

## A phylogenetic approach to study functional morphology and conservation of tree frogs

**Date** 26<sup>th</sup> March (Fri)

**Time** 16:00 (UTC+8)

**Venue** Zoom



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Phylogenetic inference and phylogenetic comparative methods are essential tools to understand how closely related species evolved. I provide two multidisciplinary examples from my work where I apply these tools to study frogs. The first is to understand frog functional morphology; I disentangle the evolution of morphological traits and their influence on swimming behaviour and performance of tree frogs and apply these data to understand their evolution and habitat selection. The second is incorporating genetic diversity and species relationships into conservation policy. I used species distribution and calculations of evolutionary distinctiveness (ED) for each species of Hylinae in Middle America to estimate of how much “evolutionary information” would be loss if a species becomes extinct.

**All are welcome!**



**Dr. Itzue Caviedes-Solis** earned her PhD at the University of Washington, Seattle, USA. She is currently a Postdoctoral fellow with Jon Fong at the Science Unit in Lingnan University, Hong Kong. Her project focuses on building a natural history collection of Hong King’s amphibians and reptiles for conservation and education, with a genetic case-study on the endangered tree frog *Liuixalus romeri*.

