

Earth and Planetary Sciences Freshman Seminar 102  
 Lake Michigan and the Chicago River  
<http://www.earth.northwestern.edu/people/seth/102>

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T/Th 2-3:30 Locy 301

Week	Sunday	Tuesday	Thursday
1		9/22 Intro (subject) <b>Personal essay (2 pages)</b>	9/24 Intro (writing)
2	9/27 <i>Lake paddle</i> 11:00	9/29 <i>Water Pressures film</i>	10/1 <b>Your community</b> <b>(2 pages)</b>
3	10/3 <i>backup date</i>	10/6 Library tour	10/8 1 Hot, Flat & Crowded <b>Hot, Flat&amp; Crowded (2 pages)</b>
4	10/11 <i>Chicago River paddle</i>	10/13 French explorers Indians & Americans	10/15 <i>Tour waterworks</i>
5	11/17 (Sat) <i>backup date</i>	10/20 <b>No class</b>	10/22 I&M Canal/Fire S&S Canal
6	10/25 <i>Illinois Beach State Park</i>	10/27 10/13 Burnham plan MRWD/Deep Tunnel <b>Final community due</b>	10/29 Ice ages Formation of Great Lakes <b>Revised HFC due</b>
7	11/2 <i>backup date</i>	11/3 Great Lakes today - climate and weather; biology	11/5 <b>No class</b>
8		11/10 Using GL through time: fishing, shipping, etc Present Environmental Issues <b>Final HFC due</b>	11/12 <b>Field Trip</b> <b>Assessment (2 pages)</b>
9		11/17 Chicago economy: past & present	11/19 Chicago architecture Chicago politics & crooks
10		11/24 Chicago in Literature & Film <b>Final FTA due</b>	
11		12/7 <b>Research paper (8</b> <b>pages plus figures)</b>	
		<i>EXTRA EVENTS</i>	
	Fri 10/9 Tom Friedman 10:30	Wed 10/14 <i>Water</i> <i>Pressures party</i> Evans Center 5:00-7:00 PM	10/22 Environmental threats to GL 12:30-2 (EPC)

**Bold: paper due**

Organizational matters

Grading policy: short papers 10% each, research paper 60%

Paper grades: 50% content, 50% writing (content, concise, correct usage & grammar)

On matters of opinion, there's no right answer, so the logic of your argument is the key

Please don't use computers or other portable electronic devices in class

### Short Paper Topics

**Format: 2 copies: 2 pages, 12 pt, double-spaced**

1. Personal essay: your background, interests, and some experiences that shaped you
2. Your home community: location in natural terms, history, population, and economy
3. Your response to *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*:
  - **Which (if any) of the effects discussed have impacted you to date and how?**
  - **Which (if any) of the effects discussed do you think is likely to impact you in the future: why and how?**
  - **How (if at all) are you thinking of responding personally and professionally, and why?**
4. Field trip assessment: How did you respond to any of the four field trips? What did you get out of it? Was it worthwhile?



## Research Paper Topics

1. The French Explorers
2. Indians & Americans, Black Hawk War to 1833
3. Illinois + Michigan Canal and the Chicago Fire: city till 1880
4. Ship and Sanitary Canal
5. Burnham Plan and the 1893 World's Fair
6. Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and the Deep Tunnel
7. Ice Ages
8. Formation and Evolution of Great Lakes: Lake Michigan and the Chicago River
9. Great Lakes Today: Hydrology, Climate and Weather
10. Biology of the Great Lakes Region
11. Using the Lakes Through Time: Shipping, Fishing etc.
12. Past & Present Environmental Issues

13. Chicago Area's Economic Growth: Stockyards, Railroads, Manufacturing, etc.
14. Chicago Area's Economy and Population Today
15. Chicago Architecture
16. Chicago Politics & Criminals
17. Chicago Area (specially Lake & River) in Literature and Film

**Format: 20 minute class presentation, class feedback**  
**Written draft (8 pages, 12-pt, double spaced, plus any figures) due one week after presentation**  
**At least four non-web references**  
**Final versions due December 7**