

# GEMA PALACINO GONZÁLEZ

M.Sc. Science, M.Ed. Science



## RESEARCH INTERESTS

My main research interests rely on animal social behavior and cognition.

We, humans, create new relationships in our daily lives. It is part of our social nature. However, the value of these relationships is not always the same: we tend to be more compatible with certain friends, while others end up being mere acquaintances. The quality of these bonds has an ultimate effect on how we interact with others. How is this case for nonhuman animals? Moreover, how do differential relationships influence an individual's daily social activities?

This fact along with my curiosity for animals drove my attention to research about the cognitive bases and factors affecting social bond maintenance in nonhuman species. I am interested in understanding how conspecific communication works inside the social group. I am doing research on horses to understand these questions.

Besides, I am very interested in science education and innovative teaching.

## WORK HISTORY

### 2022 CICASP Teaching Assistant

### 2020 - 2021 High School Science Teacher Trainee

- Concentration: Biological Sciences

### 2020 Research Intern, Clever Dog Lab, University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna

- Dog social cognition. Data collection and analysis.

- Executive functions in domestic dogs. Project design.

### 2018 - 2019 Research Assistant, University of Southern Denmark

- Danish Porpoise Project (collab Aarhus University). Harbour porpoise social behavior. Drone data collection and analysis.

- Research project 1: A new drone-based computer program to study the social behaviour of harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) in the wild.

- Research project 2: Vocal mimicry: A case study of a wild gray seal (*Halichoerus grypus*).

### 2016 Zoo Intern, Loro Park Zoo, Canary Islands, Spain

- Department of Marine Mammals (Dolphins and Sea lions).

- Practical training in observation, nutrition and behaviour.

- Water control analysis for welfare procedure.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Drone data collection (Dronetegn certificate Nr.: 5034932)
- R and Python language user and learner
- SPSS software
- BORIS software user and learner
- Microsoft Office
- Modern instructional teaching (incl. Cooperative learning and The *Flipped Classroom*)
- Teamwork experience

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Nationality: Spain 

Residence: Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan

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## LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish (native) 

English 

Japanese 

Portuguese 

German 

## HIGH-LEVEL EDUCATION

**Oct 2021 - Present** - Doctoral course, Wildlife Research Center, Kyoto University

**Jul 2021** - M.Ed. in Secondary Education, Concentration: Biological Sciences, Department of Education, University of Extremadura.

**Jun 2019** - M.Sc. in Biology, Concentration: Animal Communication and Behavior, Marine Research Centre, University of Southern Denmark.

- GPA: 11 / Danish Scaling System: -3 (min.) - 12 (max.)

- Language of instruction: English and Danish

- Master Thesis' title: The social interactions of wild harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) studied with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). Grade: 12 (Distinction with Honours)

**Jul 2017** - B.Sc. in Biology, Department of Zoology, University of Extremadura.

- GPA: 8.6 / Decimal Scaling System: 0 (min.) - 10 (max.)

- Language of instruction: Spanish

- Bachelor Thesis' title: Parents' response to different types of nest helpers in the Iberian magpie (*Cyanopica cooki*). Final Grade: 10

**2008 - 2014 - B.Sc. Medicine**, University of Extremadura. Grades 1st - 4th.

- GPA: 8.0 / Decimal Scaling System: 0 (min.) - 10 (max.)

- Language of instruction: Spanish

## ADDITIONAL SCIENTIFIC TRAINING

**2021** - Advanced programming course: Machine Learning with Python. University of Extremadura.

**2018** - Underwater Sound Analysis course, Aarhus University

**2018 - Drone Pilot Certificate - Dronetegn**

Nr. 5034932

Trafik-, Bygge- og Boligstyrelsen. Danish Transport, Construction and Housing Authority, Denmark.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE CERTIFICATES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

**2019** - Japanese Language, Elementary Level

Japanese Embassy in Madrid.

**2017** - English Language, Proficiency Level

International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Madrid, Spain

**2013 - 2014** - German Language, Elementary Level

University of Vienna, Austria

Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Palacino, G.**, Yamamoto, S. Comparative studies on the social behaviour of magpies and domestic horses. The 16th International Symposium on Primatology and Wildlife Science, Japan, online (poster). September, 2021

**Palacino, G.**, Ortiz, S., Wahlberg, M. The Development of Mother-Calf Interactions in Wild Harbour Porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) Studied with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). The 15th International Symposium on Primatology and Wildlife Science, Japan, online (poster). March, 2021

**Palacino, G.**, Ortiz, S., Wahlberg, M. Harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) mother-calf behaviour revealed by drone observations. World Marine Mammal Conference, poster. December, 2019

**Palacino, G.**, Ortiz, S., Wahlberg, M. Drones as a tool to study the social lives of harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) in the wild. Danish Marine Mammal Conference, poster. January, 2019