

MESHACH A. PIERRE

CURRICULUM VITAE

2023-JUL

Interdisciplinary conservation scientist

<https://meshachpierre.com>

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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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 Conservation and Development Program (TCD)
Note: Current professional accomplishments evaluated as "exceptional" (Academic year 2021-2022)
- 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"*
Note: Distinction
- 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)

- 2023-JUN **Graphic Design Specialization**; California Institute of Arts via Coursera
[verify at: <https://coursera.org/verify/specialization/TNBD46K77PNV>]

2021-DEC	Understanding Research Methods; University of London <i>via Coursera</i> [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify//66ZP53XGMY63]
2020-MAR	Programming for Everybody (Getting Started with Python); California Institute of the Art <i>via Coursera</i> [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)
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-Wildlife Conflict and Co-existence
Environmental Sociology	Sustainable Development
Quantitative Methods	Ecology and Conservation of Birds and Mammals

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	Abraham Y. & Pierre M. . 2022. <i>Scientific foundations and prioritization for wildlife management in the Rupununi region of Guyana.</i> Wildlife Friendly Tourism (WiFT) Manual Training , Visit Rupununi, Lethem, Rupununi, Guyana. [Workshop]
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. <i>Guyana: An Overview of Environmental Research and Conservation.</i> 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., O'Donnell H., Hallett M.T., Paemelaere E.A.D. (In Prep) *Large mammals in a multi-extractive landscape in Guyana, South America*. Target Journal: Oryx, Conservation Science and Practice, or Studies on Neotropical Fauna and Environment

PUBLISHED

- Sillero-Zubiri C., Ardiantiono, Caruso F., Eshete G., Sanjeewani N., **Pierre M.A.** (2023). [*From conflict to coexistence: Riding the challenges arising from an ever-expanding human-wildlife interface*](#). Oryx, **57(4)**, 409-410.
- Pierre M.A.**, Jacobsen K.S., Hallett M.T., Harris A.E.M., Melville A., Barnabas H., Sillero-Zubiri C. (2023). [*Drivers of human-black caiman \(Melanosuchus niger\) conflict in Indigenous communities in the North Rupununi wetlands, SW Guyana*](#). Conservation Science and Practice, **5(1)**. e12848 [Open Access]
- 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)** [Open Access]

- 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. 2020. [Medium- and large-bodied terrestrial mammals of the Upper Berbice region of Guyana](#). Check List 16(5): 1229-1237. [Open Access]
- 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. [Open Access]
- 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.
- 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 (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. [Indigenous knowledge, lands, and rights](#). Stabroek News. Print and Online. [Date Published: 2022-SEP-4; Republished From *Pierre M.A. (2022) in Guianensis (blog)*]
- Pierre M.A.**. 2022. *Believing in Better*. [Dragonfly Digital Diaries: Vol 18: June 2022](#). Online. [Date Published: 2022-JUL-3; Republished From *Pierre M.A. (2022) in Voices of Academia*]
- 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 EXPERIENCE³

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| 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> |
| OCT-2018 -
MAR-2018 | Volunteer Mentor , Wildlife Conservation Course, WildCRU, University of Oxford
<i>Statistics, data analysis with R, spatial analysis, and mapping with QGIS</i> |

PROFESSIONAL

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

³: Additionally, informal mentorship of University of Guyana, University of Guyana, and other students of a diverse array of backgrounds. Also, as capacity development is a core part of my current research and job, this has become integral to my career.

AUG-2023 to DEC-2023 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Department of Sociology, Criminology and Law,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Florida
Class preparation, office hours, grading

PAST PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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

FEB-2022 **Research Assistant**, Global Challenges Research Fellowship (GCRF),
Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) University of Kent, (UoKent)
Bird identification, data collection, and research support

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

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-2019² **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)
"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 - APR-2016 **Field Technician**, Peperpot Bird Banding Project,
North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
Mist netting, bird banding, data collection

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

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)

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

Programming language fluency:

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

Stata (Intermediate)

HTML (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

- Guyana Economic Development Trust. 2022. [Conservation in Guyana](#). **IG TV. Online**. Streaming Video.
- FAO and IUCN SSC HWCTF. 2022. [Reducing human-carnivore conflict through participatory research](#). **FAO**, Rome.
- 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.