

MESHACH A. PIERRE

CURRICULUM VITAE

2021-JAN

<https://meshachpierre.com>

University of Florida

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60 Atlantic Ville
Georgetown,
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South America

EDUCATION

DEGREES

- 2023
(anticipated) **M.A. in Criminology, Law, and Society**, University of Florida (UF)
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 (with certificates)

- 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 Imagemaking;** 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).** *"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 diet overlap and nest-site aggression on conflict between black caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*) and fishermen of the 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 Ayanqanna*](#). 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., 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: " <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 <i>Introductory R using the tidyverse package for UG faculty and students</i>
JUN-2014 - AUG-2019 ¹	Bird Scientist , Operation Wallacea Guyana, Operation Wallacea (Opwall) <i>Training research assistants in methods and ecological research background</i>

¹ Seasonal field job from May/June-August 2014-2017, and 2019

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, 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-2019² *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

FEB-2016 **Field Research Coordinator Intern**, Panthera
Planning field logistics, data management, reporting

² Seasonal field job from May/June-August 2014-2017, and 2019

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:

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)

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 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.