

NATALIE PILAKOUTA, PhD

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EMPLOYMENT

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

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)

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

2022 Early Career Conference Grant, The Association of Commonwealth Universities (£2,000)
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

- [21] Sidhu K, Zafeiri S, Malcolm C, Caplat P, Lancaster L, **Pilakouta N**. Heatwaves during early development have long-term consequences for parental care in adulthood. In review at [iScience](#).
- [20] **Pilakouta N**, Vega-Trejo R, de Boer RA, Fitzpatrick JL. Examining the links between parental care, inbreeding depression, and inbreeding avoidance using a meta-analytic approach. In review at [Nature Ecology & Evolution](#).
- [19] **Pilakouta N**, Patterson C. Meta-analytic evidence that biparental care is associated with reduced inbreeding depression. In review at [Nature Communications](#).
- [18] **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. In review at [Ecology and Evolution](#) (preprint available at <https://doi.org/10.1101/615005>).

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [17] **Pilakouta N**, Humble JL, Hill IDC, Killen SS, Kristjánsson BK, Skúlason S, Lindström J, Metcalfe NB, Parsons KJ (2022) Testing the predictability of morphological evolution in contrasting thermal environments. [Evolution](#). In press.
- [16] **Pilakouta N**, O'Donnell PJ, Crespel A, Levet M, Claireaux M, Humble JL, Kristjánsson BK, Skúlason S, Lindström J, Metcalfe NB, Killen SS, Parsons KJ (2022) A warmer environment can reduce sociability in an ectotherm. [Global Change Biology](#). In press.
- [15] **Pilakouta N**, Baillet N (2022) Temperature alters mating behaviour and mating success: a meta-analysis. [Journal of Animal Ecology](#) 91:1642-1650.
- [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*.

PLENARY TALKS

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

INVITED SEMINARS

2022 University College Cork (UCC), Ireland
 2021 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

2022 International Society for Behavioral Ecology (ISBE), Sweden
 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

SELECTED PRESS COVERAGE

Edinburgh Evening News	Science Daily	The Herald
EurekAlert	Science News	The Daily Telegraph
Evening Times	Science Newline	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 Guardian	Western Morning News
Phys.org	The Health Site	

RADIO INTERVIEWS

BBC World Service – Newsday
 BBC Good Morning Scotland
 UBC1 Radio

EDITORIAL WORK & PEER REVIEW**Editorial Boards**

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

Peer Review – Journal Articles

American Naturalist	Functional Ecology
Animal Behaviour	Global Ecology and Biogeography
Behavioral Ecology	Heredity
Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology	Insect Science
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	PNAS
Evolution	Proceedings of the Royal Society B
Evolution Letters	Royal Society Open Science
Evolutionary Biology	The Science of Nature
Frontiers in Zoology	

Peer Review – Research Grants

British Ecological Society (BES)
 French National Research Agency (ANR)
 Icelandic Research Fund
 Leverhulme Trust
 Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)
 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

STUDENT SUPERVISION

2022–	Supervisor, Amber Chatten (PhD student), University of Aberdeen
2022	Supervisor, Lorelei Sellers (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2022	Supervisor, Shannon Harvey (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2022	Supervisor, Emma Cassellis (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2022	Supervisor, Rebecca Barratt (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2022	Supervisor, Alice Ligonniere (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2022	Supervisor, Zoe Wright (field and lab assistant), University of Aberdeen
2022	Supervisor, Veronika Ljungberg (field and lab assistant), University of Aberdeen
2022	Co-supervisor, Ava Searles (Master's student at University of Lincoln)
2021	Supervisor, Charlotte Malcolm (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen
2021	Supervisor, Stamatia Zafeiri (undergraduate student), University of Aberdeen

2020–2020 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, Anaïs 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 Baroque 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

2022 External examiner for PhD viva (Floriane Leseur), University College Cork
 2022 Examiner for PhD thesis (Jodie Young), University of Aberdeen
 2020–2022 Adviser for PhD thesis (Alexandra Jebb), University of Aberdeen
 2020–2020 Adviser for PhD thesis (Anders Poulsen Charmouh), University of Aberdeen
 2020–2020 Adviser for PhD thesis (Ieuan Jones), University of Aberdeen
 2019 Internal examiner for PhD viva (Aoife Leonard), University of Aberdeen

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020, 2021 Course Coordinator, Advanced Behavioural Ecology, University of Aberdeen
 2021 Course Contributor, Environmental Physiology, 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

2022 The Case for Multiple-choice and Other Automated Assessments, University of Aberdeen
 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, 21st European Meeting for PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology, UK

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2022 Moderating Panel Member, Pushing the Frontiers research grants, NERC
2022– Plagiarism Officer, University of Aberdeen
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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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)
2015–2019 Letters to a Pre-Scientist (pen pal programme: 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)
2013 Science fair judge, Hooker Elementary School, New Haven, CT, USA
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2022 Pastoral Guidance and Support training, University of Aberdeen
2021 Supervisor Training, University of Aberdeen
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