

CURRICULUM VITAE

Stotra Chakrabarti, Ph.D.

Department of Biology

Macalester College

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BIO: Dr. Stotra Chakrabarti is an Assistant Professor of Animal Behavior and Wildlife Conservation at Macalester College in Minnesota, and holds Graduate Faculty Status in the Conservation Sciences Program at the University of Minnesota. A behavioral ecologist and conservation biologist by training, Chakrabarti's research bridges fundamental wildlife ecology and applied conservation, with a focus on large mammals, particularly carnivores. He also investigates the ecological factors shaping human-nature relationships across diverse cultures and landscapes. Chakrabarti is dedicated to fostering the next generation of inclusive ecologists and wildlife biologists through his research and teaching programs, and his roles in the Animal Behavior Collective and the Diversity Committee of the Animal Behavior Society. He mentors both undergraduate and graduate students and provides training for forest managers and policymakers. He currently teaches courses in Animal Behavior, Wildlife Conservation, and Wildlife Monitoring within a liberal arts setting. He mentors graduate students in his program via his Faculty status in the Conservation Science program at the University of Minnesota. Chakrabarti's curiosity in the natural world began with a childhood spent watching wild leopards and elephants in the vicinity of where he grew up: the foothills of Himalayas in India. Subsequently, an immersive and rigorous graduate program at the Wildlife Institute of India cemented his interest in animal behavior and conservation biology.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Wildlife Science (Discipline: Animal Behavior)	Forest Research Institute University, India	2014 - 2018
M.Sc. Wildlife Science (1 st class, University 2 nd rank)	Wildlife Institute of India	2011 - 2013
B.Sc. Zoology (Honors), Botany	Presidency College, Kolkata, India	2007 - 2011

THESIS

Ph.D. Title: *Sociality in Asiatic Lions*. Advisor: [Prof. YV Jhala](#), Thesis Available at: [link](#)

M.S. Title: *Computing Biomass Consumption from Scats of Tropical Felids*. **Awarded best dissertation.** Advisor: [Prof. YV Jhala](#), Thesis Available at: [link](#)

APPOINTMENT & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor	Macalester College, MN, USA	2023 -
Graduate Faculty, Conservation Sciences Program	University of Minnesota Twin Cities, USA	2024 - 2028
Visiting Faculty	Macalester College, USA	2021 - 2023
Postdoctoral Research Associate (advisor: Prof. Joseph K. Bump)	Dept. of FWCB, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, USA	2019 - 2021
Project Scientist (Human-Wildlife Conflict Expert)	Wildlife Institute of India & Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH	2018 - 2019
Senior Research Fellow	Wildlife Institute of India	2016 - 2018
Junior Research Fellow	Wildlife Institute of India	2013 - 2016

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLISHED & IN PRESS PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

* Equal Contributing First Author; † Corresponding Author; Undergraduate Student Co-Author

2025

19. Binder W, Rabe J, Scott G, Lowe Z, Lacey C, King E, Stahler D, & **Chakrabarti S**. Species-specific interactions with apex carnivores yield unique benefits and burdens for mesocarnivores (*in press*) **Journal of Ecology**. Preprint: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.08.17.608414>

18. **Chakrabarti S**†, Finerty GE, Borrego N, Marella VNSN, Bump JK, & Crofoot MC. Beyond The Serengeti Lion: Addressing ecological and systemic biases in behavioural research through horizontal comparison (*in press*) **Animal Behaviour**

2024

17. Green A†, **Chakrabarti S**†, Shivakumar S, Hughes C, Banerjee S, Kinyanjui M, Mbizah M, Ohren O, Abigail T. Creating constellations of coexistence through connections between people in human-wildlife conflict areas. **Conservation Biology** <https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.14402> [Special Issue: *Diverse Voices in Conservation*]

16. Gogoi K, Banerjee K, **Chakrabarti S**, Sing AP, Jhala YV. Decoding the Enigma of Human-Lion Coexistence in India. **Conservation Biology** <https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.14420>

15. King E*, **Chakrabarti S**†, Lala F, Nyaga S, Waiguchu G, Chiyo P, Kimaile J, Moller R, Omondi P, Morris A, Bump JK. 2024. The Lion's Share: Implications of a carnivore's diet on threatened herbivores in Tsavo, Kenya. **Oryx** doi.org/10.1017/S0030605324000085

2023

14. **Chakrabarti S**†, Banerjee K, Jhala YV. 2023. Role of Food & Mates in Shaping Asiatic Lion Societies in *Social strategies of carnivorous mammalian predators: Hunting and Surviving as Families* eds. M Srinivasan & B Würsig **Springer Nature Publishers** [Invited Book Chapter] https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-29803-5_3

13. Candler E, **Chakrabarti S**, Severud W, Bump JK. 2023. Eat or Be Eaten: Implications of potential exploitative competition between wolves and humans across predator-savvy and naïve prey populations. **Ecology & Evolution** <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.10694>

12. Morris A, Smith I, **Chakrabarti S**†, Lala F, Nyaga S, Bump JK. 2023. Eating an Elephant, One Bite at a Time: Predator interactions at Carrion Bonanzas. **Journal Food Webs** <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fooweb.2023.e00304>

11. Srivathsa A, Vasudev D, Nair T, **Chakrabarti S**, Chanchani P, DeFries R, Deomurari A, Dutta S, Ghose D, Goswami VR, Nayak R, Neelakantan A, Thatte P, Viadyanathan S, Verma M, Krishnaswamy J, Sankaran M, Ramakrishnan U. 2023. Prioritizing India's landscapes for biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being. **Nature Sustainability** <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-023-01063-2>

10. **Chakrabarti S**†, Wikenros C, Borg B, Jhala YV, Bump J. 2023. Editorial: New Century Wolf Conservation & Conflict Management. **Frontiers in Ecology & Evolution** <https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2023.1174661>

2022

9. Bump J, Gable T, Johnson-Bice S, Homkes A, Freund D, Windels S, **Chakrabarti S**. 2022. Predator personalities alter ecosystem services. **Frontiers in Ecology & the Environment, ESA** <https://doi.org/10.1002/fee.2512>

8. **Chakrabarti S**†, O'neil ST, Erb J, Humphal C, Bump JK. 2022. Recent Trends in Survival and Mortality of Wolves in Minnesota, United States. **Frontiers in Ecology & Evolution** [doi: 10.3389/fevo.2022.826358](https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2022.826358)

Before 2022

7. **Chakrabarti S**†, Bump JK, Jhala YV, Packer C. 2021. Contrasting levels of *social distancing* between the sexes in lions. **iScience, Cell Press** <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2021.102406>

6. **Chakrabarti S**†, Kolipakam V, Bump JK, Jhala YV. 2020. The role of kinship and demography in shaping cooperation amongst male lions. **Scientific Reports** <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-74247-x>

5. Mittal D*, **Chakrabarti S**†, Khambda SB, Bump JK. 2020. Spots and manes: the curious case of foster care between two competing felids. **Ecosphere** <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.3047>

4. Jhala YV, Banerjee K, **Chakrabarti S**, Basu P, Singh K, Dave C, Gogoi K. 2019. Asiatic lion: Ecology, Economics and Politics of Conservation. **Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution** <https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2019.00312>

3. **Chakrabarti S**, Jhala YV. 2019. Battle of the Sexes: a multi-male mating strategy helps lionesses win the gender war of fitness. **Behavioral Ecology** <https://doi.org/10.1093/beheco/arz048> [Cover Article]

2. **Chakrabarti S**, Jhala YV. 2017. Selfish Partners: resource partitioning in male coalitions of Asiatic lions. **Behavioral Ecology** <https://doi.org/10.1093/beheco/arx118>.

1. **Chakrabarti S**, Jhala YV, Dutta S, Qureshi Q, Kadivar RF, Rana VJ. 2016. Adding constraints to predation through allometric relation of scats to consumption. *Journal of Animal Ecology* <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.12508> [Cover Article]

IN REVIEW/REVISION

1. Moor DD, **Chakrabarti S***, Silva D,..... & Graham KE. The Animal Behaviour Collective: building confidence and breaking barriers through community. **In revision: Animal Behaviour**
2. Heydinger JM, de Souza N; Jansson I; Beukes M; Otto Beukes B; **Chakrabarti S**; Muzuma U; Beasley JC. Whisker spots are near-unique within African lion populations; a simple score enables reliable field identification. **In Review: Global Ecology & Conservation**

MANUSCRIPTS/RESEARCH IN PREPARATION

(only includes research with a manuscript draft ready to share and/or available conference abstract)

1. Non-consumptive Predation Effect of Wolves on Beavers. **Target Journal: Peer J**. Research comprising of undergraduate co-authors in Chakrabarti's lab and a collaboration with the Voyageurs Wolf Project. **Chakrabarti is one of the senior and co-first authors.**
2. Demography and cause-specific mortality of lions in Tsavo. **Target Journal: African Journal of Ecology**. Research exploring demographic trends and mortality of lions in the Tsavo landscape of Kenya. Co-authors from WRTI, Kenya and University of Minnesota. **Chakrabarti is one of the organizing and senior authors.**
3. Benefits of Carnivores to Human Societies across Socio-Political Ecotypes. **Target Journal: Biological Conservation**. Synthesis article with Chinmay Sonawane (Stanford University), Christine Wilkinson (UC Berkley), and Debashish Panda (WWF India). **Chakrabarti is the organizing and lead author.**

POPULAR SCIENCE ARTICLES

12. **Chakrabarti S**, King E, Bump J, Lala F. 2025. [What's on the menu for Tsavo lions, and what does it mean for the conservation of their prey?](#) Current Conservation.
11. Krishnaswamy J, **Chakrabarti S**, Srivathsa A, Ramkrishnan U. 2023. [Reconciling biodiversity and human well-being in a mega-diverse and crowded country](#). Earth & Environment, Springer Nature research Communities.
10. **Chakrabarti S**. 2022 [Why there is hope for the cheetah in India?](#) Invited Op-Ed for The Indian Express.
9. **Chakrabarti S**. 2021. [Social distancing: a journey to understand manes and myself](#). Ecological Society of America (Section Early Career Ecologist Blog).
8. **Chakrabarti S**. 2020. The Tawny Alliance. *SAEVUS*, Issue Dec 19 - Feb 2020. Can be accessed [here](#)
7. **Chakrabarti S**. 2019. A cat out of the bag: lions in a human landscape. Hornbill, Bombay Natural History Society, April-June 2019. Can be accessed [here](#)
6. **Chakrabarti S**, Dutt A, Sadhu A, Mathur VB. 2018. Campus Canines: managing stray dogs in WII campus. *SAEVUS*. Vol 7 Issue 4; Dec 18 – Feb 19. Can be accessed [here](#)
5. **Chakrabarti S**. 2018. Tailing the last lions of Asia. *Science Outside, American Blog of Science*. Can be accessed [here](#)
4. **Chakrabarti S**. 2018. Of Men & Manes. *SAEVUS*, Vol 7 Issue 1, March-May 2018. Can be accessed [here](#)
3. **Research Advisor** to Saving Asia's Pride: Cover Story of *SAEVUS*, Vol 8 Issue 1, June-Aug 2018
2. **Chakrabarti S**. 2017. Belling the cat: using telemetry to study lions in people's backyards. *Sanctuary Asia*, Vol. XXXVII No.12 December Issue. Can be accessed [here](#)
1. **Chakrabarti S**. 2011. A walk on the wild side. *WII Newsletter* 18(3) (pp) 2. Wildlife Institute of India.

RESEARCH GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

*Indicates a grant where Dr. Chakrabarti was not an official PI due to graduate student status and/or institutional restrictions, but was a major contributor in project design, development, writing, and implementation

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|------------|---|
| 2025-2028 | The role of resources and competition in shaping fine-scale territorial and fission-fusion dynamics in a non-model population of a model species, NSF USA (BRC-BIO), PI – Stotra Chakrabarti (\$495,830) |
| 2024-2025 | First investigations into spatial distribution, density, and conservation threats for Tanzania's mangrove lions, Funded by Lion Recovery Fund, PI – Stotra Chakrabarti (External Grant, \$36,000) |
| 2024-2025 | Wallace Grant to Initiate “Fission-Fusion in Tsavo lions”, PI – Stotra Chakrabarti (Macalester Internal Competitive Grant, \$4500) |
| 2023-2024 | Wallace Grant to Initiate “Lion Density Assessment in Saadani NP, Tanzania”, PI – Stotra Chakrabarti (Macalester Internal Competitive Grant, \$4000) |
| 2021-2023 | Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities (IASH) and Council for Higher Education Excellence Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$100,500; offer declined) |
| 2019-2021 | NSF supported Postdoctoral Position, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (\$96,848) |
| 2018-2021* | Asiatic lion Ecology, Behavior and Conservation. <i>Funding Agency: MoEFCC, India (\$85,590)</i> [PI: YV Jhala] |
| 2018-2019 | Sandwich Doctoral Fellowship Grant , Bar Ilan University, Israel (\$25,000; offer declined) |

- 2018-2020* Understanding Lion-human conflict and mapping lion corridors and refuge patches in Gujarat. *Project funded by: Gujarat Forest Department (\$61,120) [PI: YV Jhala]*
- 2013-2018 Research Fellowship, Department of Science & Technology, India (affiliating institution: Wildlife Institute of India) **(\$17,000)**
- 2011-2013 Wildlife Institute of India's full scholarship for Master's course in Wildlife Science, **merit-based national scholarship awarded to 4 individuals out of a pool of ~500 applicants (\$3800)**

PENDING GRANTS (IN REVIEW)

- 2026-2027 *Freshwater Dynamics and Biodiversity Resilience in the Face of Climate Change: Safeguarding Lions in a Vulnerable Coastal Ecosystem*, **submitted to Wildlife Adaptation Innovation Fund, WWF (requested amount: \$27,750)**
- 2026-2027 *Stuck with the Blunt End: Identifying and Mitigating Hotspots of Power Line Mortality for Birds and Raptors in an Important Bird Area of Kenya*, **submitted to WWF Kenya (requested amount: \$8,000)**

COMPETITIVE TRAVEL AND SOCIETY MEETING GRANTS

- 2023 **Career Diversity Travel Grant, Animal Behavior Society**, awarded to Early Career Professionals to present at the Annual Meeting of the ABS, Portland USA, based on review of abstract and career trajectory [\$1000]
- 2023 **Early Career Professional Grant, American Society of Mammalogists**, awarded to early career members who are making notable contributions to the study and conservation of mammals, to Present at the 13th International Mammalogy Congress, Alaska; [\$1500]
- 2018 **Travel Grant, International Society for Behavioral Ecology (ISBE)**, to present at the ISBE Congress 2018, Minneapolis, USA [\$2300]
- 2017 **Department of Science & Technology, India Grant** to attend and present at Ecology Across Borders, British Ecological Society Meeting, Ghent, Belgium. National Level grant to support conference participation of graduate students and researchers (\$2500)
- 2017 **Travel Grant & Workshop Bursary; Student Conference in Conservation Science**, Cambridge, UK (\$850)

RESEARCH SEMINARS, PLENARIES, & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

KEYNOTE PLENARY

- 2023 "Behavior & Conservation of the Last Lions of Asia", Keynote Plenary, **37th Congress of the International Council of Ethologists** (Behavior Congress, Bielefeld, Germany) schedule - [Behaviour 2023, Bielefeld, Germany](#)

INVITED SEMINARS (23 seminars)

- 2025 "Understanding Lion Societies: The Role of Comparative Research", **Invited Speaker**, Symposium: Unlocking Comparative Research in Animal Social Behaviour, **XXXVIII Ethological Congress, Behaviour 2025**. Link to Symposia information [here](#)
- 2025 "Horizontal Comparisons in *Model System* Research: Insights from Lion Behavior & Conservation", **EECB Seminar Series**, Dept. Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Sciences, **Oregon State University**. [Talk Recording Link](#)
- 2024 "[Understanding Lion Societies: The Role of Comparative Research](#)", Life Science Hour Seminar Series, **University of Alaska Fairbanks, USA** [presentation recording [here](#)]
- 2024 "[Eat, Prey, Love: Role of Food & Mates in Shaping Lion Societies](#)", **Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior, Institute Seminar, Konstanz, Germany**
- 2024 "[Role of Food & Mates in Shaping Lion Societies](#)", **Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) Mohali, India**
- 2023 "Behavior & Conservation of the Last Lions of Asia", **Department of Biological Sciences Seminar Series, University of Chester, UK**
- 2023 "Land, Lions & Livestock", Biology Department Seminar Series, **Hamline University, MN, USA**
- 2023 "Selfish Partners or Comrades in Arms? Proximate & ultimate mechanisms governing male coalitions in Asian lions", Biology Department Spring Seminar Series, **University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, USA**
- 2022 "Lying King: an evolutionary take on lion socio-biology", **Nottingham Trent University Seminar Series, UK**
- 2022 "Animal Behavior & Conservation: the role of populations & individuals", **Wildlife Institute of India, India**
- 2022 "Animal Behavior & Conservation: the role of populations & individuals", **National Center for Biological Sciences, Bangalore, India**
- 2022 "Animal Behavior & Conservation: the role of populations & individual", **Center for Ecological Studies, Indian Institute of Science, India**

- 2022 “When the lion goes to the clinic: Implications of long-term monitoring on health surveillance of Asian lions”, **Ecosystem Health Seminar Series, Departments of Veterinary Population Medicine and Ecology, Evolution & Behavior, University of Minnesota**
- 2022 “Lion Coalitionary Dynamics: Mechanisms and Processes”, to the Social Evolution & Behavior Lab (PI: Prof. Nichola Raihani), **University College London**
- 2021 Facebook Live seminar: “Global Perspectives in Wildlife Conservation: Lessons from India” for Endangered Species Day, organized by **CAMPA Project, Wildlife Institute of India**
- 2021 “Social Distancing in Lions: reasons and outcomes of sexual segregation in a group living carnivore”, **Behavior, Ecology, Physiology Seminar Series at Bangor University** [presentation available [here](#)]
- 2020 “Male Coalitionary Behavior in Lions; Mechanisms and Processes”, **EEB Seminar Series, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, University of Minnesota**
- 2020 “Global Perspectives in Wildlife Conservation: Importance of Ecotourism” **Living Earth Team, India**. Webinar available [here](#)
- 2019 “Carnivore Social Behavior & Applied Conservation”, **International Wolf Center, Ely, Minnesota, USA**
- 2018 “Carnivores in an Ecosystem: The Gir Experience”, **Conservation Science Seminar Series, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota**
- 2018 “Asiatic Lion Sociality & Conservation: a fundamental & applied approach”, **International Wolf Centre, Minnesota, USA**
- 2017 “Asian Lion Sociality & their Interactions with Humans”, **Zoological Society of London Seminar Series, UK**
- 2015 “20 years of lion research in Gir”, Workshop on **Golden Jubilee Celebration of Gir National Park, Gujarat, India**

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (20 presentations, 6 best presentation awards)

(*Best Presentation Award)

- 2024 Oral presentation: “Building Bridges from Boxes: the role of under-studied populations in expanding the horizons of animal behaviour”, **ASAB Winter Meeting, Edinburgh, Scotland**. Link to abstract book [here](#)
- 2023 Oral Presentation, “Social Distancing in Lions”, **International Mammalogical Congress, American Society of Mammologists, Alaska, USA**
- 2023 Oral Presentation, “Social Distancing in Lions”, **Animal Behavior Society Conference, Portland, USA**
- 2022 Oral Presentation: “Social Distancing in Lions”, **Animal Behavior Live Online Conference, 2022**
- 2022 Oral Presentation: “Recent Trends in Survival & Mortality of Wolves in Minnesota”, **International Wolf Symposium, Minnesota, USA**
- 2022 Oral Presentation: “Social Distancing in Lions: reasons and outcomes of sexual segregation in a group-living carnivore”, **Animal Behavior Society Annual Conference 2022, Costa Rica**
- 2020 Oral Presentation: “Male Coalitionary Behavior in Lions”, **Association for Study of Animal Behavior (ASAB Virtual) Winter Meeting**.
- 2020 Oral Presentation: “Battle of the Sexes: Female Promiscuity in Asian lions”, **Ecological Society of America Annual Conference, USA**
- 2019* Oral Presentation: “Battle of the Sexes: Female Promiscuity in Asian lions”, **14th Ecology and Behavior Conference, Toulouse, France**.
- 2018 Oral Presentation: “Battle of the Sexes: implications of female promiscuity in Asian lions” **International Society for Behavioral Ecology Meeting, MN, USA**
- 2017 Oral Presentation: “Social Strategies in Asian Lions”, **British Ecological Society Annual Meeting: Ecology Across Borders, Ghent, Belgium**
- 2017 Oral Presentation: “The Last Stand: Finding a New Home for Asian Lions”, **Students’ Conference in Conservation Science, Cambridge, UK**
- 2017* Oral presentation: “Implications of Long-Term Monitoring of Lions for their Conservation”, **XXXI Annual Research Seminar, Wildlife Institute of India**
- 2017 Poster presentation “EAT PREY LOVE: Competition for food and mates shape sociality in Asiatic lions” selected, **Behavior 2017, IEC & ASAB Joint Meeting, Estoril, Portugal (unable to attend because of visa issues)**
- 2016* Oral presentation: “Social Strategies in Asian Lions”, **XXX Annual Research Seminar, Wildlife Institute of India**
- 2016 Oral Presentation: “Biomass Models for Tropical Felids & Redefined Conservation Implications”, **Young Ecologists Talk and Interact conference, New Delhi, India**
- 2015* Oral Presentation: “Lions in a Human Landscape: Insights and Implications for the Future”, **XI Internal Annual Research Seminar, Wildlife Institute of India**
- 2014* Oral presentation: “Will Lions Find a New Home: reintroduction potential of Asian lions”, **X Internal Annual Research Seminar, Wildlife Institute of India**
- 2013 Poster presentation: “Adding Costs to Predation by Relating Scats to Consumption”, **Students’ Conference in Conservation Science, Bangalore, India**
- 2013* Oral presentation: “Adding Costs to Predation by Relating Scats to Consumption”, **XXVII Annual Research Seminar, Wildlife Institute of India**

OTHER CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

- 2024 **Application Reviewer**, Career Diversity Award, 61st Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society, Canada
- 2023 **Session Chair**, Social Behavior 2 session, 60th Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society, Portland
- 2023 **Session Chair**, Behavior Session, 13th International Mammalogical Congress, Alaska
- 2023 **Session Chair**, Foraging & Movement Session, 2nd Animal Behavior Twitter Conference, Association for the Study of Animal Behavior
- 2022 **Moderator**, Session - Flexible Together: behavioral plasticity & sociality, Animal Behavior Society Annual Conference 2022, Costa Rica
- 2022 **Abstract Reviewer**, International Wolf Symposium, MN, USA
- 2021 **Session Chair**, Foraging Session, ASAB Global Twitter Conference (#AnimBehav2021)
- 2021 **Abstract Reviewer**, Ecological Society of America Meeting 2021

TEACHING

Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota, 2021-present

*(all courses below are new, self-designed courses unless mentioned otherwise) *In progress*

Instructor: BIOL/ENVI 380 - Animal Behavior: Fundamentals & Applications | Fall 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 | Upper-Division Undergraduate Course with Lab that dives into the study of animal behavior with an emphasis on evolutionary approaches on the basis of Tinbergen's 4 Questions | 4 Credits | *Typical class size: 15; course evals available on request | [Press](#)*

Instructor: BIOL/ENVI 385 - Wildlife Monitoring Techniques | Spring 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 | Upper-Division Undergraduate Course with Lab that explores the theory and practice of sampling individual and population level processes such as abundance, distribution, resource use, and behavior. Population estimation techniques, monitoring of demography, radio- and GPS-telemetry, observing individuals, and wildlife handling are the major topics covered in the course | 4 Credits | *Typical class size: 15; course evals available on request | [YouTube video by Mac Press featuring a lab in this course](#)*

Instructor: BIOL/ENVI 485 - Wildlife Conservation in the Anthropocene: An International Perspective | Fall 2021, 2022, 2024 | Upper-Division Undergraduate Seminar Course that explores global perspectives of biodiversity conservation and human-wildlife coexistence at the interface of species biology, colonial history, place- and context-dependent socio-political nuances, and the role of traditional ecological knowledge in shaping the path of biodiversity's past and future | *Concentration in Global Indigenous Studies (proposed) | 4 Credits | Typical class size: 15; course evals available on request*

Instructor: BIOL/ENVI 494 - Wildlife Disease Ecology | Spring 2022 | Upper-Division Undergraduate Seminar Course that explores the role of wildlife disease in ecology, behavior and conservation of wildlife species from a One-Health perspective | 4 Credits | *Typical class size: 15; course evals available on request*

Instructor: BIOL/ENVI 170 - Ecology and the Environment | Spring 2023, 2024, 2025* | Intro/Core Undergraduate Course with Lab provides student with a strong foundation of the fundamentals of ecology through the lenses of Species Interactions, Ecosystem Services, Environmental Justice, Climate Change, and Land Use Change | 4 Credits, required for Biology & Environmental Studies Majors | Course co-created with other Ecology Faculties | *Typical class size: 35; course evals available on request*

University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minnesota, 2019-2021

Module Instructor: Animal Behavior & Wildlife Management for Principles of Wildlife Management Course FW 4103 (001) | Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology | 3 Credits, Undergraduate Course | **Fall 2019, 2020 |** *Typical Class Size: 50*

Invited Resource Person: Graduate Level Field Course on Capture, Immobilization and Handling of Free-Ranging Vertebrates | **Spring 2020 |** FW 5625 | Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology | 2 Credits | *Typical Class Size: 15*

Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India, 2015-2019

Lead Instructor: Behavioral Ecology - theory & sampling | PhD Coursework | Wildlife Institute of India | 2019 | 16 graduate students

Instructor: Human-Wildlife Conflict Module | 2019 | Diploma Course in Wildlife Science for Indian Forest Service Officers/Managers | 32 Officers

Course Coordinator: Wildlife Science Course for MSc Forestry (Forest Research Institute University) | Graduate Course, 10 students

2017-2018: Guest Lectures on i) research design, ii) carnivore metabolism, and iii) optimal foraging theory and animal cognition for XVI MSc course in Wildlife Science at the Wildlife Institute of India (Graduate Course)

2015-2016: Guest Lectures on i) research design, ii) carnivore metabolism, and iii) optimal foraging theory and animal cognition for XV MSc course in Wildlife Science at the Wildlife Institute of India (Graduate Course).

INVITED TEACHING SEMINARS & PANELS (16 invited teaching lectures)

- 2025 Guest Lecture: “Proximate & Ultimate Drivers of Male Coalitions in Lions”, **Animal Behavior Course**, Department of Biological Sciences, **University of Pittsburg**, USA
- 2024 Guest Lecture “Behavioral Ecology of Lion Societies”, BIOL 490R: **Evolutionary Behavioral Ecology**, **Utah Valley University**, USA
- 2024 Guest Lecture “Mammal Behavior 101: *whys and hows* using Tinbergen’s 4 Questions”, **Mammalogy Course** WLF 425, **University of Alaska Fairbanks**, USA
- 2024 Guest Lecture “Asian Lions: Conservation Success and Complexities”, **Zoological Applications and Advances Course**, **Nottingham Trent University**, UK
- 2023 Guest Lecture “Competition and Alliance in Male Lions”, **Evolutionary Behavioral Ecology Course**, **Utah Valley University**, USA
- 2023 Guest Lecture “Behavioral Ecology & Conservation of Lions”, **Principles of Wildlife Management Course**, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology, **University of Minnesota**, USA
- 2023 Guest Lecture/Seminar: “Mating Systems in Lions”, **Animal Behavior Undergraduate Course**, **Aurora University**, IL, USA
- 2023 Guest Lecture/Seminar: “Conservation in the Anthropocene”, **Principles of Conservation Biology Undergraduate Course**, Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology Department, **University of Minnesota**, USA
- 2023 Guest Lecture: “Battle of the Sexes: Consequences of Female Promiscuity Asian Lions”, **Animal Behavior Undergraduate Course**, Department of Biological Sciences, **University of Pittsburg**, USA
- 2022 Panelist for ‘**Careers Panel for Principles of Wildlife Management**’ undergraduate and graduate course at **South Dakota State University**, USA
- 2022 Guest Seminar: “Wolf Predation & Human Interactions”, **Undergraduate Mammalogy Course**, **Michigan Tech University**, USA
- 2022 Guest Seminar: “Sexual Segregation and Plasticity in Mating Strategies” for **Undergraduate Ecology Course**, **Oxford Brookes University**, UK
- 2022 Guest Seminar: “Lion Sexual Segregation”, **Department of Biology**, **University of Northern British Columbia**, CA
- 2021 Guest Seminar: “Carnivore Conservation in the Anthropocene”, **Graduate Program in Wildlife Sciences**, **National Centre for Biological Sciences**, India
- 2020 Guest Seminar: “Perspectives of Wildlife Conservation from the Global South”, **Principles of Conservation Biology Undergraduate Course**, Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology Department, **University of Minnesota**, USA
- 2017 Guest Seminar: “Wildlife Conservation Careers”, **Biological Sciences**, **Presidency University**, Kolkata, India

SUPERVISION/ADVISING/STUDENT COMMITTEE WORK

PhD Dissertation & Undergraduate Honors Thesis

- 2024-2027: **Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member**, Sultan Singh Bhadana, Dissertation in Wildlife Sciences, Wildlife Institute of India. **Thesis Title: Population Ecology, Behavior and Habitat Use of Leopards in Kuno NP, India**
- 2024-2025: **Advisor**, Sophie Carpenter, Environmental Studies Major, Macalester College. **Thesis Title: Spatial and Temporal Correlates of human-carnivore interactions in Tarangire NP, Tanzania**
- 2024-2025: **Advisor**, Nibia Becerra Santillan, Biology Major, Macalester College. **Thesis Title: The impact of large, manipulated rainfall events on soil greenhouse gas fluxes is mediated by warming, spatial heterogeneity and hurricane disturbance recovery in a Puerto Rican wet tropical forest.**
- 2024-2025: **Committee Member**, Emma Hester, Dept. Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota Twin Cities. **Thesis Title (tentative): Spatial and Temporal effects of wolf & cougar predation on elk in Yellowstone NP.**
- 2024: **Committee Member**, Jane Slentz-Kesler, Geography Majors, Macalester College. **Thesis Title: Community Conservation in Madagascar: Aligning Local Livelihoods and Biodiversity Protection**
- 2022-23: **Co-Advisor**, Lara Boudinot, Dept. of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota Twin Cities. **Thesis Title- Demographic study of lion populations in Lake Manyara and Tarangire National Parks, Tanzania**

Undergraduate Capstone Project & Independent Study

- 2024-2025: **Advisor**, Ayuna Lamb-Hickson, Biology Major, Macalester College. **Capstone Title: Relative Abundance and Occupancy of carnivores in La Sofia Ranch, Argentina**
- 2024: **Advisor, Biology Senior Capstone**, Nalani Tokuhama, Macalester College. **Capstone Title: Invasive Species in Island Systems (Literature Review)**

2024: **Advisor, Biology Senior Capstone**, Daniel Whitman, Macalester College. **Capstone Title: Campus squirrel presence influenced by fine-scale landscape characteristics (Empirical Research)**

2023: **Advisor, Independent Study** for Jeannary Rodriguez, Macalester Biology'23

2022-23: **Advisor, Undergraduate Biology Capstone**, Eleanor Michaud, Macalester College. **Capstone Title: Role of Play in Animal Behavior (meta-analysis)**

2022-23: **Advisor, Undergraduate Biology Capstone**, Avery Munster. **Capstone Title: Eat, Prey, Live: Effect of wolf predation and forage availability on beaver activity (empirical research)**

2022-23: **Advisor, Undergraduate Biology Capstone**, Eliza King, Macalester College. **Capstone Title: Prey Consumption & Preference of Tsavo Lions (empirical research)**

2022-23: **Advisor, Undergraduate Biology Capstone**, Jewel Kerr, Macalester College. **Capstone Title: Competition at Bird Feeders (empirical research)**

2022: **Advisor, Independent Study**, Michael Barton, Macalester Biology'23

2021-2022: **Mentorship and Facilitation** of Senior Capstone Project & Independent Study of Ian Smith, Biology Department, Macalester College, USA. **Capstone Title: Top carnivore scavenging dynamics at mega-herbivore carcasses (empirical research)**

Undergraduate Summer Research Mentorship

2022: **Supervision of Summer Research** for Avery Munster, Senior Biology undergraduate, Macalester College

2022: **Supervision of Summer Research** for Eliza King, Senior Biology undergraduate, Macalester College

2022: **Supervision of Independent Study** for Ian Smith, senior Biology undergraduate, Macalester College.

2023: **Summer Research Advisor** for Zoe Lowe, Macalester Biology' 23

2023: **Summer Research Advisor** for Eliza King, Macalester Biology' 23

Academic Advising & Mentorship (Undergraduate & Graduate)

2024-2025: **Academic Advisor**, Yvonne-Moreira-Andrade, Senior Undergraduate, Department of Biology, Macalester College

2024-2025: **Academic Advisor**, Red Fair, Senior Undergraduate, Department of Biology, Macalester College

2024-2025: **Academic Advisor**, Ayuna Lamb-Hickson, Senior Undergraduate, Department of Biology, Macalester College

2024-2026: **Academic Advisor**, Rosie Bai, Sophomore Undergraduate, Department of Biology, Macalester College

2023-2027: **Academic Advisor**, Naomi Singer, First Year Undergraduate, Department of Biology, Macalester College

2024-2026: **Academic Advisor**, Eliot Berk, Junior Undergraduate, Department of Biology, Macalester College

2024-2026: **Academic Advisor**, Hieu Chu, Junior Undergraduate, Department of Biology, Macalester College

2020-2021: **Academic Mentor**, Nikki Tatton (MS student), Conservation Science Grad Students Peer Mentor Program at the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

2019-2021: **Graduate Research Mentor**, Ellen Candler, Conservation Science Program, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota. **Thesis Title- The Hunter's Pulse: Non-target consumer use, hunter participation, and prey behavior shift in reference to hunter bait sites**

2019-2024: **Graduate Research Mentor**, Fredrick Lala Odock, Conservation Science Program, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota. **Thesis Title- Impacts of Linear Infrastructure in Tsavo Conservation Area, Kenya**

2016-2017: **Mentorship of MSc dissertations of XV MS course** in Wildlife Science at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII). Supervised 8 MS dissertations as a graduate researcher at WII

SUPERVISED STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

*International †National #Local Conference

- 2024[†] Oral Presentation "In the right place at the right time: spatiotemporal coexistence between competing carnivores in Yellowstone", [103rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammologists](#), CU Boulder. **Presenter: Zoe Lowe, Macalester'2023**
- 2024[†] Oral Presentation "In the right place at the right time: spatiotemporal coexistence between competing carnivores in Yellowstone", [Ecological Society of America Annual meeting](#), Long Beach, CA. **Presenter: Gordon Scott, Research Mentee from Yellowstone Research Project.**
- 2023^{*} Oral Presentation, "The Lion's Share: Implications of carnivore diet on endangered herbivores", [International Mammalogical Congress](#), Alaska, USA. **Presenter: Eliza King, Macalester'2023**
- 2023[†] Poster Presentation, "Eat Prey Live: Role of Forage and Wolf Predation in Shaping Beaver Activity", **60th Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society, Portland, Oregon, USA. Presenter: Avery Munster, Macalester'2023; Winner of the Animal Behavior Society Charles Turner Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research**
- 2023[#] Oral Presentation, "What's on the menu for Tsavo Lions?", **Winchell Symposium for Undergraduate Research, Minnesota Academy of Sciences, Minnesota, USA. Presenter: Eliza King, Macalester'2023**

- 2023# Oral Presentation, “Eat Prey Live: Role of Forage and Wolf Predation in Shaping Beaver Activity”, **Winchell Symposium for Undergraduate Research, Minnesota Academy of Sciences, Minnesota, USA. Presenter: Avery Munster, Macalester’2023**
- 2022# Poster Presentation, “What’s on the menu for Tsavo Lions?”, **Summer Research Showcase, Macalester College, USA. Presenter: Eliza King, Macalester’2023**

WORKSHOPS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

*Conducted, †Attended

- 2024* Training Workshop for SECR Assessment of Lion Population in Saadani NP for TANAPA rangers, Tanzania
- 2023† A Guide to Inclusive Mentoring, Workshop at the Animal Behavior Society Meeting, Portland
- 2018* Reconciling Human Interactions with Wildlife in the Kanchenjunga Landscape in India, Nepal and Bhutan; India
- 2018* Writing Workshop for the development of National Action Plan for Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India
- 2017† A practical design to social surveys by Dr. Freya St. John (Kent, UK), held at Cambridge, UK
- 2017† Designing a research program by Prof. William J. Sutherland, Cambridge, UK
- 2017* How to make effective presentations as part of the ICECAPS Polar Research Workshop, India
- 2016* Radio-telemetry workshop as part of the Young Ecologists Talk and Interact conference, Delhi, India
- 2013† Conservation of semi-arid savanna grasslands and their associated fauna at SCCS, Bangalore, India
- 2013† Capture, handling and radio-telemetry of large carnivores by Prof. Kay Holekamp, SCCS, Bangalore, India
- 2013† Effective study design by Dr. Kavita Isvaran, SCCS, Bangalore, India

ACTIVITIES TOWARDS BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN STEM

2025: **Steering Committee Member, Turner Program, Animal Behavior Society** [Beginning in 2002, the Animal Behavior Society created the Charles H. Turner Program for undergraduate participation at the annual Society meetings. This program is a travel grant that supports the goals of increasing the diversity of our membership. Selected Turner Program Fellows will receive support to travel to the Annual Conference and participate in a series of professional development workshop and mentoring events. The program is aimed to integrate students into both the meeting experience and the broader community of the Animal Behavior Society].

2024: **Organizer and Host**, 2nd Mentorship-Mentee Matching Event, Animal Behaviour Collective

2024-2027: **Member, Diversity Committee**, Animal Behavior Society [The ABS Diversity Committee (DC) advocates for equitable and inclusive practices in our society, at our annual meeting, and in the communities and environments occupied by our membership. We work to support and enhance the diversity of the Animal Behavior Society membership, by developing and implementing just and equitable practices, professional workshops, learning spaces, grants that include activities involving underrepresented scholars and the ABS community more broadly, as well as educating our membership. Here, the term diversity includes identities relating to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, dis/ability, as well as additional attributes of our current and future members].

2021-ongoing: **Organizing & Mentorship Team**, Animal Behavior Collective (<https://opencollective.com/animal-behaviour-collective>). We are a collective of early to mid-career animal behavior researchers committed to the active support of animal behavior students from working-class and historically excluded communities who are both regularly excluded by traditional scholarship and academic programs, or who require more economic support than those resources cover. We provide microgrants and mentorship.

2022-2024: **Reviewer for Student Research & Developing Nations Grants**, Animal Behavior Society

2022-ongoing: **Course Wildlife Conservation in the Anthropocene: An International Perspective selected for a concentration in Global Indigenous Studies at Macalester College**. This concentration includes courses that have relevant discussions and topics pertaining to indigenous knowledge, traditional sciences and community involvement

2021: **Workshop Participant** - “Teaching Sexual Selection Inclusively” by Project Biodiversify,

2021: **Workshop Participant** - “Students Perspective about Diversity in Skills Development for Fieldwork”, Ecological Society of America

2021-2025: Letter of Recommendation writer for >45 undergraduate students at Macalester College (student body represents 32% BIPOC, 16% first generation, 14% international, 56% women, and 22% Pell recipient students)

AWARDS & HIGHLIGHTS

2023: **Career Diversity Award**, Animal Behavior Society

2023: **Early Career Professional Award**, American Society of Mammologists

2022: **Educator of the Year Award**, Macalester College Academic Affairs Committee

2020: Special Feature of NY Times interview in ‘**2020 Academic Recap**’ (as part of *The Insider*, *CFANS Newsletter*, *FWCB*, *University of Minnesota*).

2018: **Spotlight Focus on Young Scientists**, International Society for Behavioral Ecology Newsletter, Vol 30(2)

2011-2013: **Best MS Dissertation Thesis** (MS Title: *Computing Biomass Consumption from Scats in Tropical Felids*), Wildlife Institute of India

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2024-present: Member, Society for Conservation Biology
2023-present: Member, American Society of Mammologists
2022-present: Member, Animal Behavior Society
2022-present: Member, Minnesota Academy of Sciences
2020-2021: Member, Association for the Study of Animal Behavior
2020-2021: Member, Ecological Society of America
2018-2022 Member, International Society for Behavioral Ecology
2016-2017: Member, British Ecological Society

MEMBERSHIP, NATIONAL COMMITTEES

2018: Nominated Member (**Wildlife Expert**), Committee probing sudden lion deaths in Gir, India, Government of India
2016: Nominated Member, Committee on Asiatic Lion Translocation, Government of India.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

2025: *Invited Reviewer for National Science Foundation, USA* [reviewed Graduate Fellowships]
2025: **Reviewer, Students Research Grant, Animal Behavior Society**
2024-present: **DeWitt Library Representative** for the Department of Biology, Macalester College
2023: *Invited Reviewer Panelist for National Science Foundation, USA IOS Behavioral Systems Cluster* [reviewed Career and Core Proposals]
2023-present: *Member, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)*, Macalester College
2023-present: *Associate Editor, [Journal of Human-Wildlife Interactions](#)*
2021-2024: *Member, Communication & Education Committees, International Wolf Center, MN, USA*
2020-2022: *Topic Editor, Special Issue: New Century Wolf Conservation and Conflict Management, <https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/19980/new-century-wolf-conservation-and-conflict-management>*

Invited Referee: Nature Communications, Conservation Biology, The American Naturalist, Journal of Animal Ecology, Animal Behaviour, Proceedings of the Royal Society: B, Communications Biology, Journal of Mammalian Biology, Ecology & Evolution, European Journal of Ecology, Oryx, Acta Ethologica, PeerJ, Journal of Zoology, Ecography, Journal of Wildlife Science.

SCIENCE OUTREACH

2025: “*A Wildlife Biologist’s POV*”, Invited **seminar and conversation** with a group of ~20 Ukrainian women about a career in Wildlife Science. The program was hosted by [ENGin.com](#) which is an **online cultural exchange platform for Ukrainians**
2024: Nominated for the position of **Communications Officer of the Animal Behavior Society** (term: 2025-2026, [link](#))
2023: **Twitter Presentation: “Social Distancing in Lions”**, 2nd Twitter Conference of the Association for the Study of Animal Behavior, #AnimBehav2023 [presentation/tweets available [here](#)]
2021-2024: *Member, Communication & Education Committee, International Wolf Center, MN, USA*. Supported the development of education and outreach materials (such as the [International Wolf Magazine](#)) to make wolf-science more accessible to a global audience
2023: **Safari Science & Field Work Experience**, Podcast for K9 Conservationists discussing inclusive field science. Link to listen [here](#)
2022: **Wildlife Drawing Online – Asian Lions**: Led and Hosted fundraising and *sci-art* communication event for the Animal Behaviour Collective [link to event details [here](#)]
2021: **Twitter Presentation: “Male Coalitions in Asiatic Lions: Selfish Partners or Comrades in Arms?”**, 1st Twitter Conference of the Association for the Study of Animal Behavior (#AnimBehav2021) [presentation available [here](#)]
2021: **Asiatic Lion: Dark Past, Successful Present & Unknown Future**. Podcast for Rewildology. Link to listen [here](#)
2020-2024: **Voluntary Scientist for Skype a Scientist Program**, a “virtual program that helps connect scientists with teachers, classrooms, groups, and the public all over the globe”
2018: **Host, Wildlife Week Quiz** for 60 High School Students at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. Co-hosted by the *Friends of Doon & Wildlife Institute of India*
2015: **Training of >70 ‘wildlife enthusiasts’** in population estimation techniques, as part of the 14th Asiatic Lion Census, conducted by the Gujarat Forest Department

PRESS

15. 2024. Interview and publication featured in [The Nautilus](#)
14. 2023. Published book chapter featured in the [Times of India](#)
13. 2023. Interview based on published research paper featured in [Atlas Obscura](#)

12. 2023. Published paper featured in the [Hindustan Times](#)
11. 2023. [QnA with Macalester](#): media coverage of published paper in Nature Sustainability
10. 2020. Published paper & Interview featured in the [New York Times](#)
9. 2020. Interview for [BBC Radio](#)
8. 2020. Published research featured in the [Smithsonian Magazine](#)
7. 2020. Interview about human-lion coexistence featured in [Mongabay India](#)
6. 2020. Research paper and Interview featured at the [University of Minnesota Home Page](#)
5. 2020. Research talk at ESA 2020 featured in [Inside Science](#)
4. 2019. Published Research and full-interview featured in [The Hindu](#)
3. 2019. Published Research & Interview featured in [Discovery Magazine](#)
2. 2019. Published Research & Interview featured in [National Geographic Magazine](#)
1. 2019. Full Length interview based on published research featured in [Psychology Today](#)