

# **GENEALOGY 201**

**Digitization and online platforms have made research widely accessible.**

**42%**

**Of Americans are interested in tracing their ancestry.**

**Let us talk about the basics.**

**Using what you know.**

**Put it on paper if you are not a computer person.**

**Use Family Group Sheets to document your ancestors.**

**Look at and organize any old photos or documents you may have from Ancestors.**

**Ask cousins, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins what they know, and do they have any documents or photos you could copy.**

**Look at ways to preserve your photos and original documents if you have them.**

**If you are going to have a paper tree.**

**Group birth, marriage, obituary, and photo records into clear, consistent folders.**

**Three ring binders also help.**

**If you can. Scan and digitize your old photos.**

**Keep a note page of what you find for each person and when and where you find it.**

**This will help you not to duplicate your work.**

**There are many Computer and online programs that can help you with your tree.**

**I would suggest that you do research on them.**

**Talk to some people that use them and ask for a demo.**

**I use Family Tree Maker.. Talk to me.**

**Ancestry.com**

**Ancestry is FREE at your local library. Or by paid subscription.**

**Yearly it is \$259 for US records.**

**There are other sources on the Web that are free for records.**

**Geneanet.org**

**Geneanet.org offers a free Family Tree Program. I evaluated it. It is free. Great for beginners.**

**Upgradable at will. It is owned by Ancestry.**

**Can be privatized. Gedcom capable.**

**Very easy to use. A few charts are available.**

**Cemeteries**

**Great source for information.**

**There is a lot of information to talk about here.**

**If you are going to a cemetery to research a burial, be sure and stop in the office for a map and ask for a copy of the burial card.**

**The card will show you who is in the plot and where in the plot.**

**Also, there may be other family members.**

### **Using Family Search.**

**FS is the Church of the LDS. They are the original records scanners.**

**They control, for free, a massive database. Free online.**

**I do 80% of my research on FS. I do not have my tree on their site though.**

**You should know that each of our Family Trees is different.**

**Some people just want the basics of their parents and grandparents.**

**Some add in aunts and uncles. Some just add everyone they can find. We call them name collectors.**

**You should start with what you know and with what you are comfortable. And work backwards. Do not try and start in the 1500's and work forward. It never works.**

### **Census records**

**Are a great and easy way to track your ancestors. Ancestry (\$\$) and FS has them for free.**

**They are all over the Internet for free at other sources.**

**Census records, Read them carefully.**

**They have a lot of very good information.**

**Let us look at one.**

**<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/110894700:2442>**

**Stay with the persons formal name and spelling.**

**If they immigrated as Johann Wilhelm Tiegs. I use Johann Wilhelm Tiegs not John Tiegs.**

**Women should always use their maiden name.**

**Do not do this.**

**[https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/73210772/person/102304953714/facts?\\_phsrc=Bjn56&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/73210772/person/102304953714/facts?_phsrc=Bjn56&_phstart=successSource)**

### **► SOURCES**

**The average person's tree does not site sources.**

**I know a person that has their tree on post it notes.**

**Most just put down that "I found this info in the 1940 census.**

**Research notes are optional.**

**Here is a sample of "sources."**

**<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/195642639/person/192553030251/facts>**

**Keep it simple to your level of experience.**

**Be sure and tell cousins what you are doing and ask them for stories, photos, and documents . Make sure you tell them**

that you will return them after you copy them.

You do not need to spend a lot of money on this.

Ancestry is free at your local Library; Family search is free anywhere on any computer. And google and other web genealogy sites can be free.

The Family Search Library on Grange Ave. in Hales Corners is free. I volunteer there on the Thursday evening shift from 6:30-9pm. They are now organizing a starter class also.

Make it fun.

There are many Polish and German websites out there. Most are overseas PAY sites. Be careful. Google Translate will translate then for you.

To really get to the European records you must have the name of the civil village or religious parish. This is not easy. The civil and church records are handwritten and NOT searchable.

<https://www.familysearch.org/records/images/>

Some of my favorite websites for research.

### Danish Records

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Denmark Online Genealogy Records>

### FS search WIKI

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Main Page>

### US GENWEB

<https://www.usgenweb.org/>

### Library of Congress Newspapers

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

### Immigrant ship Transcribers Guild

<https://www.immigrantships.net/>

YouTube has for free, hundreds of videos on Ancestry.

You can find a video for everything you want to do.

You can find a video for every topic you want.

All for free.

One of the best sources of help is to join a local Genealogy Group or Club.

### MPAFUG

The MPAFUG Group meets every month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7 pm until 9pm at the New Berlin Public Library. One dollar a month is our membership fee.

Come and join us.

### Discover Your Roots

#### Research With Care

Follow records, verify sources, and build a reliable story.

### Discover Your Roots

#### Organize And Preserve

Document findings to safeguard heritage for future generations.

## **Discover Your Roots**

**Use Tools And Connect WITH OTHERS.**

**Leverage databases, family trees, DNA,  
and community support.**

**The Family Search Library has hours on  
Thursdays and Saturdays. I am there  
Thursday evenings from 6:30-9pm.**

**Thank you, and do you have any  
questions?**