

MESHACH A. PIERRE

CURRICULUM VITAE

2023-May

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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EDUCATION

DEGREES

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- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 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] |
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- 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

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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)
Collaborators: Dr. Matthew Hallett, Caiman House
- 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.

- 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 multiextractive 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 multiextractive 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 [In addition to publishing data and code in long-term repositories with permanent identifiers]

PUBLISHED

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*](#). In Review: Conservation Science and Practice, **5(1)**, e12848.

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)**

- 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 largebodied 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 largebodied 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.

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.

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 & Online. [Date published: 2022-SEP-4; Republished From Pierre M.A. (2022) in Guianensis (self-published blog)]

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

AUG-2023 - Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, Criminology and Law,
 DEC-2023 University of Florida
Teaching and grading for CCJ 4014: Criminological Theory

PAST PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

AUG-2021 - **Graduate Assistant**, Tropical Conservation and Development Program (TCD),
 DEC-2021 Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida
 JAN 2023- *Program support for the University of Florida TCD program*
 MAY 2023

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: “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</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- ¹	Outstanding Post-Graduate International Student Award 2021 , University of Florida International Center (UFIC), University of Florida (\$1500 USD)
APR- ²³	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 <i>Word, Excel, OneNote, Access,</i>	(Intermediate; Packages: <i>Photoshop, Lightroom, InDesign,</i>
EstimateS (Intermediate)	<i>Powerpoint)</i>	<i>Illustrator, Premiere Pro)</i>
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)

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.