DAMIAAN REIJNAERS

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WHO AM I?

I am a vibrant person with a deep interest in both people and the world they inhabit, driven to make a positive contribution to it. I undertook a dual educational path and I find myself at the intersection of humanities and technology. This is a point where my understanding of humans and society meets with innovation that is ethical and responsible. A point where insight into the complexities of language, culture, and identity harmonises with being on top of the most recent developments in the fields of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science.

EXPERIENCE

2022 – 2023
internship

Research Intern   **Dutch National Police**
Developing responsible AI algorithms for usage in forensic contexts, curating datasets (9-months project).
`Python / PyTorch`

2022
voluntary

Russian interpreter   **Municipality of Zaanstad**
Interpreting for Russian-speaking refugees from Ukraine, overseeing their registration, and related tasks.

2009 – 2022
part-time

Software developer (full-stack) and security specialist   **Turn Blue**
Developing diverse software for hundreds of clients across various sectors, setting up and managing websites with thousands of daily unique visitors, and effectively running my own company (i.e., *being an all-round nerd*). On different occasions, I appeared in newspapers ⌕ and on television ⌕ due to white-hat hacking actions.
`Python / JS / VB / Prolog / MariaDB / PHP / HTML / CSS / misc`

2020
internship

Software developer and Russian translator   **Netherlands Institute in Saint Petersburg**
Developing Russian educational software and playing a key role in the entire process from idea to product.
`PHP / jQuery / PostgreSQL`

2016
internship

Software developer   **Netherlands Aerospace Centre**
Completing an AI project commissioned by the Dutch Department of Defence.
`C#`

EDUCATION

2021 – 2022

Master of Arts in Russian and Eurasian Studies   Graduated *cum laude*   **Leiden University**
Thesis: *Reading Dolgans through their language: approaching indigenous Dolgan culture by collecting words.* ⌕

2020 – 2023

Research Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence   **University of Amsterdam**
Thesis: *Exploiting Machine Translationese for Source Language Identification* ⌕
Publications: ReScience C (2021 ⌕), BSNLP (2023 ⌕), SIGTYP (2024)

2017 – 2021

Bachelor of Arts in Russian and Slavic studies   **University of Amsterdam**
Thesis: *How to measure change? An assessment of available Russian language corpora. Involving a case study: the competition between nominative and instrumental case in predicate constructions with byt'.* ⌕

2014 – 2020

Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence   **University of Amsterdam**
Thesis: *An approach of solving early phase multiplayer No-Limit Hold'em poker using empirical Bayesian statistics and vector spaces* ⌕   /   Awarded with an honourable mention ⌕: the Netherlands Gambling Authority

2007 – 2014

Pre-university education (VWO)   **Gertrudiscollege**

LANGUAGES

Dutch - native
English - proficient
Russian - advanced

HOBBIES

Russian literature, art-house cinema, philosophy, long-distance cycling in my home country, bars, poker, history, museums, programming.

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Academia, explainable AI, human language, indigenous peoples, politics and power structures.