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**Education**

- 2015 – **PhD student**, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Toronto Scarborough  
present *Supervisor*: Maydianne Andrade
- 2014 **MSc**, Biology, Simon Fraser University  
*Supervisor*: Gerhard Gries
- 2008 **BSc**, Mathematics, Queen's University

**Merit-based Scholarships and Awards**

- 2018 International Society for Behavioural Ecology Travel Award (\$600)
- 2017 Toronto Entomologists' Association: W. John D. Eberlie Research Grant (\$400)
- 2016 International Congress of Arachnology: award for best student poster in Ecology and Behaviour (\$200)
- 2016 American Arachnological Society Student Travel Grant (\$550)
- 2015 NSERC Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship – Doctoral (\$105,000 over 3 years)
- 2013 SFU Graduate Fellowship (\$6,250)
- 2013 Entomological Society of BC Graduate Student Scholarship (\$400)
- 2013 Entomological Society of Canada: President's Prize for best student talk (\$150)
- 2012 SFU Graduate Fellowship (\$6,250)
- 2011 SFU Graduate Fellowship (\$6,250)
- 2007 Norman Miller Fellowship in Mathematics Education (\$1,000)

**Other Grants and Awards**

- 2016 Experiment Arachnid Challenge Grant (USD 500 grant plus USD 5,700 raised via crowdfunding at [Experiment.com](http://Experiment.com))

**Peer-reviewed Publications**

11. **Scott C**, Anderson A, Andrade MCB. (In Press). A review of the mechanisms and functional roles of male silk use in spider courtship and mating. *Journal of Arachnology*.
10. **Scott C**, Gerak C, McCann S, Gries G. (2017). The role of silk in courtship and chemical communication of the false widow spider, *Steatoda grossa* (Araneae: Theridiidae) *Journal of Ethology*. doi: [10.1007/s10164-017-0539-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10164-017-0539-3)

9. Vibert S, Salomon M, **Scott C**, Blackburn GS, Gries G. (2017). Life-history data for the funnel weavers *Eratigena agrestis* and *Eratigena atrica* (Araneae: Agelenidae) in the Pacific Northwest of North America. *The Canadian Entomologist*. doi: [10.4039/tce.2016.73](https://doi.org/10.4039/tce.2016.73)
8. Vibert S, **Scott C**, Gries G. (2016). Vibration transmission through sheet webs of hobo spiders (*Eratigena agrestis*) and tangle webs of western black widow spiders (*Latrodectus hesperus*). *Journal of Comparative Physiology A*. doi:[10.1007/s00359-016-1113-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00359-016-1113-0)
7. **Scott C**, Kirk D, McCann S, Gries G. (2015). Web reduction by male black widows renders pheromone-emitting females' webs less attractive to rivals. *Animal Behaviour*. 107: 71-78. doi:[10.1016/j.anbehav.2015.06.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2015.06.009)
6. **Scott C**, McCann S, Gries R, Khaskin G, Gries G. (2015). *N*-3-Methylbutyryl-*O*-methylpropanoyl-*L*-serine methyl ester – pheromone component of western black widow females. *Journal of Chemical Ecology*. 41(5): 465-472. doi:[10.1007/s10886-015-0582-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10886-015-0582-x)
5. McCann S, **Scott C**, Moeri O, Jones T, O'Donnell S, Gries G. (2015). Red-throated Caracara, a falconid raptor, rivals predatory impact of army ants on social wasps. *Insectes Sociaux*. 62(1): 101-108. doi:[10.1007/s00040-014-0384-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00040-014-0384-0)
4. McCann S, Moeri O, Ibarra Jiminez S, **Scott C**, Gries G. (2015). Developing a paired-target apparatus for quantitative testing of nest defense behavior by vespine wasps in response to con- or heterospecific nest defense pheromones. *Journal of Hymenoptera Research*. 46: 151-163. doi:[10.3897/JHR.46.6585](https://doi.org/10.3897/JHR.46.6585)
3. Vibert S, **Scott C**, Gries G. (2014). A meal or a male: the 'whispers' of black widow males do not trigger a predatory response in females. *Frontiers in Zoology*. 11(1): 4. doi:[10.1186/1742-9994-11-4](https://doi.org/10.1186/1742-9994-11-4)
2. McCann S, Moeri O, Jones T, **Scott C**, Gries R, Khaskin G, O'Donnell S, Gries G. (2013). Strike fast, strike hard: the Red-throated Caracara exploits absconding behavior of social wasps during nest predation. *PLOS ONE*. 8(12): e84114. doi:[0.1371/journal.pone.0084114](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0084114)
1. **Scott C**, Vibert S & Gries G. (2012). Evidence that web reduction by western black widow males functions in sexual communication. *The Canadian Entomologist*. 144(5): 672-678. doi:[10.4039/tce.2012.56](https://doi.org/10.4039/tce.2012.56)

### Talks at Meetings

- 2018 **Scott C**, McCann S & Andrade MCB. The amazing race: how male black widows find females faster. (Talk) Toronto Entomologists' Association Student Symposium, Toronto, ON, 24 March 2018.
- 2017 **Scott C**, McCann S & Andrade MCB. Finding females in a sensory storm: How do male western widows localize mates? 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society, Scarborough, ON, 12–16 June 2017.
- 2016 **Scott C**, McCann S & Andrade MCB. The mating dynamics of western black widows: new insights from field observations. Annual General meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, 14–16 Oct. 2016.
- 2016 **Scott C**, Kirk D, McCann S & Gries G. Web reduction behaviour in black widows: a story of attraction, courtship, manipulation, and rivalry. Toronto Entomologists' Association Student Symposium, Toronto, ON, 19 Mar. 2016.

- 2015 **Scott C** & Gries G. Factors affecting web reduction behaviour, a mate-monopolization tactic of male western black widow spiders. Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies Canada and Québec, Montréal, QC, 8–11 Nov. 2015.
- 2015 **Scott C.** #NotABrownRecluse: adventures in (mis)identification of arthropods online, and why Twitter is an excellent tool for entomological outreach. Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario, Elgin, ON, 18–20 Sept. 2015.
- 2014 **\*Scott C.** The truth about spider bites: “Aggressive” spiders and the threat to public health. Symposium: Dangerous Creatures? Arthropods affecting human health: fact and fiction. Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of British Columbia, Burnaby, BC, 24 – 25 Oct. 2014. *\*Invited talk*
- 2014 **\*Scott C**, Kirk D, McCann S & Gries G. Web reduction behaviour and the chemical communication system of the western black widow, *Latrodectus hesperus*. Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Saskatchewan and Entomological Society of Canada, Saskatoon SK, 28 Sept. – 1 Oct. 2014. *\*Talk in the Graduate Student Showcase*
- 2013 **\*Scott C**, Kirk D, McCann S & Gries G. Web reduction behaviour in black widows: a story of attraction, courtship, manipulation, and rivalry. (Talk) Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario and the Entomological Society of Canada, Guelph ON, 20–23 Oct. 2013. *\*President’s Prize for best student talk (Behaviour and Biological Control)*
- 2012 **Scott C**, Gries R, Khaskin G & Gries G. Identification of a silk-borne pheromone component of the western black widow *Latrodectus hesperus*. (Talk) Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada and the Entomological Society of Alberta, Edmonton AB, 4–7 Nov. 2012.
- 2010 **Scott, C.**, Vibert, S. & Gries, G. Courtship behavior and mating success in the black widow *Latrodectus hesperus*. (Talk) Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies of BC and Canada, Vancouver BC, 31 Oct.–3 Nov. 2010.

### Posters at Meetings

- 2016 **\*Scott C**, Kirk D, McCann S & Gries G. Male black widows decrease competition via web reduction. (Poster) International Congress of Arachnology, Golden, CO, 2–9 July 2016. *\*Prize for best student poster (Behaviour and Ecology)*
- 2011 **\*Scott C**, Vibert S & Gries G. Analysis of courtship behaviour in the western black widow, *Latrodectus hesperus*, with insights into vibratory and chemical signals. (Poster) Annual meeting of the International Society of Chemical Ecology, Burnaby BC, 24–28 July. 2011. *\*Honorable mention, student poster competition.*

### Selected Coauthored Talks at Meetings

- 2017 McCann S, **Scott C**, Baruffaldi L & Andrade MCB. Immature mating of *Latrodectus* in the lab and field: Implications for sexual selection research. 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society, Scarborough, ON, 12–16 June 2017.

- 2016 McCann S, **Scott C** & Andrade MCB. Alien (spider) invaders: *Enoplognatha ovata* wreak havoc on a coastal arthropod community. Annual General meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, 14–16 Oct. 2016.

### Teaching experience

- 2018 TA: BIOD53 Special Topics in Behavioural Ecology (labs) at UTSC  
Guest lecturer: Chemical Ecology; Introduction to the biology and diversity of spiders
- 2018 TA: BIOB51 Evolutionary Biology (marking) at UTSC
- 2017 TA: BIOD53 Special Topics in Behavioural Ecology (labs) at UTSC  
Guest lecturer: Courtship behaviour and chemical communication in black widows
- 2017 TA: BIOC54 Animal Behaviour (tutorials) at UTSC
- 2017 TA: BIOC99 Team Research (supervising 5 undergraduate researchers) at UTSC
- 2017 Supervisor: BIOD98 Directed Research (1 undergraduate researcher) at UTSC
- 2017 Supervisor: BIOB98 Supervised Introductory Research (1 undergraduate) at UTSC
- 2016 TA: BIOA01 Life on Earth: Unifying Principles (labs) at UTSC
- 2015 TA: BISC 102 General Biology (labs and tutorials) at SFU
- 2014 TA: BISC 204 Introduction to Ecology (tutorials) at SFU  
Guest lecturer: Ecology of Spiders
- 2013 Supervisor: BISC 498 Undergraduate Research Projects at SFU (2 undergraduates)
- Chloe Gerak: Chemical communication and courtship behaviour in the false widow, *Steatoda grossa* (coauthored paper in Journal of Ethology; won President's Prize for best undergraduate student talk at AGM of the Entomological Society of BC in 2014)
  - Devin Kirk: Chemical communication and web reduction behaviour in the western black widow, *Latrodectus hesperus* (coauthored paper in Animal Behaviour)
- 2013 TA: BISC 101 General Biology (labs and tutorials) at SFU
- 2007 Undergraduate TA: MATH 121/122 Math Investigations Calculus Program (tutorials and co- course coordinator) at Queen's University
- 2007 Undergraduate TA: drop-in Math Help Centre (office hours) at Queen's
- 2006 Undergraduate TA: MATH 121/122 Math Investigations (tutorials) at Queen's

### Research experience

Gries Lab, Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC:

- 2012 Graduate Research Assistant  
Foraging ecology of Red-throated Caracaras and army ants in French Guiana.
- 2011 Graduate Research Assistant  
Development of a MATLAB program for the analysis of video polarimetry data, to be used in the study of polarized light cues in insect foraging.
- 2010 Undergraduate Research Assistant  
Vibratory communication and courtship behaviour in web-building spiders

(*Latrodectus hesperus* and *Tegenaria agrestis*).

- 2010 BISC 498 Undergraduate Research Project  
Vibratory communication in western black widow spiders (*Latrodectus hesperus*).

### Science Communication and Outreach

Invited public talks:

- 2018 **Scott C.** Eat Prey Love: The Secret Lives of Spiders. Upper Credit Field Naturalists' Speaker Series, Orangeville, ON, 27 Mar. 2018.
- 2017 **Scott C & McCann S.** The secret lives of spiders in Ontario and beyond. Durham Region Field Naturalists' Lecture Series, Durham, ON, 27 Mar. 2017.
- 2016 **Scott C.** Untangling the web-based communication system of black widow spiders. Sigma Xi Toronto Distinguished Lecture Series, Toronto, ON, 8 Dec. 2016.
- 2016 **Scott C.** Eat Prey Love. The lives of the black widow spiders. Victoria Natural History Society, Victoria, BC, 13 Sept. 2016.
- 2016 **Scott C.** From web-based personal ads to sex under silk sheets: courtship and communication in black widows. Royal Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Science Lecture Series, Toronto, ON, 14 Feb. 2016.

Online writing and social media:

- Maintain a blog ([spiderbytes](#)) about spiders for a general audience, where I write about spider biology, diversity, and natural history, and post lay summaries of my research publications (Nov. 2013 – present)
- Maintain a personal twitter account ([@Cataranea](#)) with ca. 5000 followers where I tweet and answer questions about spider biology and engage in spider identification (Apr. 2013 – present)
- Co-maintain a twitter account ([@RecluseOrNot](#)) associated with the [Recluse Or Not?](#) outreach campaign in collaboration with Dr. Eleanor Spicer Rice and Dr. Matt Bertone. We identify spiders suspected to be recluses and provide resources about the identification, range, and risks associated with these misunderstood spiders (Sept. 2017 – present)

Radio Interviews and Podcasts

- *Science Friday*, NPR, 27 Oct. 2017. “In defense of spiders” ([link](#))
- *Science Friday*, NPR, 30 Oct. 2015. “Spider stories that will stick with you” ([link](#))
- *What She Said*, Sirius Radio, 27 Oct. 2015. “Spider expert Catherine Scott” ([link](#))
- *Scientific American 60-second Science Podcast*, 16 July 2015. “Male black widows strive for mate's monogamy” ([link](#))

Other Outreach Activities:

- Led entomology activities for a local Sparks (Girl Guides of Canada) group. Toronto, ON, 19 March 2018.
- Guest speaker (entomology and arachnology) for careers class at The Study Academy, Toronto, ON, 15 Jan. 2016.

- Led a discussion and activity about spider biology for grade 2 and 3 students as a Science Mentor for SFU Science Alive Quarks camp 2 July 2015.
- Organized and presented an interactive educational display communicating information about spiders at the Iona Beach Regional Park ‘Spiders Unraveled’ event, 13 Sept. 2014.
- Organized and presented an interactive educational display communicating information about arthropods to families at the Richmond Nature Park ‘Bugs Galore!’ event, 8 Sept. 2013 and 7 Sept. 2014.
- Guest speaker at spider club for grade 2 and 3 students at Upper Lynn elementary school, 7 and 21 May 2014.
- Organized and presented an interactive educational display about arthropods and science to children at SFU’s Halloween ‘Science Spooktacular’ event, 26 Oct. 2013.

## Service

- Reviewer for the following journals: *Animal Behaviour*, *Biotropica*, *Ethology*, *Journal of Arachnology*, *Journal of Ethology*, *Journal of Insect Behaviour*, *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, and *New Zealand Journal of Zoology*.
- CUPE Steward for Teaching Assistants in Biological Sciences at UTSC (2017 – present).
- Volunteer at the Atwood Colloquium at UofT (2017 and 2018).
- Volunteer AV operator at the annual meeting of the Animal Behaviour Society in Toronto, ON (12 – 16 Jun. 2017).
- Student representative on the board of the Entomological Society of Ontario (2016 – present).
- Vice President of the Toronto chapter of Sigma Xi (2017 – present)
- Student representative on the board of the Toronto chapter of Sigma Xi (2016 – 2017).
- Maintained the twitter account (@EntSocOnt) for the Entomological Society of Ontario (2015 – 2017).
- Organizing committee member for Ontario Ecology Ethology and Evolution Colloquium (OE3C) 2016 meeting at the University of Toronto.
- Volunteer moderator and AV operator at the Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies of Canada and Quebec in Montréal, QC (8 – 11 Nov. 2015).
- Volunteer project: scanning and uploading back issues of the Bulletin of the Entomological Society of Canada to make them available and searchable online (2013).
- Volunteer AV operator, Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies of Canada and Alberta, in Edmonton, AB (4 – 7 Nov. 2012).
- SFU Biological Sciences Graduate Student Caucus Executive member:
  - Events Committee Officer (2011 – 2012)
  - Teaching Support Staff Union Representative (2012 – 2013)

## Scientific Society Memberships

- Entomological Society of Canada (2010 – present)
- Entomological Society of BC (2013 – present)
- Entomological Society of Ontario (2015 – present)
- Toronto Entomologists’ Association (2015 – present)
- Sigma Xi (2016 – present)
- Animal Behavior Society (2017 – present)