturer, Radboud University Nijmegen

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

2006-2011: Ph.D. scholarship, AISSR, University of Amsterdam
Cum laude graduation
2005-2006: Research Master African Studies, University of Leiden (interrupted for Ph.D.)
2001-2005: Cultural anthropology, Radboud University of Nijmegen
Cum laude 'Propedeuse' degree obtained in 2002
Cum laude 'Doctoraal' degree (i.e. Master level) obtained in 2005
1995-2001: Pre-university education 'Gymnasium', Reynaertcollege, Hulst
Cum laude degree

GRANTS & AWARDS

2019: Nominated for KNAW Early Career Award (decision expected in November 2019)
2017: SEO grant (3,000€) from the University of Amsterdam for developing a VIDI/ERC research agenda
2012: Innovational Research Incentive Scheme VENI grant (250,000€) of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) for a 3-year research project on reproductive politics, perceptions, and practices in Romania
2011-2012: Romanian Cultural Institute grants (1,050€) supporting participation in a Romanian language course at the Transilvania University of Braşov (Romania)
2007: Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds grant (1,500€) supporting participation in a demographic summer school at the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium)
2006: Ph.D. research grant for four years at the University of Amsterdam, for a self-designed research project (obtained through open competition)

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Van der Sijpt, E.

2018 *Wasted Wombs. Navigating Reproductive Interruptions in Cameroon*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press.

Peer-reviewed articles

Van der Sijpt, E.

Forthcoming: Citizens, customers, critics: Birth place choices and subjectivities in post-communist Romania. *Cultural Anthropology*. (Under review)

Van der Sijpt, E.

2018 'Soothing my child's soul and my own': Dealing with pregnancy loss in post-communist Romania. *Ethos*, 47(2).

Van der Sijpt, E.

2017 The pain and pride of 'angel mothers': Disappointments and desires around reproductive loss in Romania. *Medical Anthropology*, 37(2), 174-187.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2014 'Passing children' and precarious pathways: On the contingency of reproductive life courses in Cameroon. *Human Fertility*, 17(3), 192-196.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2014 Pregnancy pragmatics unveiled: On bodies, bellies, and power in Cameroon. *Analyze: Journal of Gender and Feminist Studies*, 2(16), 1-13.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2014 The unfortunate sufferer: Discursive dynamics around pregnancy loss in Cameroon. *Medical Anthropology*, 33(5), 395-410.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2013 Complexities and contingencies conceptualised: Towards a model of reproductive navigation. *Sociology of Health & Illness*, 36(2), 278-290.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2013 Hiding or hospitalizing? On dilemmas of pregnancy management in East Cameroon. *Anthropology & Medicine*, 20(3), 288-298.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2011 'The vagina does not talk': Conception concealed or deliberately disclosed in Cameroon. *Culture, Health, and Sexuality*, 14(1), S81-S94.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2010 Marginal matters: Pregnancy loss as a social event. *Social Science & Medicine*, 71(10), 1773-1779.

Van der Sijpt, E. & C. Notermans

2010 Perils to pregnancies: On social sorrows and strategies surrounding pregnancy loss in Cameroon. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 24(3), 381-398.

Van der Sijpt, E., Gerrits, T., & S. van der Geest

2010 Introduction: Medical anthropology in the Netherlands. *Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter*, 12(2-3), 3-6.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2010 Filling with force: Reproductive loss reconsidered. *Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter*, 12(2-3), 21-27.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2007 Marginal motherhood. The ambiguous experience of pregnancy-loss in Cameroon. *Medische Antropologie*, 19(2), 245-268.

Non-peer reviewed articles

Van der Sijpt, E.

2009 Marginal matters: pregnancy loss as a social event. *ASSR working papers*. Available at: <http://www.assr.nl/workingpapers/index.html>.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2008 Zwangerschapspraktijken in Kameroen. *Facta. Sociaal-wetenschappelijk magazine*, 16(3), 18-19.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2005 'Paradoxaal door kinderideaal'. Available at: <http://www.kennislink.nl/publicaties/paradoxaal-door-kinderideaal>.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2004 De buitenlander, een ander?. *Honours Review*, 3, 12-14. Nijmegen: Radboud University Nijmegen.

Book chapters

Van der Sijpt, E.

Forthcoming Alleviating the ambiguities around miscarriage: Discursive tactics in Cameroon and Romania. In K. Borg & S. Kilshaw (Eds.), *Negotiating Miscarriage: A Social, Medical, and Conceptual Problem*. Oxford: Berghahn.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2017 Accounting for reproductive difference: Sociality, temporality and individuality during pregnancy in Cameroon. In P. Kreager & A. Bochow (Eds.), *Fertility, Conjuncture, and Difference: Anthropological Approaches to the Heterogeneity of Modern Fertility Declines* (pp.193-217). Oxford: Berghahn.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2014 Complexities and contingencies conceptualised: Towards a model of reproductive

navigation. In S. Cohn (Ed.), *From Health Behaviours to Health Practices* (pp. 120-131). Oxford: Wiley Blackwell.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2013 Focusing on force and forms: Reproductive loss reconsidered. In S. Earle, C. Komaromy, & L. Layne (Eds.), *Understanding Reproductive Loss: International Perspectives on Life, Death, and Fertility* (pp. 105-116). Surrey: Ashgate.

Reports

De Kok, B.C., Gerrits, G.J.E., **Van der Sijpt, E.**, Picavet, C., Dechau, D.M., Russell, S., Elbers, C., & M. Temmerman

2017 *Synthesis Evaluation of SRHR Subsidy Frameworks 2011-2015: Final Report.*

Book reviews

Van der Sijpt, E.

2014 Book review 'Abortion in Asia: Local dilemmas, global politics'. *Medicine, Anthropology, Theory*, 1(1).

Van der Sijpt, E.

2013 Dissertation review 'The Gift of Cure. Childbirth Injuries, Clinical Structures, and Religious Subjects in Ethiopia'. On dissertationreviews.org/archives/2650.

Van der Sijpt, E.

2009 Book review 'Secret Strategies: Women and Abortion in Yoruba Society, Nigeria'. *Medische Antropologie*, 21(2), 319-322.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

2012-2018: Medical anthropological post-doctoral research on the reproductive politics, perceptions and practices of three generations of Romanian women

2006-2011: Medical anthropological Ph.D. research on the notions and experiences of pregnancy loss in East Cameroon

2004-2005: Medical anthropological MA research on the notions and experiences of pregnancy loss in East Cameroon

Small fieldwork activities in the Netherlands on experiences of pregnancy loss (2004), the Dutch shopping culture (2004), HIV/AIDS patients and their social exclusion (2002), identity politics of Coptic Egyptians (2002), memories of returned missionaries (2002), and the symbolic values of traditional costumes in Zeeland (2002).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Thematic focus: Medical anthropology, reproductive health, uncertainty, decision-making

Regional focus: Central Africa (esp. Cameroon), Eastern Europe (esp. Romania)

TEACHING

COURSE DESIGN & COORDINATION

- 2017-present: **Netherlands School of Public & Occupational Health (NSPOH), Utrecht**
'Introduction to Qualitative Research', a 3-day course for medical professionals (twice a year)
- 2018 & 2017: **GGD Academy, Roermond, the Netherlands**
'Qualitative Methods in Health Research', a 3-day course for medical professionals
- 2012: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
Core Specialization Module 'Health, Care and the Body' within the Research Master Social Sciences (10 ECTS)
- 2012: **Faculty of Behavioural Science, University of Amsterdam**
Thematic module 'Sexuality, Reproduction and Health' for third year Bachelor in Cultural Anthropology (12 ECTS)
- 2012 & 2011: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
'Research protocol development' in Research Master Social Sciences (10 ECTS)
- 2011: **James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Bangladesh**
'Anthropological Approaches to Public Health' in the Master of Public Health (11 days)
- 2010 & 2008: **Faculty of Behavioural Science, University of Amsterdam**
'Introduction to Medical Anthropology' in the post-graduate Amsterdam Master's in Medical Anthropology (10 ECTS)

CO-TEACHING

- 2019 & 2018: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
'Comprehensive Introduction to Research Methodology and Design' for various MA programmes (1 month, intensive)
- 2017: **Faculty of Behavioural Science, University of Amsterdam**
'Research Design' in the Master Medical Anthropology and Sociology (1 semester)
- 2008: **Faculty of Behavioural Science, University of Amsterdam**
'Methods of Research on Health and Health Care' in the Master Medical Anthropology and Sociology (1 semester)
- 2006: **Faculty of Behavioural Science, University of Amsterdam**
'Theory and History of Anthropology' for second year Bachelors Cultural Anthropology (1 semester)

SUPERVISION

- 2018-2019: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
MA research project on menstruation in Bangladesh by student Medical Anthropology and Sociology (MAS)
- 2014-2017: **Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research, University of Amsterdam**

- Ph.D. project on Western involvement in a Cameroonian hospital
- 2012-2013: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
Research Master research project on experiences of German women with post-WWII rape by allied soldiers (RMSS)
- 2011-2012: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
MA research project on pregnancy risks in Jamaica by student Medical Anthropology and Sociology (MAS)
- 2012: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
Research protocols in Research Master Social Sciences (RMSS)
- 2011: **Graduate School of Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
Research protocols in Research Master Social Sciences (RMSS)
- 2007: **Faculty of Behavioural Science, University of Amsterdam**
Research protocols in Master Medical Anthropology and Sociology (MAS)
- 2006: **Faculty of Social Sciences, Radboud University of Nijmegen**
Bachelor theses in Cultural Anthropology

INVITED LECTURES & SEMINARS

Audience: medical doctors; anthropologists (BA, MA, post-grad.); sociologists (BA, MA); political scientists (BA, MA); international development students (MA); pedagogical scientists (BA).
Language: English, Dutch, Romanian.

Abroad

- 2018: **National School of Political Science (SNSPA), Romania**
'Reproductive health examined: Anthropological studies in Cameroon and Romania'
- 2017: **University of Oxford, UK**
'Angel mothers and forgotten fetuses: Meanings and memories of reproductive loss in Romania' in seminar series 'Childbearing and the body political'
- 2016: **New York University, USA**
'The pain and pride of angel mothers: Disappointments and desires around reproductive loss in Romania' in seminar series 'Science studies and ethnography' at the Department of Anthropology
- 2016: **Bronx Community Center, City University of New York, USA**
'Making (angel) mothers: Reproduction and politics in Romania' in module 'Introduction to sociology'
- 2014: **The Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania**
'Reproductive health in medical anthropology: Towards an understanding of the Romanian case'
- 2014: **University of Bucharest, Romania**
'Gender and reproductive health: Some examples from the field' in module 'Sociology of gender' in Bachelor Gender Studies
- 2014: **University of Bucharest, Romania**
'Studying reproductive health: An anthropologist's journey from Cameroon to Romania' in monthly departmental seminar series
- 2014: **University of Bucharest, Romania**
'Medical anthropology: An introduction' in Bachelor Cultural Anthropology
- 2014: **National School of Political Science (SNSPA), Romania**
'Reproductive health examined: Anthropological studies in Cameroon and

- Romania' (twice)
- 2012-2014: **London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK**
 'Ethnographic approaches' in module 'Qualitative methodologies' (once a year)
- 2012: **University of Oxford, UK**
 'Reproductive navigation in East Cameroon' in seminar series 'Reproduction and social differentiation'

The Netherlands

- 2018-present: **Netherlands School of Public & Occupational Health (NSPOH), Utrecht**
 'Qualitative interviewing' in Master of Public Health (twice a year)
- 2018-present: **Netherlands School of Public & Occupational Health (NSPOH), Utrecht**
 'Qualitative data analysis' in Master of Public Health (twice a year)
- 2017-present: **Netherlands School of Public & Occupational Health (NSPOH), Utrecht**
 'Culture and health systems' in module 'Health systems research' (twice a year)
- 2017-present: **Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), Amsterdam**
 'Views on health and disease in different cultures' in module 'Health systems' (twice a year)
- 2016-present: **Bachelor program Pedagogical Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
 'The meaning of children in Romania' in module 'The meaning of having children in cross-cultural perspective' (once a year)
- 2010-present: **Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), Amsterdam**
 'Medical anthropology' in module 'Basic research methods' (twice a year)
- 2006-present: **Department of Anthropology, University of Amsterdam**
 Over **50** guest lectures in Bachelor and (Research) Master programs in (Medical) Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam
- 2018: **Leiden University College, The Hague**
 'Politics of reproduction: The case of abortion in Romania' in module 'Medical Anthropology'
- 2018: **VU University Medical Center (VUmc), Amsterdam**
 'Coding and analysing in Atlas.ti' for junior medical researchers
- 2013-2017: **Graduate School for Social Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
 'Ethnographic approaches' in summer course 'Comprehensive introduction to research methodology and design' (once a year)
- 2017: **Amsterdam University College (AUC), Amsterdam**
 'Theories and concepts' in module 'Introduction to medical anthropology'
- 2016: **Bachelor program Pedagogical Sciences, University of Amsterdam**
 'The meaning of children in Cameroon' in module 'The meaning of having children in cross-cultural perspective'
- 2015: **Leiden University College, The Hague**
 'Making mothers in Romania: Reproductive health and the state' in module 'Medical anthropology'
- 2013: **Bachelor program Political Science, University of Amsterdam**
 'Ethnographic research' in module 'The young and the party'
- 2012: **Webster University, Leiden**
 'Sexuality and navigations of reproduction' in module 'Introduction to cultural anthropology'
- 2012: **Master program Political Science, University of Amsterdam**
 'Ethnographic approaches' in module 'Research methodology for political science'

- 2011: **Academic Medical Center (AMC), University of Amsterdam**
 'Culture and health' in module 'International health' at Faculty of Medicine
- 2009: **Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), Amsterdam**
 'Culture, lifestyle, and health' in module 'Determinants of health'

Talks at conferences and symposia organized by/at:

- **Swedish Anthropological Association & Finnish Anthropological Society** (Uppsala 2018 – panel organizer)
- **Association for Anthropology, Gerontology, and the Life Course** (Oxford 2017)
- **American Anthropological Association** (Minneapolis 2016; Washington 2014; San Francisco 2012 – discussant; New Orleans 2010)
- **Society for Romanian Studies** (Bucharest 2018, 2015 – discussant)
- **University of the Aegean** (Lesbos 2015)
- **University of Lisbon** (Lisbon 2014)
- **European Association of Social Anthropologists** (Nanterre 2012)
- **Medical Anthropology Young Scholars** (Warsaw 2012 – discussant)
- **Nederlandse Vereniging voor Afrika Studies** (The Hague 2010)
- **Society for Medical Anthropology** (Yale University 2010 – panel organizer)
- **University of Antwerp** (Antwerp 2008)
- **University of Edinburgh** (Edinburgh 2008)
- **CERES** (Utrecht 2006)

COORDINATION

- 2018: Public Health Service (GGD): Analysis (coding & conceptualization) of interview data gathered in a research project on non-vaccination in the Netherlands
- 2016-2017: Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Academic evaluation of 22 Dutch SRHR programs
- 2014-2017: University of Amsterdam: Analysis of my post-doctoral research data with the assistance of 4 Romanian transcribers in Romania, and 3 Romanian coders and 1 Dutch coder in the Netherlands
- 2012: University of Amsterdam: Specialization track 'Health, Care and the Body' of the Research Master Social Sciences
- 2010-2012: University of Amsterdam: Pre- and post-fieldwork writing groups for Ph.D. students in the Research Program 'Health, Care, and the Body' of the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research
- 2011: University of Amsterdam: Accreditation process of Amsterdam's Masters in Medical Anthropology
- 2009-2010: University of Amsterdam: Ph.D. representative of the Research Program 'Health, Care, and the Body' at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research

ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT

- Forthcoming: University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa: Member of Ph.D. committee assessing a thesis on agency in early motherhood in South Africa
- 2006-present: Reviewer of manuscripts submitted to *Oxford University Press, Medical Anthropology, Medical Anthropology Quarterly, Ethnography, and Women's Studies International Forum*
- 2006-present: Examiner of MA theses in Medical Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam
- 2018: University of Amsterdam: Member of Ph.D. committee assessing a thesis on beauty and precarity in the Philippines
- 2018: WHO & RIVM (Netherlands National Institute for Public Health and the Environment): Reviewer of a research protocol
- 2018: NWO (Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research): Reviewer of a proposal for a VIDI grant (800,000€)
- 2012: NSF (National Science Foundation, USA): Reviewer of a proposal for a workshop grant (\$25,000)

EDITING

- 2014-2018: Section editor of 'Medicine Anthropology Theory'
- 2010-2013: Section editor of 'Medische Antropologie'

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- Fortcoming: 'Invisible Wings'. Documentary on pregnancy loss in Romania, made by me and a Spanish film director
- 2017: 'Wat maakt de mens II: Het (on)geboren kind, angelmothers en anti-conceptie. Radio interview (in Dutch) in 'Radio Swammerdam', Amsterdam FM
- 2016: 'Learning the Romanian language at ICR'. Radio interview (in Romanian) in 'Zebra', Radio France International
- 2016: 'Onderzoek naar onvruchtbaarheid in Roemenië'. In: *Uitgerekend Jij. Online magazine over vruchtbaarheidsproblemen*. Available at: <https://www.uitgerekendjij.nl/onderzoek-naar-onvruchtbaarheid-roemenie/>
- 2015: 'Research on reproduction in Romania'. Radio interview (in Romanian) in 'Zebra', Radio France International
- 2015: 'Kinderen baren een sociale verplichting?' In: *Uitgerekend Jij. Online magazine over vruchtbaarheidsproblemen*. Available at: <https://www.uitgerekendjij.nl/in-kameroen-is-kinderen-baren-sociale-verplichting/>
- 2014: 'Population decline in Romania'. TV interview (in Romanian) in 'Povești din Brașov', Nova TV
- 2014: 'Wave of light for deceased babies'. TV interview (in Romanian) in 'Povești din Brașov', Nova TV
- 2014: 'Another view on natural birth...and much more'. Online blog (in Romanian) about my research in Romania. Available at: <https://suntpitic.ro/o-alta-viziune-despre-nasterea-naturalasi-nu-numai/>
- 2014: 'Abortion culture in Romania'. Radio interview (in Dutch) in 'Bureau Buitenland', Radio NPO 1

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & TRAINING

LANGUAGES

Dutch (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Romanian (fluent), German (advanced), Gbibil (advanced).

Research conducted in: Dutch, French, Romanian, Gbibil.

Teaching conducted in: Dutch, English, French, Romanian.

Media appearances in: Dutch, French, Romanian.

RESEARCH SOFTWARE

Atlas.ti (advanced), MaxQDA (advanced), NVivo (intermediate), SPSS (intermediate).

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Research

2010: 'Ph.D. and Communication', University of Amsterdam.

2007: 'Reproductive Health. Analysis of survey data and evaluation of projects', Louvain-la-Neuve. Organized by the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), the 'Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques' (IFORD) from Yaoundé and the 'Centre population et développement' (CePeD) from Paris

2007: 'English Academic Writing', University of Amsterdam

2006-2007: 'Methods and theory in the study of religion' (10 ECTS), University of Amsterdam

2003-2004: 'Honours Programme', Radboud University of Nijmegen

2003: 'Medical Anthropology', Catholic University of Leuven

Teaching

2006: 'Didactics for Ph.D. students with teaching tasks', Centre for Post-Education Amsterdam

Visual technologies

2017: Intensive course on script-writing for documentaries, University of Amsterdam

2015: Intensive course on documentary-making, University of Amsterdam

2013: Intensive course on the techniques of digital photography, University of Amsterdam

Language

2013: Summer school on Romanian language and culture at the Romanian Cultural Institute in Braşov, Romania

Level: C2 (proficient). Final grade: 9,75 out of 10.

2012: Romanian language courses (levels II and III) in Bachelor program 'Romanian

- 2012: Language and Culture' at the University of Amsterdam
Summer school on Romanian language and culture at the Romanian Cultural Institute in Braşov, Romania
Level: C1 (advanced). Final grade: 9,25 out of 10.
- 2011: Summer school on Romanian language and culture at the Romanian Cultural Institute in Braşov, Romania
Level: B1 (intermediate). Final grade: 10 out of 10.
- 2003-2004: Language course French, Radboud University of Nijmegen.
Level: Avancé II. Final grade: 10 out of 10.
- 2004: Language course French, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium).
Level: Avancé I. Final grade: 83 out of 100.

Other

- Forthcoming: Ayurveda Practitioner Training (BA-accredited)
Delight Academy, Amsterdam
- 2018: Primatology Intensive School
Centro di Recupero Animali Selvatici e Esotici di Semproniano (CRASE) & WWF Italia. Final exam passed.