

Annelies Vredeveldt

Curriculum Vitae

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Synopsis

My area of expertise is memory in legal settings. My research focuses mainly on eyewitness memory, investigative interviewing, police reports, face recognition and deception detection. I have obtained over €2.2 million in research funding from various prestigious sources. I regularly serve as an expert witness in criminal cases, am a member of the Dutch National Expertise Group on Special Cases of Sexual Misconduct, and serve on advisory committees of the Netherlands Register of Court Experts. I coordinate Project Reasonable Doubt, in which potentially dubious criminal convictions are re-evaluated. In 2017, I co-founded the Amsterdam Laboratory for Legal Psychology (ALLP).

Education

- 2008–2011 **Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology** *The benefits of eye-closure on eyewitness memory*
University of York, United Kingdom. Advisors: Alan D. Baddeley and Graham J. Hitch.
Fulbright-funded research visit to John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, USA.
- 2007–2008 **M.Sc. in Psychology and Law**
Maastricht University, The Netherlands. Graduated *cum laude* (highest distinction).
Research internship at University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.
- 2004–2007 **B.A. in the Social Sciences**
University College Utrecht, The Netherlands. Graduated *summa cum laude* (highest distinction).

Academic Positions

- 2018— **Associate Professor**
Department of Criminal Law and Criminology, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2013–2018 **Assistant Professor**
Department of Criminal Law and Criminology, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2012–2013 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
Department of Psychology, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Selected Grants and Awards

- 2019–2024 **ERC Starting Grant**, European Research Council (success rate: 13%). €1,500,000.
Awarded to talented early-career scientists "with an excellent research proposal".
- 2013–2019 **Branco Weiss Fellowship**, Society in Science (success rate: 1.6%). €450,000.
Awarded to "exceptionally qualified researchers at the frontiers of their discipline".

- 2018–2019 **Police and Science research grant**, Dutch Ministry of Security and Justice. €84,000.
Principal investigator: *The effect of bodycams on evidence in criminal cases.*
- 2015–2016 **Police and Science research grant**, Dutch Ministry of Security and Justice. €75,000.
Principal investigator: *Truth-finding and collaborative police reports.*
- 2013 **Humanities Postdoctoral Research Fellowship**, University of Cape Town. €15,000.
- 2012–2013 **High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group research grant**, J-FBI-10-009. €100,000.
Principal investigator: *The effectiveness and feasibility of the Eye-Closure Interview in the South African Police Service.*
- 2012 **AW Mellon Postdoctoral Research Fellowship**, University of Cape Town. €15,000.
- 2012 **PhD award**, British Psychological Society - Social Psychology Section. €200.
Awarded for outstanding research derived from a doctoral thesis in social psychology.
- 2011 **Dissertation Award: First Place**, American Psychology-Law Society. €800.
Awarded for scientific research and scholarship relevant to psychology and law.
- 2010 **Fulbright Visiting Scholar grant**, Fulbright Center. €3,000.
- 2009–2011 **Departmental studentship**, Department of Psychology, University of York. €35,000.
- 2009–2010 **Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Award 2009/2010**, University of York. €600.
Awarded for my "thoughtful approach to learning and teaching, attention to the range of students' learning needs, and support for other postgraduates who teach".
- 2009–2010 **VSF Foundation scholarship**, for study abroad. €10,000.
- 2008 **Top 3% award**, Maastricht University. €1,500.
Awarded to best 3% of M.Sc. students.
- 2007 **UCAA Alumni Award**, University College Alumni Association.
Awarded to the top alumnus each year for academic excellence combined with social involvement.

Publications

* Indicates that the author is a student

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2019 Pike, G. E., Brace, N. A., Turner, J., Ness, H., & **Vredeveltdt, A.** Advances in facial composite technology, utilizing holistic construction, do not lead to an increase in eyewitness misidentifications compared to older feature-based systems. *Frontiers in Psychology*, in press.
- 2019 Pike, G. E., Brace, N. A., Turner, J., & **Vredeveltdt, A.** The effect of facial composite construction on eyewitness identification accuracy in an ecologically valid paradigm. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 46, 319-336.
- 2019 Denault, V., Plusquellec, P., Jupe, L. M., St-Yves, M., Dunbar, N. E., Hartwig, M., ... **Vredeveltdt, A.**, ... Van Koppen, P. J. The analysis of nonverbal communication: The dangers of pseudoscience in security and justice contexts. *Anuario de Psicología Jurídica*, advance online publication.
- 2019 Shaw, J. & **Vredeveltdt, A.** The recovered memory debate continues in Europe: Evidence from the UK, the Netherlands, France, and Germany. *Clinical Psychological Science*, 7, 27-28.
- 2018 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Charman, S. D., *Den Blanken, A., & *Hooydonk, M. Effects of cannabis on eyewitness memory: A field study. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 32, 420-428.

- 2018 *De Bruïne, G., **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. Cross-cultural differences in object recognition: Comparing asylum seekers from Sub-Saharan Africa and a matched Western European control group. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 32, 463-473.
- 2018 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Kesteloo, L., & Van Koppen, P.J. Writing alone or together: Police officers' collaborative reports of an incident. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 45, 1071-1092.
- 2018 **Vredeveltdt, A.** & Van Koppen, P.J. Recounting a common experience: On the effectiveness of instructing eyewitness pairs. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 284.
- 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, *Groen, R.N., *Ampt, J.E., & Van Koppen, P.J. When discussion between eyewitnesses helps memory. *Legal and Criminological Psychology*, 22, 242-259.
- 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, *Knol, J.W., & Van Koppen, P.J. Observing offenders: Incident reports by surveillance detectives, uniformed police, and civilians. *Legal and Criminological Psychology*, 22, 150-163.
- 2016 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. The thin blue line-up: A comparison of eyewitness performance by police and civilians. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 5, 252-256.
- 2016 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, *Hildebrandt, A., & Van Koppen, P.J. Acknowledge, repeat, rephrase, elaborate: Witnesses can help each other remember more. *Memory*, 24, 669-682.
- 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Hollins, T.J. Metacognition moderates the effects of distraction on cognition. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6.
- 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Sauer, J.S. Effects of eye-closure on confidence-accuracy relations in eyewitness testimony. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 4, 51-58.
- 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Tredoux, C.G., *Kempen, K., *Nortje, A. Eye remember what happened: Eye-closure improves recall of events but not face recognition. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 29, 169-180.
- 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Tredoux, C.G., *Nortje, A., *Kempen, K., *Puljević, C., & Labuschagne, G.N. A field evaluation of the Eye-Closure Interview with witnesses of serious crimes. *Law and Human Behavior*, 39, 189-197.
- 2014 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Perfect, T.J. Reduction of environmental distraction to facilitate cognitive performance. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 5.
- 2014 Mastroberardino, S., & **Vredeveltdt, A.** Eye-closure increases children's memory accuracy for visual material. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 5.
- 2014 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Baddeley, A.D., & Hitch, G.J. The effectiveness of eye-closure in repeated interviews. *Legal and Criminological Psychology*, 19, 282-295.
- 2013 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Wagenaar, W.A. Within-pair consistency in child witnesses: The diagnostic value of telling the same story. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 27, 406-411.
- 2013 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Penrod, S.D. Eye-closure improves memory for a witnessed event under naturalistic conditions. *Psychology, Crime, & Law*, 19(10), 893-905.
- 2012 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Baddeley, A. D., & Hitch, G. J. The effects of eye-closure and "ear-closure" on recall of visual and auditory aspects of a criminal event. *Europe's Journal of Psychology*, 8, 284-299.
- 2011 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Hitch, G.J., & Baddeley, A.D. Eye-closure helps memory by reducing cognitive load and enhancing visualisation. *Memory & Cognition*, 39(7), 1253-1263.

Books

- 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, *Hildebrandt, A., Van der Kemp, J.J., & Van Koppen, P.J. *De thuishulp in het Laakkwartier: Sporen van moord, diefstal of schoonmaak*. [The housekeeper in Laakkwartier: Traces of murder, theft or cleaning]. Den Haag: Boom.
- 2017 *De Bruïne, G., *De Boer, A., *Dehaene, T., **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. *Een Rwandees kaartenhuis: Een wirwar van wankelende verklaringen*. [A Rwandan house of cards: A labyrinth of wavering statements]. Den Haag: Boom.
- 2017 *De Boer, M.M., *Wiznitzer, S.N.P., *Evertzen, M.J.C., **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. *De gescheurde nagel: Een alternatieve verklaring voor DNA-bewijs*. [The torn fingernail: An alternative explanation for DNA evidence]. Den Haag: Boom.
- 2016 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Kesteloo, L. & Van Koppen, P.J. *Samen of apart: De invloed van overleg tussen agenten tijdens het opstellen van het proces-verbaal*. [Together or apart: The influence of discussion between police officers while writing incident reports]. Apeldoorn: Programma Politie & Wetenschap.

Book Chapters

- 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Der Zee, S. De betekenis van consistentie in verklaringen. [The meaning of consistency in statements]. In P. J. van Koppen, J. de Keijser, R. Horselenberg, & M. Jelicic (Eds.), *Routes van het recht: Over de rechtspsychologie*. Den Haag: Boom.
- 2017 Horselenberg, R., Boon, R., Odinot, G., & **Vredeveltdt, A.** Het interviewen van getuigen. [Interviewing witnesses]. In P. J. van Koppen, J. de Keijser, R. Horselenberg, & M. Jelicic (Eds.), *Routes van het recht: Over de rechtspsychologie*. Den Haag: Boom.
- 2017 *Nortje, A., Tredoux, C.G., & **Vredeveltdt, A.** How many faces can we remember? Why this matters when assessing eyewitnesses. In M. Bindemann & A. Megreya (Eds.), *Face processing: Systems, disorders and cultural disorders*. New York: NOVA Science Publishers.
- 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Tredoux, C.G. The Eye-Closure Interview: The practical utility of instructing eyewitnesses to close their eyes. In P. A. Granhag, R. Bull, A. Shaboltas, & E. Dozortseva (Eds.), *Psychology and Law in Europe: When West meets East* (pp. 231-246). Boca Raton, USA: CRC Press.
- 2014 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Van Koppen, P.J., & Granhag, P.A. The inconsistent suspect: A systematic review of consistency in truth tellers and liars. In R. H. Bull (Ed.), *Investigative interviewing*. London: Springer.
- 2012 **Vredeveltdt, A.** Eyewitness memory. In J. Shaw (Ed.), *The psychology and law factbook*. Maastricht, The Netherlands: European Association of Psychology and Law publishing house.
- 2012 **Vredeveltdt, A.** Can we “repress” memories of sexual abuse? In J. Shaw (Ed.), *The psychology and law factbook*. Maastricht, The Netherlands: European Association of Psychology and Law publishing house.

Edited Journal Issues

- 2014 **Vredeveltdt, A.** & Perfect, T.J. (Eds.) Reduction of environmental distraction to facilitate cognitive performance. *Frontiers in Psychology*. >100,000 views.

Other Professional Publications

- 2019 **Vredeveltdt, A.** Getuigenverhoor bij de rechter-commissaris: De invloed van overleg tussen getuigen. [Eyewitness interviews by the investigative judge: The influence of discussion between witnesses.] *Nederlands Juristenblad*, 2, 119-122.

- 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Otgaar, H.P., Merckelbach, H.L.G.J. & Van Koppen, P.J. Het rechtspsychologische deskundigenrapport. [The legal psychological expert witness report.] *Expertise & Recht*, 6, 243-247.
- 2016 Horselenberg, R., **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. Nederlandse politieverhoren in de praktijk. [Dutch police interviews in practice.] *Nederlands Juristenblad*, 43, 3185.

Ph.D. and Postdoctoral Supervision

- 2020— Weiss, L. *Cultural influences in South African eyewitness interviews*. Postdoc, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2020— Drenk, D. *Eyewitness evidence in international criminal cases*. Ph.D. thesis, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2020— De Bruïne, G. *Cross-cultural factors in asylum interviews*. Ph.D. thesis, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2013— Kempen, K. *The effects of composite construction on facial recognition*. Ph.D. thesis, University of Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2013–2018 Nortje, A. *Investigating facial recognition for multiple-perpetrator crimes*. Ph.D. thesis, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Teaching

- 2019— **Course coordinator**, Psychology, VU Amsterdam.
I have developed, coordinate and teach the new course *Psychology* in the unique Bachelor's programme *Law in Society*, in which law is taught using a multi-disciplinary approach with a strong social sciences component and a cross-cultural emphasis.
- 2017— **Course coordinator**, Project Gerede Twijfel [Project Reasonable Doubt], VU Amsterdam.
Organising the selection and assessment of students and coordinating faculty supervision. Together with five other faculty members, supervising teams of 8-12 students investigating selected criminal cases. Past investigations have contributed to the re-opening of closed cases.
- 2013— **Student supervisor**, Project Gerede Twijfel [Project Reasonable Doubt], VU Amsterdam.
- 2012— **Thesis supervisor**, Universities of Cape Town, Utrecht and VU Amsterdam.
I have supervised >10 research thesis students at the Masters, Honours and Bachelors level.
- 2011— **Guest Lecturer**, Universities of York, Cape Town, Utrecht, Maastricht and VU Amsterdam.
I regularly give guest lectures on legal psychology, witness memory and investigative interviewing.
- 2017–2018 **Ph.D. examiner**
Vana Webster, Macquarie University, Australia (*completed 2017*); Pam Rae, Plymouth University, United Kingdom (*completed 2018*)
- 2008–2011 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, University of York.
Tutorials, practicals, and marking for a Masters/Ph.D. course on Research Design & Statistics and undergraduate courses on Cognition, Comparative Cognition, Development & Language, Brain & Behaviour, Social Psychology, and Scientific Skills for Psychologists.
- 2009–2010 **Preparing Future Academics (PFA) programme**, University of York.
Training on lecturing, course design, assessment, plagiarism, and quality enhancement; development of teaching plans; reflections on teaching practice; and construction of a final portfolio of evidence. Equivalent to Dutch university teaching qualification (BKO).

Expert Witness Experience

- 2014— **Expert witness on criminal cases**
I regularly serve as an expert witness on criminal cases. I evaluate case files (paper, audio, video) to analyse statements made by witnesses, victims and suspects. My analysis is presented in a written report and I may be asked to appear in court to give testimony.
- 2019— **Member Dutch National Expertise Group on Special Cases of Sexual Misconduct**
Legal psychological evaluation at the investigative stage to inform the prosecutorial decision.
- 2017— **Member Advisory Committee for Assessments, Netherlands Register of Court Experts**
Assessment of applications for registration as an expert witness in legal psychology.
- 2016–2017 **Member Advisory Committee for Standards, Netherlands Register of Court Experts**
Establishing guidelines and registration criteria for expert witnesses in legal psychology.

Service to Profession

- 2019— **Associate Editor of *Applied Cognitive Psychology***
Overseeing the editorial process and deciding on acceptance for about 20 manuscripts a year.
- 2018— **Governing Board Member of *Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition***
Regular meetings and voting on issues that come before the Board, serving on ad hoc committees, advising Board officers, and attending biennial conferences.
- 2017— **Co-founder of *Amsterdam Laboratory for Legal Psychology***
Together with Peter van Koppen, I founded the ALLP in 2017. The lab has since produced a great deal of influential legal-psychological research. Lab members publish prodigiously, teach various legal-psychological courses and regularly appear as expert witnesses in criminal cases.
- 2017— **Review Editor of *Forensic and Legal Psychology (Frontiers in Psychology)***
Regularly reviewing articles as a member of the Editorial Board.
- 2015–2017 **Member of *American Psychology-Law Society Dissertation Awards Committee***
Reviewing PhD dissertations to determine who wins the annual award.
- 2009–2015 **Co-founder & vice-president of *European Association for Psychology and Law–Student***
Two colleagues and I founded the EAPL-S in 2009 and ran the society until 2015. It has become a flourishing society with numerous student members, local representatives in over 15 countries, many publications on psychology-law topics and a range of annual awards.
- 2014–2015 **Associate Editor of *Archives in Forensic Psychology***
Recruiting editorial board members and reviewers, inviting article submissions, and overseeing the review process for a newly founded open-access journal in forensic psychology.
- 2013–2014 **Guest Associate Editor of *Cognition (Frontiers in Psychology)***
Inviting article submissions for a special issue, identifying suitable reviewers, overseeing the interactive review process, and deciding on acceptance of submissions.
- 2012–2013 **Founding member of *South African Research Staff Association (SARSA)***
SARSA represents the interests of research scientists in South Africa.
- 2011— **Ad hoc reviewer**
Applied Cognitive Psychology; Erasmus Law Review; Frontiers in Psychology; Journal of Applied Research in Memory & Cognition; Law & Human Behavior; Legal & Criminological Psychology; Memory; Memory & Cognition; Perspectives on Psychological Science; PLOS One; Psychological Research; Psychological Science; Psychology, Crime, & Law; Psychology Press.

Selected Presentations

Selection of presentations from >30 invited talks and >30 conference presentations.

- Jul 2018 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. (2018, July). *Collaborative interviewing of eyewitnesses: How it works in practice*. Paper accepted at the international Investigative Interviewing Research Group conference, Porto, Portugal.
- Jun 2018 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Charman, S. D., *Den Blanken, A., & *Hooydonk, M. *Effects of cannabis on eyewitness memory: A field study*. Paper accepted at the European Association for Psychology and Law conference, Turku, Finland.
- Jun 2018 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *Getuigenverhoren in strafzaken: Een rechtspsychologisch perspectief*. [Eyewitness interviews in criminal cases: A legal-psychological perspective.] Two invited workshops for approximately 70 investigative judges, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- May 2018 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *Myths about memory: Repression, recovery and imagination*. Invited Pint of Science talk, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- May 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. *Instructing eyewitnesses to collaborate effectively*. Paper presented at the European Association for Psychology and Law conference, Mechelen, Belgium.
- Jan 2017 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, Kesteloo, L., & Van Koppen, P.J. *Together or apart: Effects of collaboration between police officers on incident reports*. Paper presented at the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition conference, Sydney, Australia.
- Mar 2016 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, & Van Koppen, P.J. *Come witness this today in this theatre: The benefits of co-witness discussion*. Paper presented at the American Psychology-Law Society conference, Atlanta, USA.
- Aug 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.**, *Groen, R.N., *Ampt, J.E., *Ramdihal, M.S.S., & Van Koppen, P.J. *Putting heads together: Collaboration improves memory accuracy*. Paper presented at the European Association for Psychology and Law conference, Nuremberg, Germany.
- Jun 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *Collaborative remembering in applied settings: New findings, implications, challenges and solutions*. Symposium organized at the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition conference, Victoria, B.C., Canada.
- Jun 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *Helping witnesses remember*. Invited talk at the Department of Psychology, Florida International University, Miami, United States.
- Apr 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *Remembering together*. Invited talk at the Department of Psychology, University of Cape Town, South Africa.
- Jan 2015 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *How to improve eyewitness memory*. Invited talk at the Department of Psychology, University of York, United Kingdom.
- May 2014 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *Factors in witness memory*. Invited talk at the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court, The Hague, The Netherlands.
- Sep 2013 **Vredeveltdt, A.** *How to improve eyewitness memory*. Invited TEDx talk, Cape Town, South Africa.

Selected Media Coverage

- May 2018 Maakt een joint een getuige minder betrouwbaar? *De Volkskrant*. [Does a joint make an eyewitness less reliable? *Top quality Dutch newspaper*.]

- Sep 2017 Hoe betrouwbaar is hervonden herinnering? *EditieNL*.
[How reliable are recovered memories? *Dutch popular broadcaster.*]
- Jul 2016 A pair of witnesses can be better than one. *The Wall Street Journal*.
- Aug 2015 Nederlandse rechercheurs zijn échte Sherlock Holmes. *NOS op 3*.
[Dutch detectives are real Sherlock Holmes. *Dutch public broadcaster.*]
- Jul 2013 Samen weet je meer. *Dagblad de Limburger*.
[Two heads know more than one. *Regional Dutch newspaper.*]
- Feb 2013 Utrechtse hulp voor FBI. *De Telegraaf*.
[Help from Utrecht for FBI. *Top popular Dutch newspaper.*]
- Oct 2011 Why do you close your eyes to remember? *Psychology Today*.

Languages

- Dutch Native language
- English Excellent written and oral skills
- French Intermediate written and oral skills
- German Intermediate written and oral skills
- Spanish Basic written and oral skills

Professional Memberships

Association for Psychological Science, European Association for Psychology and Law, American Psychology-Law Society, Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition, Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Associate of the Higher Education Academy.