

# NATALIE PILAKOUTA, PhD

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## EMPLOYMENT

2019– Lecturer, University of Aberdeen (*on maternity leave from March 2021 to March 2022*)  
2016–2019 Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Glasgow  
2011–2013 Teaching Fellow, Graduate Teaching Center, Yale University

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## ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

2017 PhD in Evolutionary Biology, University of Edinburgh (Supervisor: Dr Per Smiseth)  
2013 MSc in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Yale University (Supervisor: Prof Suzanne Alonzo)  
2010 BSc in Environmental Science, State University of New York at Brockport (GPA: 4.00/4.00)

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## HONOURS & AWARDS

2019 Runner up, John Maynard Smith Prize, European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB)  
2019 Early Career Researcher Prize, Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance (SULSA)  
2016 Doctoral Researcher Award in the Life Sciences (1st place in the UK), ABTA  
2016 Best Student Talk (1st place), Scottish Conference on Animal Behaviour  
2010 School of Science and Mathematics Undergraduate Award, SUNY Brockport  
2010 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence  
2010 Environmental Science and Biology Departmental Scholar, SUNY Brockport  
2010 Honors Program Scholar Award, SUNY Brockport  
2009 Outstanding Student Writing Award, SUNY Brockport  
2009 Award in Undergraduate Research, Sigma Xi: The Scientific Research Society  
2009 Samuel and Elizabeth Manno Award, SUNY Brockport

## RESEARCH GRANTS

2021 Royal Society Research Grant (£15,526)  
2018 Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund, University of Glasgow (£3,063)  
2017 Godfrey Hewitt Mobility Award, European Society for Evolutionary Biology (£1,511)  
2016 Student Research Award, American Society of Naturalists (£1,580)  
2014 Student Research Grant, Animal Behavior Society (£1,580)  
2012 Pierce Fund, Yale University (£2,370)  
2012 Graduate Research Fund, Yale University (£2,370)

## TRAVEL GRANTS

2019 Early Career Exchange Grant, Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance (£4,000)  
2019 Travel Grant, The Company for Biologists (£350)  
2016 Travel Grant, International Society for Behavioral Ecology (£800)  
2016 Conference Participation Grant, Royal Entomological Society (£400)  
2015 Training and Travel Grant, British Ecological Society (£500)  
2015 Conference Participation Grant, Royal Entomological Society (£400)  
2015 James Rennie Bequest Travel Grant, University of Edinburgh (£250)  
2014 Conference Travel Grant, International Union for Biological Sciences (£300)  
2014 Conference Participation Grant, Royal Entomological Society (£400)  
2014 James Rennie Bequest Travel Grant, University of Edinburgh (£520)

## SCHOLARSHIPS

2013 Principal's Career Development Scholarship, University of Edinburgh (£52,000)  
2011 Robert Willets Carle Scholarship for Academic Distinction, Yale University (£118,390)  
2010 Graduate Fellowship Award, Cyprus State Scholarship Foundation (£27,110)  
2009 ACT for Excellence Scholarship, SUNY Brockport (£600)  
2008 Brockport College Memorial Scholarship, SUNY Brockport (£470)  
2007 Honors Program Scholarship, SUNY Brockport (£400)  
2006 Scholar Recognition Award, SUNY Brockport (£6,310)  
2006 Distinguished Scholarship, SUNY Brockport (£46,000)

2006

Fulbright Scholarship (£39,500)

**MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW OR IN REVISION**

- [17] Baillet A, **Pilakouta N**. Temperature alters mating behaviour and mating success: a meta-analysis. In revision for Journal of Animal Ecology.
- [16] **Pilakouta N**, Humble JL, Hill IDC, Killen SS, Kristjánsson BK, Skúlason S, Lindström J, Metcalfe NB, Parsons KJ (2020) Testing the predictability of morphological evolution in contrasting thermal environments. In review at Evolution (preprint available at <https://doi.org/10.1101/609933>).
- [15] **Pilakouta N**, Killen SS, Kristjánsson BK, Skúlason S, Lindström J, Metcalfe NB, Parsons KJ (2020) Temperature preference does not evolve in sticklebacks despite multigenerational exposure to elevated temperatures (preprint available at <https://doi.org/10.1101/615005>).

**JOURNAL ARTICLES**

- [14] **Pilakouta N**, Alund M (2021) Sexual selection and environmental change: what do we know and what comes next? Current Zoology 67:293-298.
- [13] Campbell CS, Adams CE, Bean CW, **Pilakouta N**, Parsons KJ (2021) Evolvability under climate change: bone development and shape plasticity are heritable and correspond with performance in Arctic charr (*Salvelinus alpinus*). Evolution & Development 23:333-350.
- [12] **Pilakouta N**, Killen SS, Kristjánsson BK, Skúlason S, Lindström J, Metcalfe NB, Parsons KJ (2020) Multigenerational exposure to elevated temperatures leads to a reduction in standard metabolic rate in the wild. Functional Ecology 34:1205-1214.
- [11] Parsons KJ, McWhinnie K, **Pilakouta N**, Walker L (2019) Does phenotypic plasticity initiate developmental bias? Evolution & Development 22:56-70.
- [10] **Pilakouta N**, Hanlon EJH, Smiseth PT (2018) Biparental care is more than the sum of its parts: evidence for synergistic effects on offspring fitness. Proceedings of the Royal Society B 285:20180875.
- [9] **Pilakouta N**, Smiseth PT (2017) Female mating preferences for outbred versus inbred males are conditional upon the female's own inbreeding status. Animal Behaviour 123:369–374.
- [8] **Pilakouta N**, Correa MA, Alonzo SH (2017) Predation risk influences heterospecific mating preference in the green swordtail. Ethology 123:95–104.
- [7] **Pilakouta N**, Smiseth PT (2016) Maternal effects alter the severity of inbreeding depression in the offspring. Proceedings of the Royal Society B 283:20161023.
- [6] **Pilakouta N**, Halford C, Racz R, Smiseth PT (2016) Effects of contest experience and contest outcome on female reproductive decisions and offspring fitness. American Naturalist 188:319–328.
- [5] **Pilakouta N**, Sieber D, Smiseth PT (2016) Sibling competition does not exacerbate inbreeding depression in the burying beetle *Nicrophorus vespilloides*. Journal of Evolutionary Biology 29:704–710.
- [4] **Pilakouta N**, Richardson J, Smiseth PT (2016) If you eat, I eat: resolution of sexual conflict over feeding from a shared resource. Animal Behaviour 111:175–180.
- [3] **Pilakouta N**, Jamieson S, Moorad JA, Smiseth PT (2015) Parental care buffers against inbreeding depression in burying beetles. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 112:8031–8035.
- [2] **Pilakouta N**, Richardson J, Smiseth PT (2015) State-dependent cooperation in burying beetles: parents adjust their contribution towards care based on both their own and their partner's size. Journal of Evolutionary Biology 28:1965–1974.
- [1] **Pilakouta N**, Alonzo SH (2014) Predator exposure leads to a short-term reversal in female mate preferences in the green swordtail, *Xiphophorus helleri*. Behavioral Ecology 25:306–312.

**POPULAR SCIENCE ARTICLES**

Pilakouta N (2018) Are two parents better than one? Yes, but only if you're a burying beetle. [The Conversation](#).

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**PLENARY TALKS**

2021 European Meeting for PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology (EMPSEB), Ireland  
 2019 British Ecological Society (BES) Undergraduate Summer School, UK

**INVITED SEMINARS**

2020 University of St Andrews, UK (*cancelled due to COVID-19*)  
 2020 Uppsala University, Sweden  
 2019 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA  
 2019 University of Edinburgh, UK  
 2019 James Hutton Institute, UK  
 2019 University of Glasgow, UK  
 2018 Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag), Switzerland  
 2016 University of Stirling, UK

**INTERNAL SEMINARS**

2019 University of Aberdeen, UK  
 2019 University of Glasgow, UK  
 2018 University of Glasgow, UK  
 2017 University of Glasgow, UK  
 2016 University of Edinburgh, UK  
 2015 University of Edinburgh, UK  
 2014 University of Edinburgh, UK  
 2013 Yale University, USA  
 2012 Yale University, USA

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2020 Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) Winter Meeting (virtual)  
 2020 British Ecological Society (BES) Meeting (virtual)  
 2019 European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB) Meeting, Turku, Finland  
 2019 Society for Experimental Biology (SEB) Meeting, Seville, Spain  
 2019 Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) Easter Meeting, York, UK  
 2018 International Conference on Stickleback Behavior and Evolution, Kyoto, Japan  
 2017 Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) Winter Meeting, London, UK  
 2017 European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB) Meeting, Groningen, The Netherlands  
 2016 International Society for Behavioral Ecology (ISBE) Meeting, Exeter, UK  
 2016 Scottish Conference on Animal Behaviour (SCAB), Stirling, UK  
 2015 European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB) Meeting, Lausanne, Switzerland  
 2015 European Meeting for PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology (EMPSEB), Stirling, UK  
 2015 Scottish Conference on Animal Behaviour (SCAB), St Andrews, UK  
 2014 European Meeting for PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology (EMPSEB), Belgium  
 2014 Ecology and Behaviour Meeting, Montpellier, France  
 2014 Scottish Conference on Animal Behaviour (SCAB), Edinburgh, UK

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**SELECTED PRESS COVERAGE**

Edinburgh Evening News	Science Daily	The Herald
EurekAlert	Science News	The Daily Telegraph
Evening Times	Science Newsline	The Press and Journal
Financial Times	ScienMag	The Sun
Herald Sun	Scottish Daily Mail	The Sunday Post
Metro	The Australian	The Times
News Letter	The Health Site	Western Morning News

**RADIO INTERVIEWS**

BBC World Service – Newsday	BBC Good Morning Scotland	UBC1 Radio
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**STUDENT SUPERVISION**

2021	Supervisor, Charlotte Malcolm (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2021	Supervisor, Stamatia Zafeiri (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2020–	Supervisor, Karendeep Sidhu (PhD student), University of Aberdeen
2020	Supervisor, Charlotte Patterson (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2020	Supervisor, Nikki Watt (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2020	Supervisor, Anais Baillet (visiting Master’s student), University of Aberdeen
2019	Supervisor, Moray Swanson (undergraduate student), University of Glasgow
2019	Supervisor, Susanne Krabbendam (undergraduate student), University of Glasgow
2019	Supervisor, Patrick O’Donnell (undergraduate student), University of Glasgow
2018	Supervisor, Jessica Curle (Nuffield Foundation work placement), University of Glasgow
2018	Supervisor, Ashleigh Campbell (Nuffield Foundation work placement), University of Glasgow
2018	Co-supervisor, Laura Downie (Master’s student), University of Glasgow
2018–2019	Co-supervisor, Deborah Davy (undergraduate student), University of Glasgow
2017–2018	Supervisor, William Wood (Master’s student), University of Glasgow
2017–2018	Supervisor, Isabel Baruque Fisk (undergraduate student), University of Glasgow
2016–2017	Co-supervisor, Timothy Ho (undergraduate student), University of Glasgow
2016	Co-supervisor, Beth Hanlon (undergraduate student), University of Edinburgh
2015	Co-supervisor, Rita Racz (visiting PhD student), University of Edinburgh
2015	Co-supervisor, Daniel Sieber (undergraduate student), University of Edinburgh
2014–2015	Co-supervisor, Cerian Halford (undergraduate student), University of Edinburgh
2014	Co-supervisor, Jon Richardson (undergraduate student), University of Edinburgh
2014	Co-supervisor, Seonaidh Jamieson (undergraduate student), University of Edinburgh
2014	Co-supervisor, Tom Ratz (visiting Master’s student), University of Edinburgh
2012–2013	Co-supervisor, Maria Correa (undergraduate student), Yale University

**POSTGRADUATE EXAMINATION**

2021–	Adviser for PhD thesis (Michelle Taylor), University of Aberdeen
2020–	Adviser for PhD thesis (Alexandra Jebb), University of Aberdeen
2020–	Adviser for PhD thesis (Anders Poulsen Charmouh), University of Aberdeen
2020–	Adviser for PhD thesis (Ieuan Jones), University of Aberdeen
2019	Internal examiner for PhD thesis (Aoife Leonard), University of Aberdeen

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2021	Course Coordinator, Advanced Behavioural Ecology, University of Aberdeen
2021	Course Contributor, Environmental Physiology, University of Aberdeen
2020	Course Coordinator, Advanced Behavioural Ecology, University of Aberdeen
2020	Course Contributor, Field Skills in Animal Behaviour, University of Aberdeen
2020	Course Contributor, Principles in Animal Physiology, University of Aberdeen
2019	Guest Lecturer, Behavioural Ecology, University of Glasgow
2018	Marker, Zoology MRes Programme, University of Glasgow
2018	Guest Lecturer, Behavioural Ecology, University of Glasgow
2017	Guest Lecturer, Vertebrate Life, University of Glasgow
2016	Guest Lecturer, Behavioural Ecology, University of Edinburgh
2015	Teaching Assistant, Demonstrator Induction Course, University of Edinburgh
2014–2016	Demonstrator, Behavioural Ecology, University of Edinburgh
2013–2015	Marker, Origin and Diversity of Life, University of Edinburgh
2013–2014	Demonstrator, Origin and Diversity of Life, University of Edinburgh
2013	Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Evolution and Ecology, Yale University
2011–2012	Teaching Fellow, Principles of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior, Yale University
2011	Teaching Fellow, Animal Behavior, Yale University
2007–2008	Teaching Assistant, College Chemistry I, SUNY Brockport

**TEACHING WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS ATTENDED**

2020	Learning & Teaching in Higher Education, University of Aberdeen
2019	Research-led Teaching in the Life Sciences, University of Glasgow
2016	Designing Courses, University of Edinburgh
2016	Designing and Delivering Lectures, University of Edinburgh

2016	Introduction to Academic Practice, University of Edinburgh
2015	Interactive & Flipped Lectures in the Biosciences, University of Edinburgh
2013	Teaching Forum: Online Teaching & Student Learning, Yale Teaching Center
2011	Changing the Way We Teach Undergraduate Biology, Yale Teaching Center
2011	Preparing Future Science Faculty (lecture series), Yale Teaching Center
2011	Teaching Writing (workshop series), Yale College Writing Center

### TEACHING WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS DELIVERED

2013	Teaching with Technology, Yale Teaching Center
2013	Lecture Observation Series, Yale Teaching Center
2013	Science Education Journal Club, Yale Teaching Center
2012	Leading Effective Discussions in the Classroom, Yale Teaching Center
2011–2013	Fundamentals of Teaching in the Sciences (workshop series), Yale Teaching Center
2011, 2012	Leading Effective Review Sessions, Yale Teaching Center
2011	Engaging Students in the Science Classroom, Yale Teaching Center

### TEACHING ACCREDITATION

2016	Associate Fellow, UK Higher Education Academy
2013	Certificate in College Teaching Preparation, Yale University

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### SYMPOSIUM & CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

2019	Symposium co-organiser, European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB) Meeting, Finland
2014–2015	Conference co-organiser, 21 <sup>st</sup> European Meeting for PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology, UK

### UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENT SERVICE

2019	Shortlisting for Academic Fellowship posts, University of Aberdeen
2019	External speaker host (Eoin O’Gorman, University of Essex), University of Glasgow
2019	Interview panel for Undergraduate Summer Scholarship, University of Glasgow
2018–	Co-organiser, Physiology and Life History Group, University of Glasgow
2018	Interview panel for Research Assistant post, University of Glasgow
2018	Presenter, Postgraduate Statistics Group, University of Glasgow
2015	External speaker host (Charles Fox, University of Kentucky), University of Edinburgh
2015	Co-organiser, PhD Peer Group, School of Biological Sciences, University of Edinburgh
2014–2015	Mentor for first-year PhD students, PhD Peer Group, University of Edinburgh
2010–2013	Mentor for female undergraduate students in the sciences, Women in Science at Yale (WISAY)

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### EDITORIAL WORK & PEER REVIEW

#### Editorial Boards

Current Zoology, Guest Editor (2020–2021)
Functional Ecology, Associate Editor (2020–)

#### Peer Review – Journal Articles

American Naturalist	Frontiers in Zoology
Animal Behaviour	Functional Ecology
Behavioral Ecology	Global Ecology and Biogeography
Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology	Heredity
Conservation Physiology	Journal of Animal Ecology
Current Zoology	Journal of Comparative Physiology B
Ecological Entomology	Journal of Evolutionary Biology
Ecology and Evolution	Journal of Fish Biology
Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata	Oikos
Environmental Pollution	PLOS One
Ethology	Proceedings of the Royal Society B
Evolution	Royal Society Open Science
Evolution Letters	The Science of Nature
Evolutionary Biology	

**Peer Review – Research Grants**

British Ecological Society  
French National Research Agency (ANR)  
Leverhulme Trust

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**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & SCIENCE OUTREACH**

2019 Pint of Science, Glasgow, UK  
2017–2019 I'm a Scientist, Careers Zone (online event for public engagement: [imascientist.org.uk](http://imascientist.org.uk))  
2015–2019 Letters to a Pre-Scientist (pen pal programme: [www.prescientist.org/](http://www.prescientist.org/))  
2016 Science on a Summer's Evening, College of Science and Engineering, University of Edinburgh  
2015 Event coordinator, Edinburgh International Science Festival, UK  
2015 Wild About Scotland Bus, Edinburgh Zoo, UK  
2014– STEM Ambassador, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Network, UK  
2014 I'm a Scientist, Animal Behaviour Zone ([imascientist.org.uk](http://imascientist.org.uk))  
2013 Science fair judge, Hooker Elementary School, New Haven, CT, USA

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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2020 Learning & Teaching in Higher Education, University of Aberdeen  
2019 Managing Research Teams, University of Glasgow  
2019 Leading & Managing Projects, University of Glasgow  
2019 Fellowship Writing Workshop, SULSA  
2018 Bioinformatics for DNA and RNA Sequence Analysis, PR Informatics  
2017 Advanced Graphics in R, Jumping Rivers  
2016 Introduction to Academic Practice (HEA accreditation), University of Edinburgh