

Barbara Class, PhD

Personal information

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- Date and place of birth: 30/10/1990, Strasbourg, France

Education

- 01/12/2013-09/11/2017 **PhD**, doctoral program in Biology, Geography and Geology, University of Turku, Finland
- 01/09/2011-25/06/2013 **MSc** in Ecophysiology and Ethology, University of Strasbourg, France
- 01/09/2008-09/06/2011 **BSc** in Cell Biology and Physiology, University of Strasbourg, France

Research experience

- 01/11/2017-31/08/2019: **Post-doctoral project:** “Animal personality and sexual selection in wild populations of blue tits and great tits”, Supervised by Dr. Jon Brommer, University of Turku, Finland
- 01/12/2013-31/10/2017 **PhD project:** “Evolutionary quantitative genetics of animal personality in the wild”, Supervised by Dr. Jon Brommer, University of Turku, Finland
- 01/01/2013-30/06/2013 **MSc project:** “Animal personality in the blue tits: ecological relevance and the importance of parental interactions”. Supervised by Dr. Jon Brommer, University of Turku, Finland
- 15/05/2012-30/06/2012 **Scientific internship:** “Effect of glucocorticoids and environmental conditions on chick growth and output in Adélie penguins”. Supervised by Dr. Thierry Raclet, University of Strasbourg, France
- 1/10/2011-30/11/2011 **Scientific internship:** “Individual decision-making in road crossing pedestrians”. Supervised by Dr. Cédric Sueur, University of Strasbourg, France

Teaching

- 2017-2019 (spring) **Co-organizer** of the course “Introduction to programming in R and its application in studying ecology and evolution”, University of Turku, Finland
- 01/11/2017-15/12/2017 **Lecturer** for the course “Advanced evolutionary Biology 2”, University of Turku, Finland
- 01/09/2016-30/09/2016 **Evaluator** for MSc Thesis “Early weaning impacts personality and occurrence of stereotypic behavior in the domestic cat (*Felis catus*)” by Milla Ahola, University of Turku, Finland

Supervision

- 01/01/2018-30/06/2018 **Co-supervision of MSc student** Marc Gilles, University of Strasbourg. “Blue tits (*Cyanistes caeruleus*) and caterpillars in a boreal forest: focus on the impacts of early food conditions on nestling development, survival and personality”.
- 08/04/2015-10/10/2015 **Co-supervision of MSc student** Kees Schreven, University of Groningen. “The relation of personality with early life body mass in the Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*”.

Awards and funding:

- 2019 ○ 500€ Oikos Finland prize for the best PhD thesis in Ecology and Evolution 2017
- 2016 ○ 570€ travel grant from the doctoral program in Biology, Geography, and Geology to attend the ISBE conference in Exeter.
- 2015 ○ 3 years funded doctoral position (University of Turku Graduate School)
○ 2500€ for organizing AURA symposium 2016 (Foundation of the University of Turku)
- 2014 ○ 9894€ young researcher grant (Foundation of the University of Turku)
○ 3000€ for fieldwork expenses (Societas Pro fauna et Flora Fennica)
○ 4000€ for fieldwork expenses (Oskar Öflunds Stiftelse)

Scientific publications

I have (co) authored 10 articles including 7 as a first author, and co-authored of 1 book chapter (h-index=7, 136 citations, 22/10/2019, Google Scholar).

Peer-reviewed journal articles

10. **Class, B.**, Brommer, J.E., van Oers, K. (2019) Exploratory behavior undergoes genotype–age interactions in a wild bird. Ecology and Evolution, 9, 8987-8994.
9. **Class, B.**, Klueen, E., Brommer, J.E. (2019) Tail color signals performance in blue tit nestlings. Journal of Evolutionary Biology, 32, 913-920.
8. **Class, B.**, Brommer, J.E. (2018) Shared environmental effects bias phenotypic estimates of assortative mating in a wild bird. Biology Letters, 14, 20180106.
7. Brommer, J.E., **Class, B.** (2017) Phenotypic correlations capture between-individual correlations underlying behavioral syndromes. Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology, 71, 50.
6. **Class, B.**, Dingemanse, N.J., Araya-Ajoy, Y.G., Brommer, J.E. (2017) A statistical methodology for estimating assortative mating for phenotypic traits that are labile or measured with error. Methods in Ecology and Evolution, 38, 42–49.
5. **Class, B.**, Brommer, J.E. (2016) Senescence of personality in a wild bird. Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology, 70, 733-744.
4. Brommer, J.E., **Class, B.** (2015) The importance of genotype-by-age interactions for the development of repeatable behavior and correlated behaviors over lifetime. Frontiers in Zoology, 12, S2.
3. **Class, B.**, Brommer, J.E. (2015) A strong genetic correlation underlying a behavioural syndrome disappears during development because of genotype-age interactions. Proceedings of the Royal Society B, 282, 20142777.
2. **Class, B.**, Brommer, J.E., Klueen E. (2014) Evolutionary quantitative genetics of behavioral responses to handling in a wild passerine. Ecology and Evolution, 4, 427-440.
1. Sueur C., **Class B.**, Hamm C., Meyer X., Pelé M. (2013) Different risk thresholds in pedestrian road crossing behaviour: a comparison of French and Japanese approaches. Accident Analysis & Prevention, 58, 59-63.

Book chapter

Brommer, J.E., **Class, B.** (2017) Personality from the perspective of behavioral ecology. In: Vonk J., Weiss A., Kuczaj S. (eds) Personality in Nonhuman Animals. Springer, Cham

Conference contributions

Conference talks

- 28/08/2019 “Tail colour signals performance in blue tit nestlings”, EOU conference (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
- 20/08/2017 “How to estimate assortative mating for labile traits in the wild? “, EOU conference (Turku, Finland)
- 01/08/2016 “Senescence of personality in a wild bird”, ISBE Conference (Exeter, UK)
- 03/02/2016 “Senescence of personality in a wild bird”, Nordic Oikos Conference (Turku, Finland)
- 03/04/2014 “Evolutionary quantitative genetics of behavioral responses to handling in a wild passerine”, AURA symposium (Turku, Finland)

Invited talks

- 05/02/2019 “Evolutionary quantitative genetics of animal personality in the wild”, Oikos Finland Conference (Oulu, Finland)
- 03/07/2016 “How to estimate assortative mating for repeatable traits in the wild? “, Post-conference symposium “Statistical quantification of individual differences: educational and statistical approaches informing study design, analysis and inferences of multi-level behavioural data” (Exeter, UK)

Outreach activities

- 23/07/2018 **Invited talk:** “Animal personality in wild birds” at the crossover event “Our Festival/ Meidän festivaali” (Järvenpää, Finland)
- 19/10/2017 **Press release of PhD Thesis:**”Persoonallisuudella on väliä myös sinitiaiselle” on the Web page of the University of Turku:
<https://www.utu.fi/fi/Ajankohtaista/mediatiedotteet/vaitostiedotteet/Sivut/Persoonallisuudella-on-valia-my%C3%B6s-sinitiaiselle.aspx>

Organization of scientific events

- 19/08/2019- **Symposium organizer:** “Assortative mating for quantitative traits: mechanisms, estimation, and evolutionary consequences”, co-organized with prof. Niels Dingemanse, ESEB conference (Turku, Finland)
- 24/08/2019
- 18/08/2017- **Member of the organizing team**, EOU Conference (Turku, Finland)
- 22/08/2017
- 06/04/2016- **Chair of the organizing committee**, AURA symposium (Turku, Finland)
- 07/04/2016

Skills and other academic activities

Languages

French (mother tongue), English (fluent), Spanish (basic knowledge), German (basic knowledge), Finnish (notions)

Statistics and programming

- **R:** Simulations and power analyses, univariate and multivariate mixed models in asreml and other packages (contributing to the wiki: <https://github.com/JonBrommer/Multivariate-Mixed-Models-in-R/wiki>), pedigree reconstruction using microsatellite data with MasterBayes
- **ASReml:** univariate and multivariate animal models, random regressions
- **MARK:** capture-recapture models

Referee activity

I reviewed 15 manuscripts for Animal Behavior, Evolution, Journal of Animal Ecology, The Science of Nature, Journal of Evolutionary Biology, Oikos, Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology (<https://publons.com/researcher/1458196/barbara-class/>)

Fieldwork coordination

2014-2019: **Main coordinator for the monitoring of a population of wild blue tits** during six breeding seasons (01/05-21/06), Tammisaari, Finland (team of 3-4 persons)