

Santa Barbara City College  
Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences

Earth 133 - Geologic Field Seminar of the Colorado Plateau  
**SEMINAR TOPICS**

As part of your grade in Earth 133, you will be required to research and present a talk/seminar on a topic that is pertinent to our trip. Although your seminar presentation will be given during the trip, we **strongly** recommend that you finish the bulk of your research before we depart from SBCC. We have large blank tablets of paper available for talk outlines and diagrams, etc. to accompany your talk. Any handouts you want to give to the class must be duplicated before you leave. Please do not wait until the last minute to print them.

Below are some suggested topics - feel free to talk to Jan Schultz or Jeff Meyer if you are unsure about what you would like to talk about. **Please do not choose a topic until you are 100% sure you are going.** Topics will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Suggested Seminar Topics

What is the Colorado Plateau?
Igneous Rocks/trends - Colorado Plateau
Sunset Crater
Flagstaff Volcanic Field
Geologic History of the Colorado River - Carving of the Grand Canyon
Precambrian History of the Grand Canyon
Paleozoic History of the Grand Canyon
Dams on the Colorado River - Pros & Cons
Cretaceous History / Sevier Orogeny
Geology of Black Mesa / Coal
Anasazi/Betatakin Ruins
Geology of Monument Valley
Goosenecks of the San Juan River
Laramide Structures plus San Raphael Swell
The Cordilleran Orogeny
Geology of Natural Bridges National Park
Laccolith Intrusions of the Colorado Plateau
Ancestral Rockies/ Uncompahgre Highlands
The Paradox Basin
Formation of Salt Anticlines
Geology of Arches National Park
Dinosaurs in Utah and the Morrison Formation
Geology of Canyonlands
Upheaval Dome - hypotheses/evidence
Rock Art of the Moab area (optional)
Uranium in Utah
Geology of Colorado National Monument
Geology of the San Raphael Swell
Geology of Capitol Reef National Park
The Navajo Sandstone - (optional)
Geology of Mesozoic Seaways
Life in the Mesozoic Seaways - (optional)
The Hinge Line
Petrified Wood: formation/locations
Grand Staircase/Escalante National Monument
Geology of Bryce National Park
Geology of Zion National Park