

Dion Stevers

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PROFILE

Postgraduate student with a background in both science and humanities. Able and keen to bring together knowledge from different fields. Currently performing research on the intersection of technology, politics, and social change, with a particular focus on social media in today's People's Republic of China (PRC).

EDUCATION

2023 - present

PhD in Governance, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin

- Starting August 2023

2022 - 2023

MSc in Contemporary Chinese Studies, University of Oxford

- Electives in Comparative Politics and Political Economy
- *Thesis*: Passionate Politics in the Digital Age: on the evolving dynamics of political communication in today's PRC

2018 - 2020

BA in Chinese Studies, Leiden University

- GPA: 9.06/10 (ranked first, awarded *summa cum laude* (appr. top 1%))
- Part of the Humanities Honours Programme
- *Thesis*: How Absurd Is the Dao? In search of the boundaries of human reasoning, with Albert Camus and the Liezi

2014 - 2018

BSc in Psychobiology, University of Amsterdam

- GPA: 7.63/10
 - Extracurricular courses in Music Studies (30 EC)
 - *Thesis*: Pleasure and rhythm: shared predictive functions of the basal ganglia
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AWARDS

2022 - 2023

Various scholarships (£30.000)

VSB, Renswoude, Hendrik Muller, Schuurman Schimmel, Vreedefonds, Noorthey

- Awarded six scholarships for the MSc in Contemporary Chinese Studies

2021 - 2022

Huayu Enrichment Scholarship (£4.000)

Ministry of Education, Republic of China

- Scholarship for 6-month intensive Mandarin training at National Taiwan University
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COURSES & CERTIFICATES

2021 - 2022

6-month Intensive Mandarin Training, National Taiwan University

- GPA: 94/100 (A+)
- Daily three-hour classes, reading newspaper articles and discussing current events

2022

CS50 Introduction to Computer Science, HarvardX (certificate id: [a126d18d5645467cb139ab1221b6b417](#))

- 11-week course that teaches 'how to think algorithmically' and provides extensive training to solve computational problems
- Included languages: C, Python, HTML, JavaScript, and SQL

2022

Python for Research, HarvardX (certificate id: [b51031437e71481690d4c15c3a36efcf](#))

- 6-week course on advanced research methods in Python
 - Including: forest regression models; social network analysis; digital language analysis
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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

- 2021 - ongoing **Editor-in-Chief, Shilin Journal for Young Sinology**
- Responsible for organising the article selection procedure and peer review process
 - Heading an editorial board of 15 editors, managing all publishing operations
 - In-depth academic proofreading and communicating feedback to authors
- 2021 **Presenter and Panelist, Rombouts-Shilin Conference, Leiden**
- Invited to present my thesis to a panel of experts and conference visitors
 - Participated as a panellist in academic discussions with senior and beginning scholars
- 2020 - 2021 **Student Board Member, Chinese Studies Department, Leiden University**
- Took active part in day-to-day running of the programme
 - Relayed student observations to teaching body
 - Evaluated major changes to the educational programme
- 2014 - 2018 **Research Intern, Music Brain Health Technology Lab, Leiden**
- 5-month research internship focussed on design and preparation of 7T-fMRI research on the role of basal ganglia in rhythm processing and pleasure induction
 - Autonomously conducted and analysed a 3-month behavioural study

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

- 2018 - 2020 **Core organiser, European Student Orchestra Festival (ESOF), Amsterdam**
- 4-day event in Muziekgebouw Amsterdam with 10 orchestras from around Europe
 - Planned and formalised the entire festival to its final stage in a small team of four
 - Cooperated with an international board, and supported by Creative Europe
- 2019 **Production assistant, Dutch National Youth Orchestra, The Netherlands**
- Management of stage operations before, during, and after orchestra concerts
- 2017-2019 **Hospitality Employee, The Royal Concertgebouw, The Netherlands**
- 2-year work experience at renowned classical concert hall
 - Gained insights into the running of a professional cultural organisation
- 2018 **Principal Cellist, Dutch National Student Orchestra (NSO), The Netherlands**
- One-month tour around all major concert halls in The Netherlands
 - Responsible for leading the cello group; performed solo in orchestral pieces
- 2015 - 2016 **Fundraiser, Sweelinck Orchestra, Amsterdam**
- Member of seven-member student board, fully responsible of orchestra operations
 - Personally responsible for fundraising and sponsoring of the orchestra
 - Performed a wide range of key organisational tasks

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Languages* Dutch – native; English – fluent (C2); Mandarin – professional proficiency (HSK 6); German – proficient (B1); Classical Chinese – professional proficiency; Latin – professional proficiency
- IT* Python, R Studio, Microsoft Office, and Adobe Creative Suite
- Music* Performing cellist in various orchestras and ensembles
- Sports* Rowing, tennis, cycling, and squash, currently at St Cross College Oxford
- Travel* Lived in Amsterdam, Taipei, Oxford, and Berlin, travelled through South-East Asia
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