

Francesca Gray



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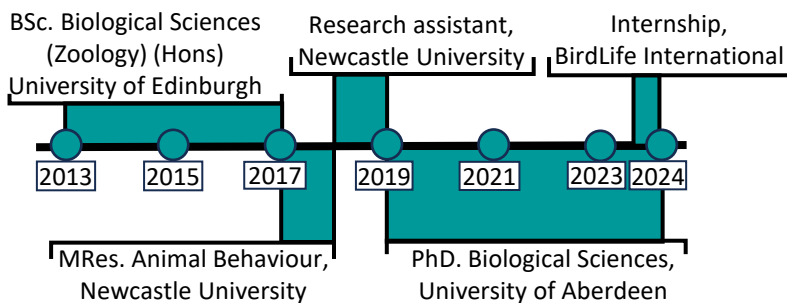
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“Behavioural and evolutionary ecologist with broad interests in understanding natural or anthropogenic environmental stressors in wild bird populations”

Research interests

- Behavioural adaptation in response to **changing environmental conditions**
- Implications of environmental constraints for **wild bird populations**
- Welfare and **conservation** of wild bird populations

Research and education



2 peer reviewed publications
1 first author publication

Full list: see bottom of resume

[orcid ID: 0000-0001-8059-2373](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8059-2373)

Funding

Travel grant (£300), British Ornithological Union, 2023

QUADRAT PhD studentship (~£80k, full time): Exposure and consequences of organic pollutants in wild Alpine swift colonies, 2019 - 2024

Undergraduate **summer studentship** (10 weeks, full time): parent-offspring competition in the burying beetle, follow-up experiment and publication of undergraduate project, 2017

Teaching/supervision

Supervision of **2 undergraduate students** and **2 master's students**

Demonstrated on various courses including ArcGIS (1st + 2nd years) and Field Skills in Animal Behaviour (3rd years)

Primary school engagement, Aberdeen Biodiversity Centre

Projects

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| PhD | Flying sentinels: using a long-distance migratory bird to assess exposure to POPs over two continents and their health consequences. (University of Aberdeen) |
| Research assistant | How food insecurity affects body weight trajectories in birds? A meta-analysis. (Newcastle University) |
| MRes/ Research assistant | How do starlings adjust daily patterns of body mass change and foraging behaviour in response to food insecurity? (Newcastle University) |
| BSc | Competition between parents and offspring over consumption of a shared food source (University of Edinburgh) |

○ Competencies

Presentations

European Ornithological Union conference, Sweden, 2023 (seminar talk)
British Ecological Society conference, UK, 2022 (talk)
Whey Aye Welfare, pre-conference UK, 2018 (stall)

Advanced statistics and visualisation

Large dataset handling (R)
Network meta-analysis (R)
ArcGIS
Data visualisation (R)
Principle component analysis (R)

Prizes and awards

Best student presentation – Annual Science meeting, QUADRAT, 2022

Other

Extinction analysis as a Science Intern, BirdLife International (Oct-Dec 2023)
Interviewed by a journalist, The Guardian, 2023
Strategic Management and Leadership qualification, CMI Level 7, 2021

○ References

Dr. Davina Derous

Primary PhD supervisor
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Dr. Pierre Bize

Secondary PhD supervisor
Anthropogenic Effects
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Prof. Melissa Bateson

MRes and research assistant supervisor
Institute of Neuroscience
Newcastle University
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○ Publications

1. **Gray, F.E.**, Richardson, J., Ratz, T. and Smiseth, P.T., 2018. No evidence for parent–offspring competition in the burying beetle *Nicrophorus vespilloides*. *Behavioral Ecology*, 29(5), pp.1142-1149. [Available here.](#)
2. Bateson, M., Andrews, C., Dunn, J., Egger, C.B., **Gray, F.**, Mchugh, M. and Nettle, D., 2021. Food insecurity increases energetic efficiency, not food consumption: an exploratory study in European starlings. *PeerJ*, 9, p.e11541. [Available here.](#)