



Curriculum Vitae Nick Schuermans

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Latest update: September 2014

Research interests

Belgium - Diversity – Enclave urbanism – Fear – Geographies of education – Geographies of encounter – In-depth interviews - Privilege – Publication strategies - Qualitative research - Segregation – Social mix – Solidarity – South Africa - Suburbs – Urbanity – Whiteness - ...

Current positions

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|------------------|---|
| Since 01/09/2014 | Post-doctoral teaching associate (50%)
Department of Geography
Vrije Universiteit Brussel |
| Since 01/01/2013 | Post-doctoral researcher (50%)
Centre on Inequalities, Poverty, Social Exclusion and the City (OASes)
University of Antwerp |

Education

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| 2011 | Doctor of Sciences: Geography (PhD), KU Leuven
Dissertation: Anxieties, identities and spatialities: ambivalent geographies of encounter in Cape Town and Flanders. Supervisor: Chris Kesteloot |
| 2004 | Master in de Geografie, KU Leuven (summa cum laude) |
| 2002 | Bachelor in de Geografie, KU Leuven (cum laude) |

Previous positions

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|-----------|---|
| 2013-2014 | Post-doctoral researcher, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven |
| 2012-2014 | Lecturer, Faculty of Architecture, Campus Sint-Lucas Brussels, KU Leuven |
| 2012 | Post-doctoral researcher, Faculty of Architecture Sint-Lucas, KU Leuven |
| 2011 | Post-doctoral researcher, Laboratory for Education and Society, KU Leuven |
| 2010 | Researcher, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven |
| 2006-2009 | PhD student, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven |
| 2004-2005 | Teaching assistant, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven |

Teaching experience

- 2013-14
& 2012-13
- Critical Urban Theory (in English)
Master of Science in Architecture , Campus Sint-Lucas Brussels, KU Leuven
- This course is a reading seminar with weekly lectures or field trips. I am the coordinator of the course, teach the lectures and evaluate the students based on a paper and week-to-week assessment. Throughout the semester, I give all 45 students extensive feedback on drafts of their paper.*
- 2013-14
- What does it mean to be a researcher in 21st century academia?(in English)
Doctoral School, University of Ghent
- This doctoral school course consists of a reader and guest lectures. It attracts 30 PhD students from different Flemish universities. Together with Sigrid Vertommen, Koenraad Bogaert and Karen Büscher, I applied for funding and made up the program. I also marked the student essays.*
- 2013-2014
- Geographical Research Methods (in English)
Master of Geography, KU Leuven
- This course introduces master students to qualitative research methods. Together with Anneleen Kenis, I replaced Maarten Loopmans for three sessions. I organized the reader for these sessions and gave lectures on focus group research and qualitative data analysis.*
- 2009-10
& 2008-09
& 2007-08
- Wetenschapscommunicatie (in Dutch)
Bachelor in de Geografie, KU Leuven
- This course helps bachelor students to improve their academic writing and presentation skills. I gave the introductory lectures, evaluated the papers and gave detailed feedback on each assignment.*
- 2006-07
& 2005-06
& 2004-05
- Geografische Informatie Systemen (in Dutch)
Bachelor in de Geografie, KU Leuven
- I coordinated six MapInfo sessions each year. I also marked the assignments.*
- 2005-06
& 2004-05
- Seminarie Geografische Economie (in Dutch)
Master in de Handelswetenschappen, KU Leuven
- I gave the introductory lectures and evaluated the group work.*
- 2005-06
& 2004-05
- Menselijke geografie (in Dutch)
Bachelor in de Geografie, KU Leuven
- I coordinated the exercises which complemented the lectures. I also headed several excursions in Belgium.*
- 2007-2014
- Member of the doctoral committee of Valerie De Craene.
Master thesis support for Karolien Vermeiren and Tom De Bruyn.
Organization of numerous seminars, guest lectures and excursions.

Publications in English (1/2)

- In progress **Schuermans, N.** From spaces of encounter to spaces of solidarity (invited review paper for *Geography Compass*)
- Schuermans, N.** Enclave urbanism as telescopic urbanism? Encounters of middle class whites in Cape Town (contribution to a special issue in *Environment and Planning A* edited by Tim Schwanen, Bart Wissink and Ronald Van Kempen)
- In review **Schuermans, N.** Mobile encounters with strangers: white, middle class South Africans driving in Cape Town (submitted to *Social & Cultural Geography* as part of a special issue on 'negotiating strange encounters' edited by Gill Valentine, Lucy Jackson and Catherine Harris)
- Oosterlynck, S., Loopmans, M., **Schuermans, N.**, Vandenabeele, J., Zemni, S. Putting flesh to the bone: looking for solidarity in diversity here and now (submitted to *Ethnic & Racial Studies*)
- In print **Schuermans, N.** Anxieties, identities and spatialities: ambivalent encounters of middle class Whites in Cape Town (chapter for an edited volume on 'encountering the city' by Jonathan Darling and Helen Wilson, to be published by Ashgate)
- Schuermans, N.**, Meeus, B., De Decker, P. Geographies of whiteness and wealth: White, middle class discourses on segregation and social mix in Flanders, Belgium. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, DOI: 10.1111/juaf.12155
- 2014 Messely, L., **Schuermans, N.**, Dessein, J., Rogge, E. No region without individual catalysts? Exploring region formation processes in Flanders (Belgium). *European Urban and Regional Studies*, 21 (3), 318-330.
- Schuermans, N.** Geography textbooks and the reproduction of a racist and ethnocentric world view among young people in Flanders. *Belgeo*, <http://belgeo.revues.org/11594>
- 2013 **Schuermans, N.** Ambivalent geographies of encounter inside and around the fortified homes of middle class whites in Cape Town. *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, 28 (4), 679-688.
- Newton, C., **Schuermans, N.** More than twenty years after the repeal of the Group Areas Act: housing, spatial planning and urban development in post-apartheid South Africa. *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, 28 (4), 579-587.

Publications in English (2/2)

- 2012 Ding, Y., **Schuermans, N.** 'Happiness Hefei': public art and rural-urban citizenship struggles in transitional China. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 13 (7), 719-733.
- Schuermans, N.**, Loopmans, M., Vandenabeele, J. Public space, public art and public pedagogy. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 13 (7), 675-682.
- Mettepenningen, E., Vandermeulen, V., Van Huylenbroeck, G., **Schuermans, N.**, Van Hecke, E., Messely, L., Dessein, J., Bourgeois, M. Exploring Synergies between Place Branding and Agricultural Landscape Management as a Rural Development Practice. *Sociologia Ruralis*, 52 (4), 432-452.
- Schuermans, N.**, Newton, C. Being a young and foreign researcher in South Africa: Towards a post-colonial dialogue. *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, 33 (3), 295-300.
- 2011 **Schuermans, N.** *Anxieties, identities and spatialities: ambivalent geographies of encounter in Cape Town and Flanders*. PhD Dissertation, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven.
- Meeus, B., **Schuermans, N.**, De Maesschalck, F. Is there a world beyond academic geography? A reply to Ben Derudder. *Area*, 43 (1), 113-114.
- Mettepenningen, E., Messely, L., **Schuermans, N.**, Cappon, R., Vandermeulen, V., Van Huylenbroeck, G., Dessein, J., Van Hecke, E., Leinfelder, H., Bourgeois, M., Laurijssen, T., Bryon, J., Lauwers, L., Allaert, G., Jourez, M. *Multifunctionality and local identity as paradigms for sustainable and competitive agriculture*. Brussel: Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten.
- 2010 **Schuermans, N.**, De Maesschalck, F. (2010). Fear of crime as a political weapon: explaining the rise of extreme right politics in the Flemish countryside. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 11 (3), 247-262.
- Schuermans, N.**, Meeus, B., De Maesschalck, F. Is there a world beyond the Web of Science? Publication practices outside the heartland of academic geography. *Area*, 42 (4), 417-424.
- 2009 **Schuermans, N.** Book review: Cities of whiteness. *Social & Cultural Geography*, 10 (2), 225-226.
- Schuermans, N.** Book review: Ordinary cities: Between modernity and development. *Belgeo*, 2009 (1), 105-106.
- 2005 **Schuermans, N.** On poor whites in post-apartheid cities: The case of Bloemfontein. *Urban Forum*, 16 (4), 259-294.

Publications in Dutch (1/2)

- 2014
- Derudder, B., **Schuermans, N.** Een draagvlak voor trage wetenschap? (interview). *Agora*, 25 (1), 13-15.
- Depraetere, A., Van Bouchaute, B., **Schuermans, N.**, Oosterlynck, S. Solidariteit genereren in de context van superdiversiteit: het transformatief potentieel van een complementaire munt in een superdiverse wijk. In: Verschraegen, G., de Olde, C., Oosterlynck, S., Vandermoere, F., Dierckx, D. (eds.) Over gevestigden en buitenstaanders. Armoede, diversiteit en stedelijkheid. Leuven: Acco, 79-104.
- Albeda, Y., **Schuermans, N.** De suburbane droom aan diggelen? Gevestigden en buitenstaanders in veranderende gemeenschappen. In: Verschraegen, G., de Olde, C., Oosterlynck, S., Vandermoere, F., Dierckx, D. (eds.) Over gevestigden en buitenstaanders. Armoede, diversiteit en stedelijkheid. Leuven: Acco, 105-120.
- 2013
- Oosterlynck, S., **Schuermans, N.** Superdiversiteit; Solidariteit herdenken. *Alert: Tijdschrift voor Sociaal Werk en Politiek*, 39 (4), 13-19.
- De Decker, P., Meeus, B., **Schuermans, N.** Over de ongemakkelijke omgang met diversiteit. *Aktief* (1), 9-12.
- Schuermans, N.**, De Decker, P., Kesbeke, W., Vandekerckhove, B. Pleidooi voor een opschaling van het lokale woonbeleid in Vlaanderen. *Ruimte & Maatschappij*, 4 (3), 10-33.
- Vandekerckhove, B., Kesbeke, W., **Schuermans, N.**, De Decker, P. De woonmarkt is regionaal. *Ruimte* (17), 22-27.
- Meeus, B., De Decker, P., **Schuermans, N.** *Toezicht en territorialiteit. Een exploratie van discoursen over de opvoedruimte.* Leuven: Steunpunt Wonen.
- Meeus, B., **Schuermans, N.**, De Decker, P. *Het zekere voor het onzekere. Sociale homogeniteit als voorwaarde bij het zoeken naar een woonplaats.* Leuven: Steunpunt Wonen.
- 2012
- Kesbeke, W., **Schuermans, N.**, Vandekerckhove, B., De Decker, P. *Honkvast in tijden van verandering. Woonrends en woningmarkten.* Leuven: LannooCampus.
- Vandekerckhove, B., De Decker, P., Vandamme, L., Kesbeke, W., **Schuermans, N.** *Regionale woningmarkten West-Vlaanderen.* Brugge: Provincie West-Vlaanderen.
- Oosterlynck, S., Schillebeeckx, E., **Schuermans, N.** Voorbij sociale mix. In: Holemans D. (ed.) *Mensen maken de stad. Bouwstenen voor een sociaal-ecologische toekomst.* Berchem: EPO, 117-127.

Publications in Dutch (2/2)

- 2012 **Schuermans, N.**, Meeus, B., De Decker, P. Knooppunten van diversiteit en solidariteit. In: Holemans D. (ed.), *Mensen maken de stad. Bouwstenen voor een sociaalecologische toekomst*. Berchem: EPO, 145-154.
- Schuermans, N.**, Messely, L., Mettepenningen, E. Streek: identiteit, vermarkting, concurrentie. *Agora*, 28 (1), 40-43.
- Schuermans, N.** Onveiligheidsgevoelens bij blanke middenklassers in Kaapstad. Op zoek naar een comfortzone in een ongelijk land. *Tijdschrift over Cultuur & Criminaliteit*, 1 (1), 53-72.
- 2010 Meeus, B., **Schuermans, N.**, Vermeiren, K. Aandacht voor ruimte én tijd. *Agora*, 26 (3), 4-7.
- 2009 **Schuermans, N.**, Meeus, B. David Sibley over angst. *Agora*, 20 (4), 8-11.
- Meeus, B., Meys, S., **Schuermans, N.** Angst, identiteit en de ruimte. *Agora*, 20 (4), 4-7.
- De Maesschalck, F., Meeus, B., **Schuermans, N.** Onder professoren. Vier decennia publiceren, samenwerken en internationaliseren binnen de Belgische sociaal-economische geografie. In Kesteloot C., Goossens M., Van der Haegen H., Cabus P., Vanneste D., Vanderhallen D. (eds.), *Van Bas-Congo tot Dadizele. Veelzijdigheid in de geografie. Liber Amicorum Prof. dr. Etienne Van Hecke*. Leuven: Instituut voor Sociale en Economische Geografie, 361-370.
- 2007 **Schuermans, N.** Leggen handboeken aardrijkskunde een racistisch en etnocentrisch wereldbeeld op? *De Aardrijkskunde*, 31 (1), 3-18.
- Schuermans, N.** Handboeken aardrijkskunde en anti-stedelijkheid. *Agora*, 23 (1), 22-24.
- Schuermans, N.**, De Maesschalck, F. Extreem-rechts, etnocentrisme en onveiligheidsgevoelens op het Vlaamse platteland. *Ruimte en Planning*, 27 (2), 10-27.
- Schuermans, N.** Review: 'Gated communities' in Vlaanderen. *Agora*, 24 (4), 45-45.
- 2006 Devriendt, L., Meeus, B., **Schuermans, N.** Gebruikersstad. *Agora*, 22 (4), 4-6.
- 2005 **Schuermans, N.** Ras-echt? Armoede bij blanken in Bloemfontein, Zuid-Afrika. *De Aardrijkskunde*, 29 (1-2), 33-42.
- Uitermark, J., Loopmans, M., Duyvendak, J., **Schuermans, N.** De wraak van de middenklasse. Gentrification en het failliet van progressief stedelijk beleid. *Agora*, 21 (4), 4-7.

International conferences and invited seminars (1/2)

- 2014
- Oosterlynck, S., Loopmans, M., **Schuermans, N.**, Vandenabeele, J., Zemni, S. *Introduction: a quest for place-based solidarities in diversity*. Annual Conference of the RGS-IBG, London (UK), 27-29/08/2014.
- Debruyne, P., **Schuermans, N.** *Learning to cope with super-diversity: place-based solidarities at a (pre-)primary school in Leuven, Belgium*. Annual Conference of the RGS-IBG, London (UK), 27-29/08/2014.
- Schuermans, N.**, Spocter, M. *Avoiding encounters with poverty: aesthetics, politics and economics in a privileged neighbourhood of Cape Town, South Africa*. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Tampa (US), 08-12/04/2014.
- Schuermans, N.** *Enclave urbanism as telescopic urbanism? Encounters of middle class whites in Cape Town*. Living in enclave cities seminar, Utrecht (NL), 21-22/03/2014.
- Schuermans, N.** *Telescopic urbanism in post-apartheid Cape Town*. Guest lecture at University of Amsterdam (NL), 06/01/2014
- 2013
- Schuermans, N.** *The highway as a site of encounter: White, middle class South Africans driving on the N2 in Cape Town*, Annual Conference of the RGS-IBG, London (UK), 28-30/08/2013.
- Schuermans, N.**, Loopmans, M., Oosterlynck, S. *From spaces of encounter to spaces of solidarity: Three gaps in the geographies of encounter literature*, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Los Angeles (US), 09-13/04/2013.
- 2012
- Schuermans, N.** *Woonrends en woonmarkten*. Woonseminar Kortrijk (B), 14/12/2012.
- 2011
- Schuermans, N.** *Onveiligheidsgevoelens bij blanke middenklassers in Kaapstad. Op zoek naar een comfortzone in een ongelijk land*. Conferentie Culturele Criminologie, Utrecht (NL), 13-14/10/2011.
- Schuermans, N.**, Loopmans, M., Oosterlynck, S., Vandenabeele, J. *Cities as learning grounds for solidarity*, Annual RC21 Conference, Amsterdam (NL), 07-09/07/2011.
- Schuermans, N.** *White middle class South Africans driving on the N2 freeway in Cape Town: learning through emotions*, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Seattle (US), 12-16/04/2011.
- 2010
- Schuermans, N.**, Spocter, M. *Fear of crime and the reproduction of privilege: walls, gates, neighbourhood watches and security initiatives in Tamboerskloof, Cape Town, South Africa*. Annual Conference of the RGS-IBG, London (UK), 01-03/09/2010.

International conferences and invited seminars (2/2)

- 2009 **Schuermans, N.** *Fear of crime, fear of the other and fear of the city: Fear of crime among middle class whites in post-apartheid Cape Town*, Conference of the Society of South African Geographers, Pretoria (ZA), 05/09/2009.
- Schuermans, N.** *Researching fear of crime in Belgium and South Africa: reflections on the comparability and transferability of interview data*, Annual Conference of the RGS-IBG, Manchester (UK), 28/08/2009.
- Schuermans, N.** *Geography textbooks and the reproduction of a racist and ethnocentric world view among young people in Flanders*. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas (US), 22-27/03/2009.
- De Maesschalck, F., **Schuermans, N.** *The suburbanization of extreme right voting in Flanders*, L'importance du niveau "meso" dans l'étude du succes de l'extrême droite, Amiens (FR), 6/03/2009.
- 2008 **Schuermans, N.** *Fear of crime, fear of the other and fear of the city: A geographical study on fear of crime among middle class whites in Cape Town*, Derde Belgische Dagen van de Geografie, Brussels (B), 24/10/2008.
- Schuermans, N.** *Flemish geography textbooks and the reproduction of a racist and ethnocentric world view*. Derde Belgische Dagen van de Geografie, Brussels (B), 24/10/2008.
- Schuermans, N.**, De Maesschalck, F. *Fear of crime, fear of the other and fear of the city: A geography of fear, ethnocentrism and extreme-right voting among middle class whites in rural and suburban Flanders*. Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Boston (US) 15-19/04/2008.
- 2006 **Schuermans, N.**, Meert, H. *Fear of crime, fear of the other & fear of the city: a geography of fear among rural Belgians*, Annual Conference of the RGS-IBG, London (UK), 31/08/2006.
- 2005 **Schuermans, N.**, Coorevits, L., Maes, H., Meert, H. *Onveiligheidsgevoelens en de racialisatie van stad en platteland*, De Belgische Geografendagen/Les Journées Géographiques belges, Ghent (B), 09/11/2005.
- Schuermans, N.** *New spaces: a geography of poverty among whites in Bloemfontein*, Society of South African Geographers Conference, Cape Town (ZA) 10/09/2005.
- Schuermans, N.**, Visser, G. *Unvoiced and invisible: reflections on white poverty in post-apartheid South Africa*. Annual Conference of the Royal Geographical Society and Institute of British Geographers Conference. London (UK), 31/8 - 2/9/2005.

Professional services

- 2014
- Convenor of a session on 'place-based solidarities in diversity' at the Annual RGS-IBG Conference in London (UK), 27-29/08/2014 (with Stijn Oosterlynck and Maarten Loopmans)
- Organizer of a practitioner-oriented conference on 'solidarity in superdiversity' in Antwerp (B), 01/04/2014 (with Marc Jans and Stijn Oosterlynck)
- Organizer of an expert seminar on 'solidarity and diversity' with Ash Amin and numerous Belgian experts in the fields of migration and diversity in Antwerp (B), 31/03/2014 (with Stijn Oosterlynck)
- 2013
- Guest editor of a special issue on 'Housing, spatial planning and urban development in post-apartheid South Africa' in *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment* (with Caroline Newton)
- Convenor of a session on 'geographies of encounter' at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Los Angeles (US), 09-13/04/2013 (with Helen Wilson)
- 2012
- Guest editor of a special issue on 'public space, public art and public pedagogy' in *Social & Cultural Geography* (with Maarten Loopmans and Joke Vandenabeele)
- 2011
- Convenor of a session on 'cities as learning grounds for citizenship' at the Annual RC21 Conference in Amsterdam (NL), 07-09/07/2011 (with Maarten Loopmans, Stijn Oosterlynck and Joke Vandenabeele)
- 2010
- Convenor of a session on 'Shifting publishing spaces in Belgian human geography' at the 4th Belgian Geography Days in Leuven (B), 22-23/10/2010 (with Filip De Maesschalck and Bruno Meeus)
- 2010-2014
- Reviewer of articles submitted to *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie*, *Geoforum*, *Environment and Planning A*, *Area* and *Ruimte en Maatschappij*
- 2005-2011
- Member of the editorial board of *Agora*; Co-editor of special issues on time and space (2010), fear (2009), city of users (2006) and revanchism (2005)

Professional memberships

- 2014-present
- Member of the Actiegroep Hoger Onderwijs
- 2013-present
- Member of the Relational Poverty Network (convened by Sarah Elwood and Victoria Lawson, University of Washington, Seattle)
- 2006-2011
- Member of the Scientific Research Community 'Diversity and Plurality in Urban Contexts' (convened by Chris Kesteloot and Danny Wildemeersch, KU Leuven)

Academic awards and grants

2013-2016	€ 2.191.676, IWT-SBO DieGem (Diversiteit en Gemeenschapsvorming) <i>I was co-author of the proposal granted to a research consortium headed by Stijn Oosterlynck.</i>
2013	Centre for Equal Opportunities and Struggle against Racism: Het realiseren van een grootschalig onderzoek op de private huisvestingsmarkt in het kader van de diversiteitsbarometer. <i>I was co-author of the proposal granted to a research consortium headed by Maarten Loopmans.</i>
2009	€ 100.000, IWT-SBO pre-trajectory DieGem (Diversiteit en Gemeenschapsvorming) <i>I was co-author of the proposal granted to a research consortium headed by Danny Wildemeersch.</i>
2007	Winner of the Henk Meert prize for the best article published in <i>Ruimte en Planning</i> (with Filip De Maesschalck)
2006	4-year IWT-funded PhD scholarship
2005	1-year BOF-funded PhD scholarship
2005	1-year participation in EUREX European Online Seminar on Urban Transformation, Poverty, Spatial Segregation and Social Exclusion

Language skills

Dutch	Mother tongue
English	Fluent (with C1 level certificate needed to teach in English)
Afrikaans	Good
French	Good
German	Basic
Estonian	Basic