

# João Carnio Teles de Menezes

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## Education University of Massachusetts Amherst • 2020–present

Ph.D., Organismic & Evolutionary Biology

Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey E. Podos

## University of São Paulo • 2016–19

M.Sc., Ecology

Thesis: 'Habitat structure drives the evolution of aerial displays in birds'

Advisors: Dr. Eduardo S. A. Santos & Dr. Rafael Maia

## Mackenzie University • 2011–15

B.Sc., Biology

Thesis: 'Predators of bird nests in the New World: diversity and current knowledge'

Advisors: Dr. Paola L. Dall'Occo & Dr. Miguel Â. Marini

## Peer-reviewed Articles

7. **JCT Menezes** & J Podos (2025). Diverse relationships between amplitude and frequency in bird vocalizations. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 292: 20250781. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2025.0781>
6. Graham, ZA, JJ Florentino, SP Smithers, **JCT Menezes**, JE Carvalho & AV Palaoro (2025). Claw coloration in the fiddler crab *Leptuca uruguayensis* has no correlation with male quality. *Current Zoology* 71: 109–123. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cz/zoae035>
5. **Menezes, JCT** & AV Palaoro (2022). Flight hampers the evolution of weapons in birds. *Ecology Letters* 25: 624–634. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.13964>
4. **Menezes, JCT** & ESA Santos (2020). Habitat structure drives the evolution of aerial displays in birds. *Journal of Animal Ecology* 89: 482–493. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.13132>
3. **Menezes, JCT** & MÂ Marini (2017). Predators of bird nests in the Neotropics: a review. *Journal of Field Ornithology* 88: 99–114. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jfo.12203>

2. **Menezes, JCT** (2014). Spontaneous approach and apparent play solicitation by a young free-living tayra *Eira barbara* in response to the observer's presence. *Revista de Etologia* 13: 25–29.  
<https://doi.org/10.22491/etologia.v13n2.art5>
1. **Menezes, JCT**, BC Barbosa & F Prezoto (2014). Previously unreported nesting associations of the Yellow-olive Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*) with social wasps and bees. *Ornitología Neotropical* 25: 363–368.

## Grants & Fellowships & Research Grants Awards

UMass Spaulding-Smith Fellowship (\$64,000) • 2021, 25  
 UMass Fieldwork Grant (\$5,000) • 2024  
 UMass Natural History Collections Scholarship (\$5,000) • 2022  
 UMass Predissertation Grant (\$1,000) • 2022  
 UMass OEB First Year Fellowship (\$5,762) • 2021  
 ABS Developing Nations Research Grant (\$1,652) • 2019  
 CAPES Master's Fellowship (\$10,600) • 2016–18

## Travel Awards

UMass IDGP Travel Award • 2022, 25  
 Animal Behavior Society • 2018, 22  
 UMass Graduate School Travel Award • 2022  
 Princeton EEB Scholars Program • 2018

## Society Membership

AAAS/Science Program for Excellence in Science • 2021–present

## Presentations Contributed Presentations

presented as  
 \*poster or †talk

Evolutionary drivers of vocal amplitude in birds

†Animal Behavior Society, Baltimore, MD • 2023

Relationship between amplitude and frequency in bird vocalizations

†Animal Behavior Society, San José, Costa Rica • 2022

Flight hampers the evolution of weapons in birds

†Animal Behavior Society (Virtual) • 2020

Habitat structure drives the evolution of aerial displays in birds

*<sup>†</sup>Animal Behavior Society, Milwaukee, WI • 2018*

Lack of remote monitoring of nests may explain why few  
Neotropical nest predators are mammals

*\*Ornithological Congress of the Americas, P. Iguazú, Argentina • 2018*

A meta-analysis of New World nest predators

*\*Neotropical Ornithological Congress, Manaus, Brazil • 2015*

## Departmental Talk

Habitat structure drives the evolution of aerial displays in birds

*<sup>†</sup>EcoEncontros Seminar Series, São Paulo, Brazil • 2018*

## Reviewing Experience

### Scientific Journals

(chronological)

F1000Research (1) • Proceedings B (5) • Nature Communications (1)  
• Ornithology/The Auk (3) • Ecology & Evolution (1) • Ornithology  
Research/Brazilian J. of Ornithology (6) • PeerJ (3) • J. of  
Herpetology (2) • J. of Ethology (1) • Wilson J. of Ornithology (3)  
• Ornitología Neotropical (2)

### Society Grants

Animal Behavior Society Student Research Grant (3)

## Teaching Experience

### Teaching Assistant

Evolution • UMass Amherst • 2024

*Guest speaker in six lectures • led grading team • helped design  
assignments*

Animal Behavior • UMass Amherst • 2022, 23

*Led four lab sections total (24 students per section)*

Experimental Comparative Physiology • UMass Amherst • 2022

*Led two lab sections (24 students per section)*

Animal Behavior • U. of São Paulo • 2019

*Assisted students at in-class exercises*

Use of R for Data Analysis in Ecology • U. of São Paulo • 2018

*Assisted students at in-class exercises*

## **Service & Outreach**

### **Engagement & Leadership**

#### OEB Mentoring Committee • 2022–24

*Helped run peer mentoring program for incoming students • mentored three students*

#### OEB Seminars Committee • 2022–23

*Elected student representative • helped curate and organize weekly seminars*

#### EcoEncontros Seminars Committee • 2018–20

*Helped organize 91 seminars • created [ecoencontros.ib.usp.br/en](http://ecoencontros.ib.usp.br/en) website • treasurer*

#### Butantan Institute • 2017–19

*Abundance point-counter in the Bird Observatory's monthly census*

#### PROEX Grant Committee • 2017–18

*Helped fund research projects by 36 graduate students*

### **Contributions to Citizen Science**

#### eBird/Cornell Lab of Ornithology

*Made 872 annotations for Merlin Sound ID • 2022–present*

*Hotspot editor for Brazil • 2018–present*

*Submitted 8,533 bird checklists • 2006–present*

#### iNaturalist

*Helped identify 3,299 observations • 2016–present*

*Submitted 3,166 observations • 2001–present*

## **Selected Workshops**

#### Summer School on Mathematical Biology (64 hours) • 2020

*ICTP South American Institute for Fundamental Research, Brazil*

*Instructor: Dr. Roberto Kraenkel*

#### Macroevolution (35 hours) • 2019

*Universidad de la República, Uruguay*

*Instructors: Dr. Liam Revell & Dr. Luke Harmon*

#### Phylogenetic comparative methods (45 hours) • 2017

*Federal University of Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil*

*Instructor: Dr. Diogo Provete*

#### Ornithology field course (54 hours) • 2016

*Butantan Institute, Brazil*

*Lead instructor: Luciano Moreira-Lima*

Taxonomy & systematics (34 hours) • 2012

*Mackenzie University, Brazil*

Instructor: Dr. Gustavo Schmidt

## **Work Experience**

Freelance field ornithologist • 2015–20

*Bird surveys in the Atlantic and Amazon forests*

University of Brasilia/Infraero • 2014

*Research assistant in the wildlife management team of Congonhas/São  
Paulo Airport*

## **Skills**

### **Software**

R • R Markdown • Shiny • DeepLabCut • SLEAP • BayesTraits •  
NetLogo • QGis

### **Language**

Portuguese (mother language) • English (fluent, ILR3 certificate) •  
Spanish (intermediate, ILR2 certificate) • German (elementary, ILR3  
certificate) • Italian (elementary)