

## **Curriculum Vitae**

Axel Westra was born on March 15, 1971 in Amsterdam. In 1989 he got his pre-university degree (Athenaeum) at the Farel College in Amersfoort. After this he studied technical physics at Twente University, which he completed in 1994 with a major in chemical physics, resulting in the Dutch equivalent of a master's degree in physics.

In 1998 he finished teacher training at Utrecht University and subsequently taught physics at the Rotterdams Montessori Lyceum in Rotterdam and the College Blaucapel in Utrecht, both for one year. From 2000 until 2004 he worked on the PhD project at the Centre for Science and Mathematics Education (CD- $\beta$ ) in Utrecht that resulted in this dissertation.

From 2005 he is teaching general sciences (Dutch: ANW) at RSG Brokdele in Breukelen, which he is still doing at the moment of writing (2006).