

MESHACH A. PIERRE

CURRICULUM VITAE

2022-FEB

Interdisciplinary conservation scientist, photographer, writer, and advocate

Research interests listed below

See website for more details

<https://meshachpierre.com>

University of Florida

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Gainesville, FL 32611-7330,
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60 Atlantic Ville
Georgetown,
Guyana,
South America

EDUCATION

DEGREES

-
- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 2023
(anticipated) | M.A. in Criminology, Law, and Society , University of Florida (UF)
Department of Sociology and Criminology
Thesis: <i>"The conservation criminology of human-jaguar conflict in the Rupununi region of Guyana: Risk, Tolerance, Guardianship, and Stewardship"</i>
Certificate: <i>Tropical Conservation and Development Program (TCD)</i> |
| 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: <i>"Conflict with black caiman in the Rupununi region of Guyana"</i> |
| 2014 | B.Sc. in Biology (General) , University of Guyana (UoG)
Faculty of Natural Science
Minor: Chemistry
Thesis: <i>"Morphological variation of birds across the Iwokrama and Surama forests, Guyana."</i> |

Short Courses (with certificates)

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| 2021-DEC | Understanding Research Methods ; University of London via Coursera [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/66ZP53XGMY63] |
| 2020-MAR | Programming for Everybody (Getting Started with Python) ; California Institute of the Art via Coursera [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/388E2ESEQPX3] |

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)
2017-FEB	Ideas from the History of Graphic Design; California Institute of the Art via Coursera [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/H4C2E23RCPHG]
2016-JUN	Fundamentals of Graphic Design; California Institute of the Art via Coursera [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/H6TKDDRNBJHS]
2016-JUN	Cameras, Exposure, and Photography; Michigan State University via Coursera [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/FSXMZ3F6F2G8]
2016-JUN	Introduction to Iimagemaking; California Institute of the Art via Coursera [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/2EARV3T34AYQ]
2016-JUN	Introduction to Typography; California Institute of the Art via Coursera [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/V3Z2C4WB8XD3]
2014-JAN	Camera Traps: Tools for Conservation; World Wildlife Fund-Guianas (WWF-Guianas), Panthera, & Global Wildlife Conservation (GWC)

RESEARCH

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Conservation Criminology	Human Dimensions of Wildlife Management
Ecology and Conservation of Birds and Mammals	Human-Wildlife Conflict and Co-existence
Environmental Sociology	Sustainable Development

GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND TRAINING

FEB-2017	Wildlife Division Grant (Government of Guyana). <i>"Quantifying conflict and assessing benefits of black caiman (Melanosuchus niger) in the North Rupununi, Guyana."</i> (\$5000 USD) Collaborators: Dr. Matthew Hallett, Caiman House
MAR-2014	Winston Cobb Memorial Fellowship (Panthera). <i>"Jaguar and prey response to logging and mining with an evaluation of human-jaguar conflict."</i> (\$10,000 USD)

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

MAY-2018	Pierre M. & Paemelaere E.A.D. 2018. <i>Scientific foundations and prioritization for wildlife management in the Rupununi region of Guyana.</i> Conservation Colloquium , WildCRU, Oxon, Oxford, UK. [Invited]
APR-2018	Pierre M. 2018. <i>Guyana: An Overview of Environmental Research and Conservation.</i> Global Canopy , Oxford, UK. [Invited]
FEB-2018	Pierre M. 2018. <i>Quantifying Conflict and Assessing Benefits of Black Caiman (Melanosuchus niger).</i> Tropilunch , Tropical Conservation and Development Program, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA.

- APR-2018 **Pierre M.** 2018. *Guyana: An Overview of Environmental Research and Conservation*. **Global Canopy**, Oxford, UK. [Invited]
- MAR-2017 Paemelaere E.A.D., Fernandes D., Ignacio L, Johnny A. 2017. *Medium & Large Mammals of the Southern Rupununi*. Presentation of the Results of the WWF Biodiversity Assessment Team South Rupununi Expedition, **World Wildlife Fund-Guianas**, Georgetown, Guyana. [Presented on behalf of Paemelaere E.A.D.]
- MAR-2017 **Pierre M.** 2017. *Habitat Types of the South Rupununi*. Presentation of the Results of the WWF Biodiversity Assessment Team South Rupununi Expedition, **World Wildlife Fund-Guianas**, Georgetown, Guyana. [Invited]
- 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.
- MAY-2014 **Pierre M.** 2014. *The Scientific Method*. The Knowledge Underground, **The Consultancy Group (TCG)**, Georgetown, Guyana. [Invited]

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

IN PREPARATION

- Pierre M.A.**, McHugh S.M., Paemelaere E.A.D. (In Prep) *Large mammals in a multi-extractive landscape in Guyana, South America*. Target Journal: *Oryx*

IN REVIEW

- 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. (2023). *The influence of diet overlap and nest-site aggression on conflict between black caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*) and fishermen of the North Rupununi, Guyana*. *Human Dimensions of Wildlife* **28(4)** [In Press]

- 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., Paeamelaere E.A.D. 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.

DATA AND CODE¹

[Data Publication] **Pierre M.A.**, Ignacio L., Paeamelaere E.A.D. (In Prep). [Dataset: Medium- and large-bodied terrestrial mammals of the Upper Berbice region of Guyana](#). Target Repository: Dryad

[Analytical Code] **Pierre M.A.**, Jacobsen K.S., Hallett M.T., Harris A.E.M., Melville A., Barnabas H., Sillero-Zubiri C. (In Prep). [Code: Drivers of human-black caiman \(*Melanosuchus niger*\) conflict in Indigenous communities in the North Rupununi wetlands, SW Guyana](#). Target Repository: Zenodo

[Data Publication] **Pierre M.A.**, Jacobsen K.S., Hallett M.T., Harris A.E.M., Melville A., Barnabas H., Sillero-Zubiri C. [Dataset: Drivers of human-black caiman \(*Melanosuchus niger*\) conflict in Indigenous communities in the North Rupununi wetlands, SW Guyana](#). Target Repository: Dryad

[Analytical Code] **Pierre M.A.**, Ignacio L., Paeamelaere E.A.D. (In Prep). [Code: Medium- and large-bodied terrestrial mammals of the Upper Berbice region of Guyana](#). Target Repository: Zenodo²

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.

Pierre M., Paemelaere E.A.D.P. 2015. *Jaguars and their prey in a multi-extractive landscape in Guyana, South America*. Panthera 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

¹ Data and code will be published alongside publications in online repositories along with exhaustive metadata in publicly available repositories.

² Data and code already available as Supplementary Material on publication. See online publication for available download.

(Eds.). [Biodiversity Assessment Survey of the South Rupununi Savannah, Guyana. BAT Survey Report No. 1](#). WWF-Guianas. Georgetown, Guyana.

Pierre M.A., McHugh S.M., Paemelaere E.A.D., Payan-G (In Prep) *Large mammals in a multi-extractive landscape in Guyana, South America*. Target Journal: Oryx

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Pierre M.A.. 2022. *Believing in Better*. [Voices of Academia](#). Online. [Scheduled: 2022-FEB-18]

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., and B.J. O'Shea. 2019. *Bird racing: Culture and conservation*. North Carolina Naturalist **27(1)**: 2-3.

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. [Additionally: 6 educational posters on birds of conservation concern in the Rupununi]

TEACHING

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

OCT-2021 **Guest lecture (11-Oct-2021)**, GEO 3372: Conservation of Resources, Department of Geography, UF
Title: "Diversity and disability in conservation"

OCT-2021 **Guest lecture (1-Oct-2021)**, CCJ 4934: Introduction to Conservation Criminology, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Law, UF
Title: "Conservation from the field"

SEP-2021 **Guest lecture (22-Sep-2021)**, Caribbean School of Climate 2021, 350.org & Voices GY
Title: "Human-wildlife conflict, climate change, and community adaptation"

FEB-2019 - **R Club**, University of Guyana
NOV-2019 *Introductory R using the tidyverse package for UG faculty and students*

JUN-2014 - **Bird Scientist**, Operation Wallacea Guyana, Operation Wallacea (Opwall)
 AUG-2019³ *Training research assistants in methods and ecological research background*

OCT-2018 - **Volunteer Mentor**, Wildlife Conservation Course, WildCRU, University of
 MAR-2018 Oxford
Statistics, data analysis with R, spatial analysis, and mapping with QGIS

PROFESSIONAL

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

JAN-2021 to **Scientific and Research Development Consultant**, South Rupununi Conservation
 PRESENT Society (SRCS)
Capacity development, scientific teaching, cross-institutional collaboration, research design, grant writing, data management, data analysis, scientific writing

PAST PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

AUG-2021 to **Graduate Assistant**, Tropical Conservation and Development Program (TCD),
 DEC-2021 Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida
Program support for the University of Florida TCD program

JAN-2021 - **Research Assistant**, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Law, University of
 AUG-2021 Florida (UF)
Data management, data analysis, scientific writing

SEP-2019 - **CL2 Biologist**, Environmental Resources Management (ERM)
 AUG-2020 *Marine bird observation and monitoring, data collection*

JUN-2014 - **Bird Scientist**, Operation Wallacea Guyana, Operation Wallacea (Opwall)
 AUG-2019⁴ *Mist netting, bird banding, data collection, teaching, remote field work*

SEP-2018 - **Robinson Post-Panther Scholar**, Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU),
 NOV-2018 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)
*"An Assessment of Wildlife Management within Region Nine."
 Data collection, analysis, stakeholder engagement, reporting*

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*

³ Seasonal field job from May/June-August 2014-2017, and 2019

⁴ Seasonal field job from May/June-August 2014-2017, and 2019

FEB-2016	Field Research Coordinator Intern , Panthera <i>Planning field logistics, data management, reporting</i>
MAR-2015 - APR-2016	Field Technician , Peperpot Bird Banding Project, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences <i>Mist netting, bird banding, data collection</i>
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> <i>Research design, camera trapping, data collection, remote field work, reporting</i>
OCT-2015	Large Mammal Scientist , World Wildlife Fund Guianas (WWF-Guianas), Biodiversity Assessment Team: Berbice Expedition <i>Camera trapping, data management, data analysis, research design, reporting</i>
MAR-2014	Research Assistant , Smithsonian Institute, Bird Division Expedition to Mt. Ayanganna <i>Data collection, mist netting, museum specimen preparation, remote field work</i>
DEC-2013 - JUN-2014	Internship , Protected Areas Commission (PAC), Government of Guyana (GoG) <i>Data management, reporting</i>
DEC-2013	Research Assistant , Panthera <i>Data entry, data management</i>
OCT-2013	Research Assistant , World Wildlife Fund Guianas (WWF-Guianas) Biodiversity Assessment Team: South Rupununi Expedition <i>Amphibian and reptile capture, data collection, reporting</i>

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)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2021 – PRESENT	Member , South Rupununi Conservation Society (SRCS)
2020 – PRESENT	Graduate Student Member , American Ornithological Society
2017 – PRESENT	Student Member , British Ecological Society (BES)

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 packages:

Capture (Intermediate)	Git (& GitHub): Intermediate	Vortex (Intermediate)
Distance (Intermediate)	MS Office (Proficient; Packages: <i>Word, Excel, OneNote, Access, Powerpoint</i>)	Adobe Creative Suite (Intermediate; Packages: <i>Photoshop, Lightroom, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere Pro</i>)
EstimateS (Intermediate)		
Garmin BaseCamp (Proficient)	OpenRefine (Intermediate)	
QGIS (Intermediate)	Presence (Proficient)	

Programming language fluency:

R (Proficient; Package egs: *tidyverse, ordinal, performance, MASS, sjMisc*, and many others)

Stata (Intermediate)

HTML (Intermediate)

Python (Basic)

LANGUAGES

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

Spanish: Intermediate (Reading, Writing, and Speaking)

French: Basic (Reading, Writing, and Speaking)

Makushi⁵: Basic (Speaking)

Wapichan⁶: Basic (Speaking)

REFERENCES

⁵ Indigenous Guyanese language

⁶ Indigenous Guyanese language

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 Drøge – **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.