Herbarium Practicum

Bot 3990, sect. 18 Independent Study: Herbarium Practicum
Part of the Oklahoma Biological Survey Internship Program

Get academic credit for practical experience in plant collecting and in collections management working with the Robert Bebb Herbarium

Instructor: Dr. Wayne Elisens, Curator of the Bebb Herbarium, E-mail <elisens@ou.edu>

Grading: Bot 3990 is letter graded

Credit: 1-3 hours. Each hour of credit requires about 3 hours per week in the Bebb Herbarium of the University of Oklahoma, with a 3-credit hour maximum. At the end of the semester the student will write and turn in a 2 to 3-page summary of their experience.

Prerequisites: Bot 3534 (Flowering Plants) or similar coursework in systematic biology or experience with collecting and identifying plants. Permission of instructor is required.

Schedule: Schedules will be arranged individually.

Sample Projects

• Processing specimens in the Bebb Herbarium
• Comparing curatorial practices among herbaria
• Conducting a plant survey by collecting plants of a particular group or in a particular area
• Compilation of a vascular plant list for a region
• Assessment of morphological variation in a group of plants
• Organizing the image or reprint collection of the Herbarium
• Assisting the Collections Manager with various activities