

**Earth & Planetary Sciences 102-6-20 — Fall Quarter 2016**

**First-Year Seminar: “Death of the Dinosaurs” Mon, Wed 2:00–3:20 PM; Tech F391**

**Course Webpage: <http://www.earth.northwestern.edu/courses/102>**

**Instructor:**

Donna M. Jurdy (email: [d-jurdy@northwestern.edu](mailto:d-jurdy@northwestern.edu) linked to [donna@earth.northwestern.edu](mailto:donna@earth.northwestern.edu))

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**Textbooks:**

*Harbrace College Handbook*, 18th edition, 2013

*Dinosaurs: The Textbook*, Spencer G. Lucas, McGraw Hill, (paper), 5th edition, 2007

This book and a large number of other sources on extinctions and dinosaurs (see back) will be on Reserve (24 hr) in the 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 third (4–5 pages) to be assigned. Students select their final paper (7–8 pages) topic and present in class. Peer review and revision will be included in the process of writing papers.

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.

Final Paper: due Saturday, 12 noon, December 3 (End of WCAS Reading Period)

**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.

Late assignments earn reduced grades: one letter grade for papers, 50% for homeworks.

Assignments and due dates will be both announced in class and posted on CANVAS (which also shows grades for assignments/papers)

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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

Brochu, C. et al.#A Guide to Dinosaurs

Cadbury, D.#Terrible Lizard: The First Dinosaur Hunters,  
Science

#& the Birth of a New

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. #The Evolution and Extinction of the Dinosaurs  
& D. B. Weishampel

Fastovsky, D., #Dinosaurs: A Concise Natural History  
& D. B. Weishampel

Fiffer, S.#Tyrannosaurus Sue

Gallenkamp, C.#Dragon Hunter: Roy Chapman Andrews  
Expeditions

#& the Central Asiatic

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

Lucas, S.#Dinosaurs: The Textbook

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