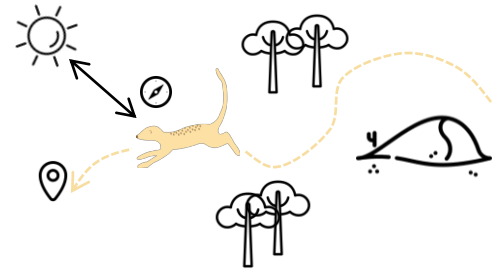


1-year MSc Project

Experimental study of meerkats' orientation and navigation mechanisms

Do meerkats use the sun as a **compass** to find their way around?



What **features** (environmental characteristics, landmarks, specific routes) do they use to **navigate their territory**?

This project involves fieldwork to conduct **GPS tracking experiments** on wild meerkats, as well as applying **spatial ecology analysis and modelling techniques** on the collected data.

Location: University of Zurich (Switzerland) and Kalahari Research Centre (2-4 months, South Africa).
Possible start date **until end of February 2026**

Supervision:

Dr Mathilde Martin (Uni. Zurich) and Dr. Benjamin Robira (Uni. Amsterdam)

Qualifications: Candidates must be either enrolled in an MSc program at UZH or another university with equivalent requirements (project counts as MSc thesis) or already hold an MSc degree (volunteer research work) with courses in animal behaviour, ecology, or a related field. Applicants are expected to have previous experience in **R programming** (or a strong motivation to learn it) and be willing to conduct fieldwork in a **remote** area and **under challenging conditions**

CV and motivation letter to mathilde.martin@uzh.ch and b.a.robira@uva.nl



S. Alderton