

# Robert Finn

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## Education

### **Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, BS *Magna Cum Laude***

University of Arizona

December 20<sup>th</sup> 2019; GPA: 3.74

**GRE:** V 164, Q 162, W 4.0

## Work Experience

### **Davidowitz Lab at University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ**

October 2018 – December 2019; 20 hours/week

#### **“Undergraduate Assistant”**

- Laboratory experience in the form of aiding in the set-up and operation of experiments, proper sanitization techniques, and the maintenance of rolling insect colonies
- Field experience in the form of substrate preparation in extreme Arizona summer heats; this included operating lab vehicles for the pick up of substrates and “spreading” vast amounts wet substrates to allow them to dry before recollecting and storing the dried down materials
- Field experience in the form of solo and group insect collection: primarily using butterfly nets in the early mornings to track and catch beetles, as well as midday/night time searches of nearby farmlands for ground beetles
- Identification/sex determination of local beetles, especially members of Tenebrionidae and Scarababidae
- Operated heavy machinery in the preparation of substrates for beetle colonies, machinery includes: industrial ovens, hammer-mills of various sizes, cement mixers, and others
- Used a variety of power- and handtools in the upkeep and modification of the laboratory facilities to meet demands, such as increasing ventilation in certain rooms by installing metal doors which could be opened or closed
- Aided in the training of new hires on lab procedures such as the proper usage of machinery and techniques

### **UA Insect Collection, Tucson, AZ**

August 2018 – October 2018; 10 hours/week

#### **“Collection Digitization”**

- Handled insect specimens (Meloidae/blister beetles) and their records for the purpose of maintaining a digital version of the collection
- Edited photographs to ensure quality and clarity for the digital record
- Maintained digital records of photographs for placement into the digital collection

### **Tropical Kingdom, Tucson, AZ**

November 2016 – October 2018; 20 hours/week

#### **“Reptile and Arachnid Care Specialist”**

- Husbandry for a wide variety of pet species: primarily reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods (species of tarantula, centipede, and millipede)

- Duties for husbandry include: regular feeding and watering schedules, monitoring and treating health concerns, regularly changing substrates within the enclosures, cleaning the enclosures, and providing enrichment opportunities to the animals in the form of human contact and enclosure accessories
- Husbandry for the on-site, rolling rodent colony, primarily rats and mice, including: regularly providing food and water, changing substrates, and monitoring for health concerns and births/pregnancies in breeding enclosures
- Educated customers on proper handling techniques and care requirements for all species under the store's care
- Operated a variety of power and handtools to maintain and modify enclosures and lighting systems

### Class Experience

#### **Paleontology at University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ**

August 2019 – December 2019

##### **“Preceptor”**

- Aided the teaching of the laboratory portion of the Paleontology class
- Operated high-occupancy vehicles during long distance field excursions in caravan with other members of the teaching team
- Instructed students on proper procedure through lab activities and answered specific questions about content and procedure
- Assisted with grading laboratory assignments

#### **Insect Discovery at University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ**

January 2019 – May 2019

##### **“Preceptor”**

- Field work in the form of: hikes in Arizona heat to observe insects in the wild, a variety of insect collection techniques, and how to preserve and prepare insect specimens for a collection
- Designed my own lesson plan alongside another student to teach children about diversity in arthropods, and how shared characters can be used to group similar taxa
- Operated classroom exercises for early elementary-aged school kids to foster a love of learning, especially regarding science and basic biological principles via insects

### Skills, Education and Experience

Black lighting for Collection of Insects | Insect Collection and Pinning | Native Plant and Animal Identification | Stream Ecology and Analysis via Aquatic Invertebrates

Animal Care | Animal Handling (invertebrates; amphibians, reptiles, birds, rodents, small mammals, bats)

Camping/Hiking | Other General Outdoors Experience | High-occupancy Vehicle Training

Bat Capture and Sample Collection | Bird Surveys | Camera Trap Set up and Processing | Comparative Soil Analysis | Local Geology/Paleontology | Mist Netting (Bats, Birds) | Sherman Trapping (Rodents)

Teaching Short Classroom Activities | Developing Classroom Activities

Computer Literacy (Microsoft Office suite of programs) | Photo Manipulation

Rabies Vaccinated