

# 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

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

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.

2008      A.A., Biological Sciences      Santa Barbara City College, Santa Barbara, CA

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## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 22 Hiller, A. E., **Johnson, O.**, Moncrieff, A. E., and Salter, J. F. In review. Overgrown bill in a Northern Mockingbird from western Texas, with a review of elongated bill deformities in the genus *Mimus*.
- 21 **Johnson, O.**, Ribas, C.C., Aleixo, A., Naka, L.N., Harvey, M.G., and Brumfield, R.T. In press. Amazonian birds in more dynamic habitats have less population genetic structure and higher gene flow. *Molecular Ecology*
- 20 Freeman, B.G., Montgomery, G.A., Heavyside, J., Moncrieff, A.E., **Johnson, O.**, and Winger, B.M. 2023. On the predictability of phenotypic divergence in geographic isolation. *Evolution*  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/evolut/qpac040>
- 19 **Johnson, O.** 2022. First record of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) for the El Paso region of Texas. *Western Birds* 52(2):173-176. doi:10.21199/WB53.2.7
- 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.<sup>§</sup>, and Brumfield, R.T. 2020. Systematics of a Neotropical clade of dead-leaf-foraging antwrens (Aves: Thamnophilidae; *Epinecrophylia*). *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. 2020. 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*). *Ornithologia 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

§ Denotes undergraduate author

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## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 4 **Johnson, O.** 2022. A taxonomic revision of the genus *Chondrohierax*. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/hxsby>
- 3 **Johnson, O.** 2016. Pearly-breasted Conebill (*Conirostrum margaritae*), version 1.0. In *Birds of the World* (T. S. Schulenberg, Editor). Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY, USA.
- 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

- 17 Sariñana, A., Brady, M., **Johnson, O.**, and Harvey, M. 2022. (Poster). Genetic identification of rare hummingbird found in the Franklin Mountains, El Paso, Texas, USA. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists (ABRCMS).

- 16 O'Brien, C., Harvey, M., Brady, M., **Johnson, O.**, and Buontempo, M. 2022. (Poster). Hybridization of Dark-eyed Junco and Yellow-eyed Junco. UTEP COURI Symposium.
- 15 **Johnson, O.**, Barber, R., Bravo, G., Claramunt, S., Derryberry, E., Harvey, M., Marcondes, R., Rego, M., Tobias, J., and Brumfield, R.T. 2022. (Talk). Multiple modes of trait divergence facilitate the transition to sympatry in suboscine passerine birds. American Ornithological Society Conference.
- 14 **Johnson, O.**, Barber, R., Bravo, G., Claramunt, S., Derryberry, E., Harvey, M., Marcondes, R., Pigot, A., 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 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

### *Co-instructor*

Biosystematics (UTEP graduate level course) Spring 2023

### *Teaching Assistant*

Principles of Genetics (LSU Sophomore course) Spring 2015  
Biological Laboratories for Science Majors (LSU Freshman course) Fall 2014

### *Guest Lecturer*

Genetics (UTEP) Nov 2022  
Field Biology (UTEP) Nov 2022

### *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 24 field assistants, undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and professors in bird specimen preparation techniques (2016 – 2022)

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## CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

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

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## SERVICE

### Committees:

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

Reviews provided: 14

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

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## OUTREACH

Zach White Elementary, STEAM event, El Paso Feb 2023  
*How do different birds eat?*  
Boo at the Zoo, El Paso Oct 2022  
*Museum specimen table*  
Chihuahuan Desert Fiesta Sep 2022  
*Museum specimen table*  
Louisiana Ornithological Society Oct 2019

<i>eBird best practices (talk)</i>	Oct 2019
Gulf Coast Bird Club	
<i>eBird basics (talk)</i>	Mar 2018
Louisiana Ornithological Society	
<i>eBird basics workshop</i>	Dec 2018
Baton Rouge Westdale Middle School Family STEM night	
<i>Outreach to middle school kids for Museum of Natural Science</i>	Dec 2018
Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop	
<i>Bird specimen preparation demo</i>	Sep 2018
Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop	
<i>Behind the scenes tours of museum collection</i>	Fall 2018
Seminar series coordinator -- LSU Museum of Natural Science	
<i>Invite, organize visits, and host seminar speakers during Fall semester</i>	Jun 2018
4H Wildlife Competition Group	
<i>Taught middle and high school students bird identification</i>	May 2018
Audubon Day	
<i>LSUMNS outreach for the general public</i>	May 2018
Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop	
<i>Behind the scenes tours of museum collection</i>	May 2017
LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser	
<i>Coordinator</i>	Sep 2017
Acadiana Master Naturalists Bird Workshop	
<i>Behind the scenes tours of museum collection</i>	Sep 2017
LSUMNS Night at the Museum – Birds	
<i>Education event for the general public</i>	Apr 2017
LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser	
<i>Coordinator</i>	Dec 2016
LSUMNS Special Saturdays – Birds & Beaks	
<i>Talks and activities about birds for 5-12 year old kids</i>	Nov 2016
Baton Rouge Westdale Middle School Family STEM night	
<i>Outreach to middle school kids for Museum of Natural Science</i>	Apr 2016
LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser	
<i>Coordinator</i>	Nov 2015
LSUMNS 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Day	
<i>Museum tours and outreach for local 6<sup>th</sup> grade students</i>	Nov 2015
LATM LSTA Conference	
<i>Outreach to local school teachers</i>	Apr 2015
LSU Museum of Natural Science Birdathon fundraiser	
<i>Team member</i>	

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## MUSEUM EXPEDITIONS

PERU; Ucayali lowlands, vic. Masisea	Aug - Sep 2019
Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (407 bird specimens)	
UNITED STATES; Arizona (co-led with Matthew L. Brady)	Jul 2019
LSUMZ expedition (131 bird specimens)	
INDONESIA; central Sumatra	Feb – Apr 2018
Joint LSUMZ/MZB expedition (278 bird & 450 mammal specimens)	
BOLIVIA; Serrania Siberia and Chuquisaca	Jan 2018
Joint LSUMZ/MHNNKM expedition (398 bird specimens)	
UNITED STATES; Texas, Trans-Pecos region	May 2017

LSUMZ expedition (206 bird specimens) PERU; Cordillera Azul (expedition leader)	Sep – Oct 2016
Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (44 bird specimens) PERU; Rio Huallaga	Jun – Jul 2016
Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (800 bird specimens) EQUATORIAL GUINEA; Bioko Island and Oyala (co-led with Ryan S. Terrill)	Jan – Feb 2016
Joint LSUMZ/KU expedition (363 bird specimens) PERU; Cerros del Sira, Gran Pajonal, and upper Rio Ucayali (co-led with Glenn F. Seeholzer)	Sep – Oct 2015
Joint LSUMZ/CORBIDI expedition (420 bird specimens)	

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

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## CERTIFICATIONS

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

Member, Society of Systematic Biologists	2016 – present
Member, Neotropical Bird Club	2015 – present
Member, American Ornithological Society	2014 – present
Member, Western Field Ornithologists	2005 – present

Member, Louisiana Ornithological Society	2018 – 2022
Member, American Association for the Advancement of Science	2015 – 2021
Board of Directors, Central Valley Bird Club	Nov 2009 – Nov 2014
Member, Central Valley Bird Club	Nov 2004 – Nov 2014
Committee Member, California Bird Records Committee	Jan 2010 – Jan 2013
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.