

Ineke van Kessel is a historian who focuses mainly on contemporary issues in South Africa. Her research includes social and political developments and various aspects of the democratization process, with a special interest in social movements and mass media. In addition, she is interested in West African history, notably the Gold Coast in the 19th century, and has published a book on the history of African soldiers recruited in the Gold Coast region for the Dutch colonial army in the East Indies. She also works as a freelance journalist specializing in current events in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Although she retired in June 2013, Ineke van Kessel continues her involvement with the African Studies Centre.