Freshman Seminar: “Death of the Dinosaurs”
Mon, Wed 3:00−4:20 PM; Tech F391
Course Webpage: http://www.earth.northwestern.edu/courses/102

Instructor:
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Textbooks:
This book and a large number of other sources on extinctions and dinosaurs (see back) will be on reserve (24 hr) in the Reserve Reading Room, Main Library.

Topics:
Geological time and dating
Dinosaur hunters
Fossilization and the geological record
History of life on earth and theories for evolution
Dinosaurs, classification, and renaissance
Extinctions and periodicities
Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary, iridium layer, and associations
Theories for extinctions: Cosmic occurrences (Planet X, and Nemesis, the “Death Star”)
Terrestrial causes (volcanism, glacial ages, and others)
First contact

Papers:
Participants will write 4 papers and give several presentations. The first paper will be autobiographical. The topic of the second (about 3–4 pages) and the third (4–5 pages) will be assigned. The final paper (7–8 pages) topic will be chosen by the student, and presented as a 15-minute talk. Any final paper topic could be presented as fiction. Peer review and revision will be included.

Final Paper: due Saturday, 10AM, December 7 (End of WCAS Reading Week)
The development of research skills and use of the Northwestern Library will be stressed. Also, documentation of source material and academic integrity will be emphasized.

Grading:
Weight: 20% Homework, 20% second paper + 20% third paper + 40% final paper (half presentation; half paper) determines final grades.
Paper and presentation evaluation will be based on content and style, weighted equally.
"Death of the Dinosaurs", Earth 102-6-20 - Reserve Readings

Alvarez, W.#T. Rex and the Crater of Doom
Archibald, J. D. Dinosaur Extinction and the End of an Era
Bakker, R. T. The Dinosaur Heresies
Cadbury, D. Terrible Lizard: The First Dinosaur Hunters, & the Birth of a New Science
Colbert, E. H. Dinosaurs, An Illustrated History
Currie, P. J. & K. Padin Encyclopedia of Dinosaurs *
Czerkas, S. & S. Czerkas Dinosaurs: A Global View
Dodson, P. The Horned Dinosaurs
Eldredge, N. Fossils
Fastovsky, D. E. The Evolution and Extinction of the Dinosaurs (2nd ed.)
& D. B. Weishampel
Fiffer, S. Tyrannosaurus Sue
Gallenkamp, C. Dragon Hunter: Roy Chapman Andrews & the Central Asiatic Expeditions
Gee, H. & L. V. Rey Field Guide to Dinosaurs
Gould, S. J. The Book of Life
Horner, J. R. & D. Lessem The Complete T-Rex
Jaffe, M. The Gilded Dinosaur
Norell, M. et al. Discovering Dinosaurs
Norman, D. Illustrated Encyclopedia of Dinosaurs
Parsons, K.M Drawing out Leviathan: Dinosaurs and the Science Wars
Psihoyos, L. Hunting Dinosaurs
Reader, J. The Rise of Life
Schopf, J. Major Events in the History of Life
Weishampel et al. The Dinosauria

* Reference Collection, Main Library