

MESHACH A. PIERRE

CURRICULUM VITAE

2021-DEC

<https://meshachpierre.com>

University of Florida

Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law,
3219 Turlington Hall,
Gainesville, FL 32611-7330,
USA

Phone: +1 352 328 2116 [USA]

+592 641 4308 [Guyana; WhatsApp]

Email: mpierre2@ufl.edu

meshachpierre@gmail.com

Twitter: [@meshach_pierre](https://twitter.com/meshach_pierre)

60 Atlantic Ville
Georgetown,
Guyana,
South America

EDUCATION

DEGREES

- 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 <i>via Coursera</i> [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/FSXMZ3F6F2G8]
2016-JUN	Introduction to Imagemaking; California Institute of the Art <i>via Coursera</i> [verify at: https://coursera.org/verify/2EARV3T34AYQ]
2016-JUN	Introduction to Typography; California Institute of the Art <i>via Coursera</i> [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)
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.
AUG-2016	Pierre M. , Paemelaere E., & Payán Garrido E. 2016. <i>Jaguar and their prey in a multi-extractive landscape in Guyana, South America.</i> 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

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 [Introductory R using the tidyverse package for UG faculty and students]
JUN-2014 - AUG-2019 ¹	Bird Scientist , Operation Wallacea Guyana, Operation Wallacea (Opwall) [Training research assistants in methods and ecological research background]
OCT-2018 - MAR-2018	Volunteer Mentor , Wildlife Conservation Course, WildCRU, University of Oxford [Statistics, data analysis with R, spatial analysis, and mapping with QGIS]

PROFESSIONAL

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

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

PAST PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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-2019¹ 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	Research Assistant , Smithsonian Institute, Bird Division Expedition to Mt. Ayanganna Data collection, mist netting, museum specimen preparation, remote field work
DEC-2013 - JUN-2014	Internship , Protected Areas Commission (PAC), Government of Guyana (GoG) Data management, reporting
DEC-2013	Research Assistant , Panthera Data entry, data management
OCT-2013	Research Assistant , World Wildlife Fund Guianas (WWF-Guianas) Biodiversity Assessment Team: South Rupununi Expedition Amphibian and reptile capture, data collection, reporting

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:

R (Proficient; Package egs: <i>tidyverse</i> , <i>ordinal</i> , <i>performance</i> , <i>MASS</i> , <i>sjmisc</i> , and many others)	Stata (Intermediate) Python (Basic)	Capture (Intermediate) Distance (Intermediate)
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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

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 Droge – **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.