

# Oscar Johnson, Ph.D.

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2022—present      NSF Postdoctoral Fellow      The University of Texas at El Paso  
(Sponsor: Michael G. Harvey)

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## EDUCATION

2014—2021      Ph.D., Biological Sciences      Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA  
Dissertation: Genetic structuring and community assembly in Neotropical birds. Advisor: Robb T. Brumfield

2008—2011      B.S., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology      University of California, Santa Cruz, CA  
Senior Thesis: Mixed species flocking behavior at Monteverde, Costa Rica. Advisor: Bruce E. Lyon.

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## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 19 **Johnson, O.** in review. First record of Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) for the El Paso region of Texas. *Western Birds*
- 18 Tobias, J. A., Sheard, C., Pigot, A. L., Devenish, A. J. M., Yang, J., [...] **Johnson, O.**, [...], and 104 other authors. 2022. AVONET: morphological, ecological and geographical data for all birds. *Ecology Letters* 25:581–597. doi:10.1111/ele.13898
- 17 Moncrieff, A. E., **Johnson, O.**, Felix, C., Corbett, E. C., Brady, M. L., Seeholzer, G. F., Bautista, E., Lane, D. F., and Harvey, M. G. 2020. Avifaunal surveys in the central Peruvian Amazon clarify range limits and highlight links between avian and habitat diversity. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 132(4):934–951. doi:10.1676/20-00082
- 16 **Johnson, O.**, Howard, T.J., and Brumfield, R.T. 2020. Systematics of a Neotropical clade of of dead-leaf-foraging antwrens (Aves: Thamnophilidae; *Epinecrophylla*). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 154:106962. doi:10.1016/j.ympev.2020.106962
- 15 Denzer, W., Manthey, U., Brady, M. L., and Johnson, O. 2020. Erstnachweis von *Gonocephalus* cf. *abbotti* (Cochrane, 1922) auf Sumatra [First record of *Gonocephalus* cf. *abbotti* (Cochrane, 1922) on Sumatra]. *Sauria* 42(4):49–56.
- 14 Haryoko, T., **Johnson, O.**, Brady, M. L., Shakya, S. B., Irham, M., Yohanna, Ritonga, R. R., Prawiradilaga, D. M., and Sheldon, F. H. in press. Recent ornithological expeditions to Siberut Island, Mt. Talamau, and Rimbo Panti Nature Reserve, Sumatra, Indonesia. *Treubia* 47(1):13–38.
- 13 Monteza-Moreno, C. M., Castillo-Caballero, P. L., **Johnson, O.**, and Angehr, G. R. 2020. First annotated checklist of birds of Jicarón and Jicarita: the southernmost islands of the Republic of Panama. *Tecnociencia* 22(2):123–149.
- 12 Shakya, S. B., Irham, M., Brady, M. L., Haryoko, T., Fitriana, Y. S., **Johnson, O.**, Moyle, R. G., Prawiradilaga, D. M., and Sheldon, F. H. 2020. Observations on the relationship of some Sundaic passerine taxa (Aves: Passeriformes) previously unavailable for molecular phylogenetic study. *Journal of Ornithology* 161:651–664. doi:10.1007/s10336-020-01766-9
- 11 Capunitan, D., **Johnson, O.**, Terrill, R. S., and Hird, S. 2020. Evolutionary signal in the gut microbiomes of 74 bird species from Equatorial Guinea. *Molecular Ecology* 29(4):829–847. doi:10.1111/mec.15354

- 10 Salter, J. F., **Johnson, O.**, Stafford III, N. J., Herrin Jr., W. F., Schilling, D., Cedotal, C., Brumfield, R. T., and Faircloth, B. C. 2019. A highly contiguous reference genome for Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). *G3:Genes/Genomes/Genetics* 9(12):3929–3932.
  - 9 Moncrieff, A. E., **Johnson, O.**, Lane, D. F., Álvarez Alonso, J., Balta, K., Eckhardt, K., Armenta, J., Valqui, T., Hernández, F., Soto Huaira, M., Mur, C., Harvey, M. G., Verde-Guerra, K., and Figueroa Ramírez, S. 2019. Avifaunal surveys along the lower Huallaga River, Region of Loreto, Peru: new distributional records, collection of topotypes, and taxonomic implications. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 131(3):486–501.
  - 8 **Johnson, O.\***, Moncrieff, A. E.\*, Lane, D. F., Beck, J., Angulo-Pratolongo, F., and Fagan, J. 2018. A new species of antbird (Passeriformes: Thamnophilidae) from the Cordillera Azul, San Martín, Peru. *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* 135:114–126.
  - 7 **Johnson, O.** 2017. Notes on the nesting behavior of the Gray-mantled Wren (*Odontorchilus branickii*). *Ornitologia Neotropical* 28:175–179.
  - 6 Cooper, J. C., **Johnson, O.**, Davis, T. J., Terrill, R. S., Wolfe, J. D., Brzeski, K. E., Motove Etingüe, A., and Powell, L. L. 2017. Notes on the distribution of the avifauna of Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea, including one new country record. *Malimbus* 39:1–15.
  - 5 Shizuka, D., Chaine, A. S., Anderson, J., **Johnson, O.**, Laursen, I. M., and Lyon, B. E. 2014. Across-year social stability shapes network structure in wintering migrant sparrows. *Ecology Letters* 17:998–1007.
  - 4 **Johnson, O.** and Billings, M. J. 2014. The Mangrove Yellow Warbler reaches California. *Western Birds* 45:160–162.
  - 3 **Johnson, O.**, Pyle, P., and Tietz, J. 2013. The subspecies of the Song Sparrow on Southeast Farallon Island and in central California. *Western Birds* 44:162–170.
  - 2 **Johnson, O.**, Sullivan, B. S., and McCaskie, G. 2012. The 36th report of the California Bird Records Committee: 2010 records. *Western Birds* 43:164–188.
  - 1 **Johnson, O.** 2010. Primer registro de rascón café (*Amaurolimnas concolor*) en Monteverde, Puntarenas, Costa Rica. *Zeledonia* 14:57–58.
- \* These authors contributed equally to this manuscript

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## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 3 **Johnson, O.** 2016. Pearly-breasted Conebill (*Conirostrum margaritae*), Neotropical Birds Online (T. S. Schulenberg, Editor). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology.
- 2 **Johnson, O., and A. Wang.** 2012. Hanging by a thread: birds and conservation on Kaua’i. *Winging It* 24(3):1–6.
- 1 **Johnson, O.** 2010. Book review: *Birds of the US-Mexico Borderlands: Distribution, Ecology, and Conservation*, by J. Ruth, T. Brush, and D. Krueper, associate editors. *Western Birds* 41:60–61.

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## SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

- 14 **Johnson, O.**, Barber, R., Bravo, G., Claramunt, S., Derryberry, E., Harvey, M., Marcondes, R., Rego, M., Tobias, J., and Brumfield, R.T. 2021. (Talk). Time to sympatry in suboscine passerines. American Ornithological Society Conference.
- 13 **Johnson, O.**, Howard, J. T., and Brumfield, R. T. 2020. (Poster). Systematics of a Neotropical clade of dead-leaf foraging suboscines. North American Ornithological Conference.
- 12 **Johnson, O.** and Brumfield, R. T. 2019. (Talk). Comparative phylogeography of Amazonian riverine island birds. American Ornithological Society Conference.
- 11 Hird, S., Capunitan, D., **Johnson, O.**, Terrill, R. S. 2019. (Talk). Evolutionary signal in avian microbiomes. Evolution.

- 10 **Johnson, O.** and Brumfield, R. T. 2019. (Talk). Comparative phylogeography of Amazonian riverine island birds. LSU BioGrads Symposium.
  - 9 Hird, S., Capunitan, D., **Johnson, O.**, Terrill, R. S. 2019. (Keynote talk). Evolutionary signal in avian microbiomes. Pioneer Valley Microbiology Symposium.
  - 8 **Johnson, O.** 2018. (Invited talk). Recent LSU Museum of Natural Science expeditions to South America; science, discovery, and exploration. Baton Rouge Audubon Society.
  - 7 **Johnson, O.** 2016. (Talk). Expedition Travelogue Part I: Ornithology in Africa. Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science Seminar.
  - 6 **Johnson, O.** and Robb T. Brumfield. 2016. (Talk). Phylogeographic patterns of Amazonian river-island birds. North American Ornithological Conference.
  - 5 Freitas, L., Delgado-Jaramillo, M., Cabanne, G., **Johnson, O.**, and Luciano Naka. 2016. (Talk). História evolutiva e conservatismo de nicho de *Myrmorchilus strigilatus*: um táxon endêmico de duas florestas secas neotropicais. XXIII Congresso Brasileiro de Ornitologia.
  - 4 **Johnson, O.** 2015. (Talk). Expedition Travelogue Part II: Peru. Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science Seminar.
  - 3 **Johnson, O.** 2015. (Talk). Within- and across-year social cohesion in wintering sparrows revealed by social networks. Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science seminar.
  - 2 Shizuka, D., Chaine, A. S., Johnson, O., Laursen, I. M, and Lyon, B. 2014. (Talk). Within- and across- year social cohesion in wintering migrant sparrows revealed by social network analysis. AOU/COS/SCO Joint Meeting.
  - 1 **Johnson, O.** 2006. (Poster). Associations between wind speed and wing-strain in mist-net captured birds. Poster presentation. Ventana Wildlife Society Semi-annual Staff Conference.
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## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

|      |  |           |
|------|--|-----------|
| 2021 | National Science Foundation Postdoctoral<br>Research Fellowship in Biology | \$138,000 |
| 2019 | LSU Dissertation Year Fellowship   | \$18,000  |
| 2018 | Outreach Award – LSU Museum of Natural Science                             |           |
| 2017 | Virginia L. Mouw Award in Ornithology                                      | \$200     |
| 2017 | Wetmore Award – American Ornithological Society                            | \$2,400   |
| 2017 | Chapman Grant – American Museum of Natural History                         | \$1,900   |
| 2016 | Student travel award – American Ornithologists’ Union                      | \$265     |
| 2016 | National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship                   | \$102,000 |
| 2007 | Maxwell Scholar  | \$1000    |

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### *Teaching Assistant*

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| Principles of Genetics (LSU Sophomore course)                    | Jan 2015 – May 2015 |
| Biological Laboratories for Science Majors (LSU Freshman course) | Aug 2014 – Dec 2014 |

### *Mentorship*

Miguel Solis, undergraduate student at The University of Texas at El Paso (2022 – present)  
 Jeffrey T. Howard, undergraduate student at Louisiana State University (2017 – 2019)  
 Trained 12 field assistants, undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and professors in bird specimen preparation techniques (2016 – 2021)

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## CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Ornithology, LSU Museum of Natural Science<br><i>Curatorial Assistant</i>                       | Aug 2019 – May 2020                          |
| Genetic Resources, LSU Museum of Natural Science<br><i>Curatorial Assistant</i>                 | Jul 2015 – Aug 2016                          |
| Botany, Univ. of California Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History<br><i>Curatorial Assistant</i> | Sep 2009 – Mar 2010<br>& Jan 2011 – Mar 2011 |
| Mammology, Santa Barbara City College Teaching Museum<br><i>Curatorial Assistant</i>            | Aug 2007 – Jun 2008                          |
| Ornithology, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History<br><i>Assistant Curator</i>                | Jan 2005 – Sep 2008                          |

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## SERVICE

### Committees:

- American Ornithological Society Natural History Collections Committee
- American Ornithological Society Early Career Systematics Group

Reviews provided: 9

Journals: *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, *Ecology and Evolution*, *Revista de la Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas, y Naturales*, *Check List*, *Journal of Natural History*, *Western Birds*

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## OUTREACH

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Louisiana Ornithological Society<br><i>eBird best practices (talk)</i>  | Oct 2019  |
| Gulf Coast Bird Club<br><i>eBird basics (talk)</i>  | Oct 2019  |
| Louisiana Ornithological Society<br><i>eBird basics workshop</i>  | Mar 2018  |
| Baton Rouge Westdale Middle School Family STEM night<br><i>Outreach to middle school kids for Museum of Natural Science</i>                   | Dec 2018  |
| Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop<br><i>Bird specimen preparation demo</i>  | Dec 2018  |
| Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop<br><i>Behind the scenes tours of museum collection</i>  | Sep 2018  |
| Seminar series coordinator -- LSU Museum of Natural Science<br><i>Invite, organize visits, and host seminar speakers during Fall semester</i> | Fall 2018 |
| 4H Wildlife Competition Group<br><i>Taught middle and high school students bird identification</i>  | Jun 2018  |
| Audubon Day<br><i>LSUMNS outreach for the general public</i>  | May 2018  |
| Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop<br><i>Behind the scenes tours of museum collection</i>  | May 2018  |
| LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser<br><i>Coordinator</i>  | May 2017  |
| Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop<br><i>Behind the scenes tours of museum collection</i>  | Sep 2017  |
| LSUMNS Night at the Museum – Birds  | Sep 2017  |

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| <i>Education event for the general public</i>   |          |
| LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser<br><i>Coordinator</i>  | Apr 2017 |
| LSUMNS Special Saturdays – Birds & Beaks<br><i>Talks and activities about birds for 5-12 year old kids</i>                  | Dec 2016 |
| Baton Rouge Westdale Middle School Family STEM night<br><i>Outreach to middle school kids for Museum of Natural Science</i> | Nov 2016 |
| LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser<br><i>Coordinator</i>  | Apr 2016 |
| LSUMNS 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Day<br>Museum tours and outreach for local 6 <sup>th</sup> grade students                      | Nov 2015 |
| LATM LSTA Conference<br>Outreach to local school teachers   | Nov 2015 |
| LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser<br><i>Team member</i>  | Apr 2015 |

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## MUSEUM EXPEDITIONS

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| PERU; Ucayali lowlands, vic. Masisea<br>Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (407 bird specimens)  | Aug - Sep 2019 |
| UNITED STATES; Arizona (co-led with Matthew L. Brady)<br>LSUMZ expedition (131 bird specimens)   | Jul 2019       |
| INDONESIA; central Sumatra<br>Joint LSUMZ/MZB expedition (278 bird & 450 mammal specimens)   | Feb – Apr 2018 |
| BOLIVIA; Serrania Siberia and Chuquisaca<br>Joint LSUMZ/MHNNKM expedition (398 bird specimens)   | Jan 2018       |
| UNITED STATES; Texas, Trans-Pecos region<br>LSUMZ expedition (206 bird specimens)  | May 2017       |
| PERU; Cordillera Azul (expedition leader)<br>Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (44 bird specimens)  | Sep – Oct 2016 |
| PERU; Rio Huallaga<br>Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (800 bird specimens)  | Jun – Jul 2016 |
| EQUATORIAL GUINEA; Bioko Island and Oyala (co-led with Ryan S. Terrill)<br>Joint LSUMZ/KU expedition (363 bird specimens)                          | Jan – Feb 2016 |
| PERU; Cerros del Sira, Gran Pajonal, and upper Rio Ucayali (co-led with Glenn F. Seeholzer)<br>Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (420 bird specimens) | Sep – Oct 2015 |

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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|---|--------------------------------|
| Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center; Madison, Indiana   | Apr 2014 – Aug 2014            |
| Crew Leader; breeding demography of Wood Thrush   |                                |
| Stanford University; San Vito, Costa Rica   | Jan 2014 – Mar 2014            |
| Lead Bird Bander; effects of coffee farms on bird diversity                                   |                                |
| WEST, Inc.; Riverside County, California  | Aug 2013 – Dec 2013            |
| Field Biologist; Environmental impact surveys for solar farms                                 |                                |
| Great Basin Bird Observatory; Lake Havasu City, Arizona                                       | Mar – Jun 2013                 |
| Field Technician; Territory mapping of riparian breeding birds                                |                                |
| Kaua'i Endangered Seabird Recovery Project; Hanapepe, Hawaii                                  | Mar 2011 – Oct 2012            |
| Endangered Seabird Field Assistant, Avian Research Technician; surveys of endangered seabirds |                                |
| Point Reyes Bird Observatory; Southeast Farallon Island, California                           | Aug – Oct 2010, Oct – Dec 2011 |
| Migratory Landbird Intern; banding and surveys of migratory birds                             |                                |
| UC Santa Cruz – Croll Lab; Santa Cruz, California   | Sep 2009 – Mar 2010            |
| Volunteer; gull and raven surveys   |                                |
| UC Santa Cruz – Gilbert Lab; Santa Cruz, California   | Apr 2009 – Jan 2010            |
| Volunteer; bird and mammal surveys on long-term ecological research plot                      |                                |
| Smithsonian Institution; Santa Cruz Island, California  | Jun 2008                       |
| Field Assistant; banding and monitoring Island Scrub-Jays                                     |                                |
| UC Santa Barbara; Fairbanks, Alaska   | May – Jul 2007                 |
| Field Assistant; Experimental research on Yellow Warbler breeding biology                     |                                |
| Shearwater Journeys; central California   | Aug 2006 – Aug 2010            |
| Tour leader; Pelagic bird and whale tours   |                                |
| Ventana Wilderness Society, Big Sur Ornithology Lab; Big Sur, California                      | May – Jul 2006                 |
| Conservation Ecology Intern, Bird Bander; long-term migration monitoring                      |                                |
| Christmas Bird Count; Niland, California  | Dec 2005 – Dec 2014            |
| Count Coordinator and Compiler  |                                |

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## CERTIFICATIONS

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| Wilderness First Responder – SOLO Schools International   | Jun 2019           |
| Adult and child CPR and AED – American Red Cross          | Jul 2012, May 2015 |
| Basic Helicopter and External Load Safety – IAT Course    | Apr 2012           |
| Wilderness First Aid – Wilderness Medical Training Center | Jun 2011           |

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## AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Committee Member, California Bird Records Committee         | Jan 2010 – Jan 2013 |
| Board of Directors, Central Valley Bird Club                | Nov 2009 – Nov 2014 |
| Member, Louisiana Ornithological Society                    | 2018 – present      |
| Member, Society of Systematic Biologists                    | 2016 – present      |
| Member, American Association for the Advancement of Science | 2015 – present      |
| Member, Neotropical Bird Club                               | 2015 – present      |
| Member, American Ornithological Society                     | 2014 – present      |
| Member, Western Field Ornithologists                        | 2005 – present      |
| Member, Central Valley Bird Club                            | Nov 2004 – Nov 2014 |
| Member, American Birding Association                        | Sep 2004 – Sep 2008 |

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Bioinformatics for processing high-throughput sequencing datasets
- Modern molecular wet lab techniques for phylogenetics
- Bird specimen collection and preparation
- Proficient in banding and processing songbirds, seabirds, and owls.
- Navigational skills: Can use 4WD, map, compass, and GPS.
- Familiar with mist nets, bal-chatri traps, Sherman traps, nest cameras, iButtons, telemetry techniques.
- Ability to identify all North American, Hawaiian, Mexican, Central American, Peruvian, and Caribbean bird species by sight, and most by sound.
- Basic knowledge of Californian and Hawaiian flora, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and butterflies.
- Database management: familiar with Excel, Access, Filemaker, and ArcGIS.
- Capable of preparing bird and small mammal skins.