

# MESHACH A. PIERRE

## CURRICULUM VITAE

2021-DEC-24

[www.meshachpierre.com](http://www.meshachpierre.com)

### University of Florida

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60 Atlantic Ville

Georgetown,

Guyana,

South America

## EDUCATION

### DEGREES

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- 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 (with certificates)

- 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**

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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**

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- 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**

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* South Rupununi Conservation Society (SRCS). Wichabai, 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

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OCT-2021	<b>Guest lecture (11-Oct-2021)</b> , GEO 3372: Conservation of Resources, Department of Geography, UF Title: <i>"Diversity and disability in conservation"</i>
OCT-2021	<b>Guest lecture (1-Oct-2021)</b> , CCJ 4934: Introduction to Conservation Criminology, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Law, UF Title: <i>"Conservation from the field"</i>
SEP-2021	<b>Guest lecture (22-Sep-2021)</b> , Caribbean School of Climate 2021, 350.org & Voices GY Title: <i>"Human-wildlife conflict, climate change, and community adaptation"</i>
FEB-2019 - NOV-2019	<b>R Club</b> , University of Guyana [Introductory R using the tidyverse package for UG faculty and students]
JUN-2014 - AUG-2019 <sup>1</sup>	<b>Bird Scientist</b> , Operation Wallacea Guyana, Operation Wallacea (Opwall) [Training research assistants in methods and ecological research background]
OCT-2018 - MAR-2018	<b>Volunteer Mentor</b> , Wildlife Conservation Course, WildCRU, University of Oxford [Statistics, data analysis with R, spatial analysis, and mapping with QGIS]

## **PROFESSIONAL**

### **CURRENT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT**

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

### **PAST PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

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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-2019<sup>1</sup>    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

MAR-2015 -    **Field Technician**, Peperpot Bird Banding Project,  
North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences  
Mist netting, bird banding, data collection

SEP-2014 -    **Winston Cobb Fellow**, Panthera  
MAY-2015       Project: “*Jaguar and prey response to logging and mining with an evaluation of  
human-jaguar conflict.*”  
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

1: Seasonal job from May/June-August 2014, 2015, 2016, & 2019

MAR-2014	<b>Research Assistant</b> , Smithsonian Institute, Bird Division Expedition to Mt. Ayanganna Data collection, mist netting, museum specimen preparation, remote field work
DEC-2013 - JUN-2014	<b>Internship</b> , Protected Areas Commission (PAC), Government of Guyana (GoG) Data management, reporting
DEC-2013	<b>Research Assistant</b> , Panthera Data entry, data management
OCT-2013	<b>Research Assistant</b> , World Wildlife Fund Guianas (WWF-Guianas) Biodiversity Assessment Team: South Rupununi Expedition Amphibian and reptile capture, data collection, reporting

## **AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS**

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

## **SKILLS & REFERENCES**

### **SKILLS AND SOFTWARE**

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**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)	Stata (Intermediate)	Capture (Intermediate)
	Python (Basic)	Distance (Intermediate)

EstimateS (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> )
Garmin BaseCamp (Proficient)		
QGIS (Intermediate)	OpenRefine (Intermediate)	
	Presence (Proficient)	

## LANGUAGES

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

**Spanish:** Intermediate (Reading, Writing, and Speaking)

**French:** Basic (Reading, Writing, and Speaking)

## REFERENCES

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Dr. Jessica Kahler – **Assistant Professor**, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Florida, [jkahler@ufl.edu](mailto:jkahler@ufl.edu)

Dr. Matthew Hallett – **Assistant Research Professor**, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, University of Florida, [mhallett2320@ufl.edu](mailto: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](mailto:egil.droge@zoo.ox.ac.uk)

## FEATURES IN THE MEDIA

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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.