

MESHACH A. PIERRE

CURRICULUM VITAE

2023-AUG

Interdisciplinary conservation scientist

<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
60 Atlantic Ville Georgetown, Guyana, South America	Web of Science Researcher ID:	GNH-1595-2022	ORCID: 0000-0001-8055-9944

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)*
- 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

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 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)

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).** *"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

MAY-2018 Abraham Y. & Pierre M.. 2022. *Scientific foundations and prioritization for wildlife management in the Rupununi region of Guyana.* **Wildlife Friendly Tourism (WiFT) Manual Training**, Visit Rupununi, Lethem, Rupununi, Guyana. [Workshop]

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 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

Hayes W. M., O'Shea, B. J., **Pierre M.A.**, Wilson A., Bicknell J.E. (2023) Bird communities across different levels of human settlement: a comparative analysis from two northern Amazonian ecoregions. *Science of the Total Environment*. [Decision: Accepted]

Sillero-Zubiri C., Ardiantiono, Caruso F., Eshete G., Sanjeevani 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 Ayanangana](#). 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

- 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-2019¹ *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 to **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Department of Sociology, Criminology and Law,
DEC-2023 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Florida
Class preparation, office hours, grading

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.

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
- SEP-2014 - MAY-2015 **Winston Cobb Fellow**, Panthera
Project: "Jaguar and prey response to logging and mining with an evaluation of

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

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
- 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 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](#). **!G 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.

