Documenting the Chihuahuan Desert since 1965

The UTEP-BC houses several collections containing hundreds of thousands of natural history specimens, including the herbarium (83,000 specimens), paleobiology (40,000), herpetology (24,000 specimens), malacology (18,400 specimens), mammology (8,450 specimens), ornithology (2,900 specimens) and invertebrates (355,000). These collections represent an important biological resource focused on the Greater Chihuahuan Desert Region and the collections are also particularly strong in representation from the southwest US, Mexico and Central Africa.

FOR RESEARCH LOANS AND INQUIRIES, CONTACT US
(915) 747 - 5479
utepbc@utep.edu
www.utep.edu/biodiversity/
Search Arctos: www.arctos.database.museum

UTEP Biodiversity Collections

SUPPORTED BY
WHO WE ARE

Members of the UTEP Biodiversity Collections are faculty, researchers, staff, and students dedicated to learning about and preserving local and worldwide natural history through collections-related research, and curatorial management. Faculty curators work on a worldwide stage with local researchers to promote biodiversity research and collaboration in places such as Indio Mountains, Central Africa, South America and the American Samoas. Locally, many students that work in the UTEP-BC go on to become professors, high school teachers, environmental scientists and, work in wildlife conservation.

PRESERVING THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE CHIHUAHUAN DESERT FOR THE FUTURE

RESEARCH

Where an organism lives, what it eats and how it is related to other organisms are just some of the topics researchers of the UTEP-BC investigate. Research in the collections has resulted in over 500 publications and projects. UTEP-BC collections are searchable through our public portal in Arctos at http://arctos.database.museum/home.cfm#UTEP. Researchers can access the collections through loans and in-house appointments.

THROUGH THE CLASSROOM

Professors on the UTEP campus regularly use specimens from the collections for courses such as Desert Ecology, Mammology, Herpetology and Plant Systematics to teach students how to identify the organisms around them. Educators of all levels from anywhere in the world can use the public data portal in Arctos to incorporate real biodiversity data into their curriculum.

OUTREACH

The UTEP-BC regularly partners with the Centennial Museum to present exhibits and the UTEP-BC Outreach Team sends volunteers and students to community events and schools, depending on availability of volunteer staff. For more information on how to bring the UTEP-BC to your classroom or group, please contact us.