

MESHACH A. PIERRE

CURRICULUM VITAE

2021-DEC-22

University of Florida

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EDUCATION

DEGREES

- 2023 **M.A. in Criminology, Law, and Society**, University of Florida (UF)
(anticipated) Department of Sociology and Criminology
Thesis: *"The conservation criminology of human-jaguar conflict in the
Rupununi region of Guyana: Risk, Tolerance, Guardianship,
and Stewardship"*
Certificate: Tropical Development and Conservation Program
- 2018 **P.G.Dip. in International Wildlife Conservation Practice**, University of Oxford (Oxon)
Department of Continuing Education
Institution: Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU)
Final project: *"Conflict with black caiman in the Rupununi region of Guyana"*
- 2014 **B.Sc. in Biology (General)**, University of Guyana (UoG)
Faculty of Natural Science
Minor: Chemistry
Thesis: *"Morphological variation of birds across the Iwokrama and Surama
forests, Guyana."*

Short Courses

- 2019-JAN **Qualitative Research Methods**; University of Guyana (UoG)'s Center for Biological
Diversity (CSBD), & University of Florida (UF)'s Tropical Conservation and
Development Program (TCD)
- 2014-JAN **Camera Traps: Tools for Conservation**; World Wildlife Fund-Guianas (WWF-
Guianas), Panthera, & Global Wildlife Conservation (GWC)

RESEARCH

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Conservation Criminology

Ecology and Conservation of Birds and Mammals

Environmental Sociology

Human Dimensions of Wildlife Management

Human-Wildlife Conflict and Co-existence

Sustainable Development

¹: Seasonal job from May/Jun-Aug (Summer) annually from 2014-2016, & 2019

GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND TRAINING

- FEB-2017 **Wildlife Division Grant (Government of Guyana).** “Quantifying conflict and assessing benefits of black caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*) in the North Rupununi, Guyana.” (\$5000 USD)
- MAR-2014 **Winston Cobb Memorial Fellowship (Panthera).** “Jaguar and prey response to logging and mining with an evaluation of human–jaguar conflict.” (\$10,000 USD)

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- MAY-2018 **Pierre M.** & Paemelaere E.A.D. 2018. *Scientific foundations and prioritization for wildlife management in the Rupununi region of Guyana.* **Conservation Colloquium**, WildCRU, Oxon, Oxford, UK. (Invited)
- APR-2018 **Pierre M.** 2018. *Guyana: An Overview of Environmental Research and Conservation.* **Global Canopy**, Oxford, UK. (Invited)
- FEB-2018 **Pierre M.** 2018. *Quantifying Conflict and Assessing Benefits of Black Caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*).* **Tropilunch**, Tropical Conservation and Development Program, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA.
- AUG-2016 **Pierre M.**, Paemelaere E., & Payán Garrido E. 2016. *Jaguar and their prey in a multi-extractive landscape in Guyana, South America.* Biodiversity Inventory and Decision Making Session, **IV International Congress on Biodiversity of the Guiana Shield**, Georgetown, Guyana.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- MAR-2018 **Pierre M.** & Paemelaere E.A.D. 2018. *Scientific foundations and prioritization for wildlife management in the Rupununi region of Guyana.* **Student Conference on Conservation Science**, Cambridge, UK
- MAR-2017 **Pierre M.**, Paemelaere E., & Payán Garrido E. 2017. *Jaguar and their prey in a multi-extractive landscape in Guyana, South America.* **Student Conference on Conservation Science**, Cambridge, UK

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

- Pierre M.A.**, Jacobsen K.S., Hallett M.T., Harris A.E.M., Melville A., Barnabas H., Sillero-Zubiri C. (Accepted: Major Revisions). *Drivers of human-black caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*) conflict in Indigenous communities in the North Rupununi wetlands, SW Guyana.* In Review: Conservation Science and Practice.
- Harris A.E., Maharaj G., Hallett M.T., **Pierre M.A.**, Chesney C., Melville A. (Accepted: Minor Revisions). *The influence of black caiman impacts on human attitudes in North Rupununi, Guyana.* In Review: Human Dimensions of Wildlife.
- Fisher J.C., Mistry J., **Pierre M.A.**, Yang H., Harris A., Hunte N., Fernandes D., Bicknell J.E., Davies Z.G. (2021). [*Using participatory video to share people’s experiences of neotropical urban green and blue spaces with decision-makers.*](#) The Geographical Journal **00**:1-15.

Pierre M.A., Ignacio L., Paemelaere E.A.D.P. (2020). [*Medium- and large-bodied terrestrial mammals of the Upper Berbice region of Guyana*](#). Check List 16(5): 1229-1237.

Johnson P., Adams V. M., [and 29 others, including **Pierre M.**] 2019. [*Consequences Matter: Compassion in Conservation Means Caring for Individuals, Populations and Species*](#). Animals 9(12): 1115.

Hayes W., Fisher J., **Pierre M.A.**, Bicknell J.E., Davies Z.G. 2019. [*Bird communities across varying landcover types in a Neotropical City*](#). Biotropica 00:1-14.

Milensky C. M., Robbins M. B., [and 5 others, including **Pierre M.**] 2016. [*Notes on Breeding Birds from the Guyana Highlands with New Records from a Recent Inventory of Mount Ayanganna*](#). Cotinga 38: 64–78.

PUBLICATIONS IN NON-PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

Pierre M., Ignacio L., Torres D., Torres E., and Paemelaere E.A.D. 2018. Large and medium mammals of the upper Berbice region, Guyana. In Alonso, L.E., J. Persaud, and A. Williams (Eds.). [*Biodiversity Assessment Survey of the Upper Berbice Region, Guyana*](#), pp. 100-113. WWF, Georgetown, Guyana.

Pierre M., Paemelaere E.A.D.P. 2017. *Wildlife Management Assessment Region 9: Upper Takatu–Upper Essequibo, Guyana*. Conservation International–Guyana. Georgetown, Guyana.

Snyder A., and **Pierre M.**, Gomes E., Noonan B. 2016. Amphibians and Reptiles of Kusad Mountain and the Parabara Region in the South Rupununi, Guyana. In Alonso, L.E., J. Persaud, and A. Williams (Eds.). [*Biodiversity Assessment Survey of the South Rupununi Savannah, Guyana. BAT Survey Report No. 1*](#). WWF-Guianas. Georgetown, Guyana.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Millar N., Hallett M., Lim B., **Pierre M.**, & Ignacio L. 2021. *Basic Guide to the Mammals of the Rupununi*. South Rupununi Conservation Society (SRCS). Wichabai, Rupununi, Guyana.

Pierre M., Earle E., Ignacio L., & de Frietas K. 2019. *Basic Guide to the Common Birds of the Rupununi: 2nd Ed.* South Rupununi Conservation Society (SRCS). Wichibai, Rupununi, Guyana

Pierre M., O’Shea B. 2018. [*The trade in seed-finches from the Guianas: Can a diaspora fuel an international trade?*](#). Trading Ideas. Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford. Oxford, UK.

Pierre M. 2018. [*Iwokrama, The Green Heart of Guyana: Where Images and Stories are Waiting to be Told*](#). Explore Guyana. Guyana Tourism Authority. Georgetown Guyana.

Pierre M. 2018. [*Guide to the Birds of Iwokrama*](#). Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and Development. Georgetown, Guyana.

Pierre M., Earle E., Ignacio L., de Frietas K. 2017. *Basic Guide to the Common Birds of the Rupununi*. South Rupununi Conservation Society (SRCS). Dadanawa, Guyana

TEACHING

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

OCT-2021	Guest lecture (11-Oct-2021) , GEO 3372: Conservation of Resources, Department of Geography, UF Title: <i>"Diversity and disability in conservation"</i>
OCT-2021	Guest lecture (1-Oct-2021) , CCJ 4934: Introduction to Conservation Criminology, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Law, UF Title: <i>"Conservation from the field"</i>
SEP-2021	Guest lecture (22-Sep-2021) , Caribbean School of Climate 2021, 350.org & Voices GY Title: <i>"Human-wildlife conflict, climate change, and community adaptation"</i>
FEB-2019 - NOV-2019	R Club , University of Guyana
OCT-2018 - MAR-2018	Volunteer Mentor , Wildlife Conservation Course, WildCRU, University of Oxford

PROFESSIONAL

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

AUG-2021 to DEC-2021	Graduate Assistant , Tropical Conservation and Development Program (TCD), Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida
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PAST PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

JAN-2021 - AUG-2021	Research Assistant , Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Law, University of Florida (UF) Data management, data analysis, scientific writing
SEP-2019 - AUG-2020	CL2 Biologist , Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Marine bird observation and monitoring, data collection
JUN-2014 - AUG-2019 ¹	Bird Scientist , Operation Wallacea Guyana, Operation Wallacea (Opwall) Mist netting, bird banding, data collection, teaching, remote field work
SEP-2018 - NOV-2018	Robinson Post-Panther Scholar , Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), University of Oxford Data analysis, publication development
OCT-2017	Consultant , Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Marine bird observation and monitoring, data collection
JUL-2017	Consultant , Conservation International-Guyana (CI-G) <i>"An Assessment of Wildlife Management within Region Nine."</i> Data collection, analysis, stakeholder engagement, reporting

¹: Seasonal job from May/Jun-Aug (Summer) annually from 2014-2016, & 2019

JUN-2017	Research Assistant , University of Kent (UoKent) “The urban habitat mosaic and the birds it supports: a Neotropical case study in Georgetown, Guyana.” Bird observation, data collection
FEB-2016	Field Research Coordinator Intern , Panthera Planning field logistics, data management, reporting
MAR-2015 -	Field Technician , Peperpot Bird Banding Project, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences Mist netting, bird banding, data collection
SEP-2014 - MAY-2015	Winston Cobb Fellow , Panthera Project: <i>“Jaguar and prey response to logging and mining with an evaluation of human-jaguar conflict.”</i> Research design, camera trapping, data collection, remote field work, reporting
OCT-2015	Large Mammal Scientist , World Wildlife Fund Guianas (WWF-Guianas), Biodiversity Assessment Team: Berbice Expedition Camera trapping, data management, data analysis, research design, reporting
MAR-2014	Research Assistant , Smithsonian Institute, Bird Division Expedition to Mt. Ayanganna Data collection, mist netting, museum specimen preparation, remote field work
DEC-2013 - JUN-2014	Internship , Protected Areas Commission (PAC), Government of Guyana (GoG) Data management, reporting
DEC-2013	Research Assistant , Panthera Data entry, data management
OCT-2013	Research Assistant , World Wildlife Fund Guianas (WWF-Guianas) Biodiversity Assessment Team: South Rupununi Expedition Amphibian and reptile capture, data collection, reporting

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

NOV-2021	Outstanding Post-Graduate International Student Award 2021 , University of Florida International Center (UFIC), University of Florida (\$1500 USD)
APR-2020	Research Assistantship , Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Law, University of Florida (\$20,000 USD/Year)
APR-2019	Tropical Conservation and Development Program (TCD) Graduate Assistantship , TCD, University of Florida (\$20,000 USD/Year)
SEP-2018	Robinson Post-Panther Fellowship , WildCRU, University of Oxford (\$3000 USD)
APR-2014	Winston Cobb Memorial Fellowship , Panthera (\$10,000 USD)
FEB-2018	Recanati-Kaplan Foundation Scholarship , WildCRU, University of Oxford (\$23,000 USD)

SKILLS & REFERENCES

SKILLS AND SOFTWARE

Remote Field Research: Field and survival skills, including: camp building, management, logistics, and planning

Ecological Techniques: Camera trapping, bird banding, point counts, and transect surveys

Sociological Techniques: Survey design, semi-structured interviews, key informant interviews, participatory video

Statistical Techniques: Reproducible multivariate statistics (Eg: linear regression, occupancy modelling)

Data Collection and Management: Reproducible data cleaning and manipulation, metadata writing

Photography: Photography featured in magazines, news articles and two local exhibitions

Filming and Video Editing: Produced short documentaries and educational videos

Software:

R (Proficient; Package egs: <i>tidyverse</i> , <i>ordinal</i> , <i>performance</i> , <i>MASS</i> , <i>sjmisc</i> , and many others)	EstimateS (Intermediate)	Presence (Proficient)
	Garmin BaseCamp (Proficient)	Adobe Creative Suite (Intermediate; Packages: <i>Photoshop</i> , <i>Lightroom</i> , <i>InDesign</i> , <i>Illustrator</i> , <i>Premiere Pro</i>)
Stata (Intermediate)	QGIS (Intermediate)	
Python (Basic)	MS Office (Proficient; Packages: <i>Word</i> , <i>Excel</i> , <i>OneNote</i> , <i>Access</i> , <i>Powerpoint</i>)	
Capture (Intermediate)		
Distance (Intermediate)	OpenRefine (Intermediate)	

LANGUAGES

English: Fluent (Native; Reading, Writing, and Speaking)

Spanish: Intermediate (Reading, Writing, and Speaking)

French: Basic (Reading, Writing, and Speaking)

Makushi: Basic (Speaking)

Wapichan: Basic (Speaking)

REFERENCES

- Dr. Jessica Kahler – **Assistant Professor**, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Florida, jkahler@ufl.edu
- Dr. Matthew Hallett – **Assistant Research Professor**, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida, mhallett2320@ufl.edu
- Dr. Egil Droge – **Course Coordinator and Lead Tutor**, Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU) Postgraduate Diploma Program, University of Oxford, egil.droge@zoo.ox.ac.uk

FEATURES IN THE MEDIA

Jonteau C. 2021. [Young Conservation Biologist Becomes Mental Health Advocate](#). **Unstoppable Yes You**. Online.

Stabroek News. 2017. [*Q&A: Meshach Andres Pierre*](#). Writer's Room, **Stabroek News**. 2020-Jan-26. Print and Online

Various Contributors. 2017. [*25 Caribbean achievers under 25*](#). **Caribbean Beat**. May/June 2017. Print and Online.

Lall M. 2017. [*Chance encounter led Meshach Pierre to conservation biology*](#). **Stabroek News**. 26 February 2017. Print and Online.