C01 Use computers to research
family genealogy and world history
Introduction
Session 1

b4uc.xyz

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Some genealogy adages

- When we were young, we weren't really interested in our roots. . . But now that we are interested, there is really no one left to ask.
- "The more YOU know of your history, the more liberated you are." – Maya Angelou
- "History remembers only the celebrated, genealogy remembers them all." – Laurence Overmire
- "Why waste money looking into your family tree? Go into politics and your opponents will do it for you." – Mark Twain
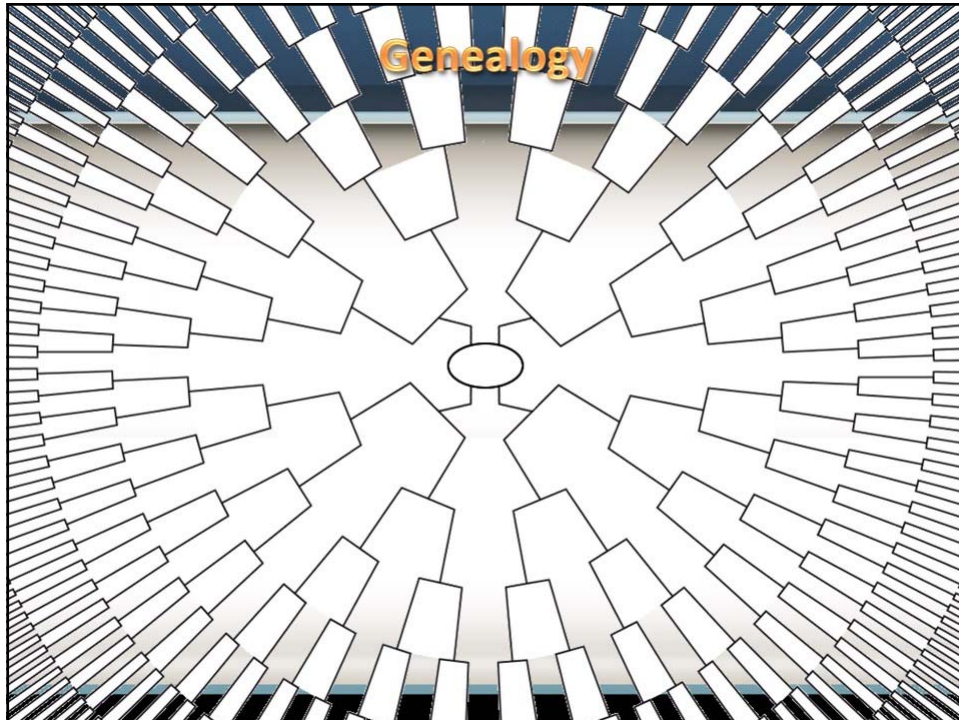
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What is "genealogy"?

- The Webster dictionary defines genealogy as:

the account of the **descent** of a person, family or group from an **ancestor** or older forms, or the study of **family pedigrees**

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Genealogy

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Genealogy

		Lineage
Generation 00:	*Moi* ♀ or ♂, 1 each	1
Generation 01:	2 parents	3
Generation 02:	4 grandparents	7
Generation 03:	8 great grandparents	15
Generation 04:	16 great great grandparents	31
Generation 05:	32 great (x3) grandparents	63
Generation 06:	64 great (x4) grandparents	127
Generation 07:	128 great (x5) grandparents	255
Generation 08:	256 great (x6) grandparents	511
Generation 09:	512 great (x7) grandparents	1,023
Generation 10:	1,024 great (x8) grandparents	2,047

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Generation 0

ME

GROUND ZERO

6

7

8

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Generation 5

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GREAT x3 GRAND MOTHER
GREAT x3 GRAND FATHER

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Generation 6

6

GREAT x4 GRAND MOTHER
GREAT x4 GRAND FATHER

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What is "family history"?

- Family history may be defined as:

an **extension** to genealogy in which the **life and times** of the **people** concerned are investigated

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Family Tree

Country of birth.
Country migrated to (if shown).

Ray Sarlin
1944-

Reino R. Sarlin
1909-1993

Grace Leyde Sarlin
1912-2000

Kaarlo Sarlin
1880-1934

Anni Johansson
Sarlin
1885-1987

Matthew W. Leyde
1885-1962

Selma Anderson
Leyde
1884-1971

Gustav Edward
Sarlin
1846-

Greta Sophia
Arkellin Sarlin
1855-

Johan Gustav
Johansson
1846-1917

Ulla Noreen
Johansson
1848-1886

Gleason
Fillmore Leyde
1848-1921

Sara Jane
McClay Leyde
1858-1892

Nels
Anderson
1849-1918

Emma Erikson
Anderson
1852-1940

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Workshop outline

- *C01 Use Computers to Research Family Genealogy and World History* is designed for people interested in their own family histories, genealogy in general, and/or world history.

- You will learn how to research family history accurately and efficiently using the growing range of online family history resources. Expect to be surprised at what you discover. Some things you'll simply want to share with family and friends.

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On completion of this unit you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of family history principles.
2. Plan and implement a family history project.
3. Locate and use major family history websites, repositories and records.
4. Evaluate sources for accuracy and reliability.
5. Identify and discuss genealogical problems and develop plans for solving them.
6. Present your genealogical work in a manner that is ethical, clearly written and appropriately referenced.

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Classroom courtesy

- Classroom space is very constrained. Please behave courteously and respect the needs of all in the room.
- In the unlikely event of disruptive behaviour, miscreant(s) may be asked to leave in consideration of the rights of the participants as a whole. Serious issues may result in disenrollment from the course.
- Please clear the classroom within five minutes after the scheduled class completion time.
- Everyone will be welcome, if they choose, to briefly present and discuss their family history findings (or problems encountered) with the whole group.

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Reasons for family research

- Identify family origins and experiences
- Pass down family information from one generation to the next
- Keep records of important family information
- Medical history ("A summary of diseases present in immediate blood relatives, which may be linked to heritable DNA mutations." medspeak-US)
- Help determine financial interests
- Personal therapy
- Personal satisfaction and pleasure

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22/02/2020

Traditional Wisdom

IF IT AIN'T BIN WRITTEN, IT AIN'T BIN SAID

BEING WRITTEN, DON'T MAKE IT TRUE

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How do I start?

- Realise you already know many relevant facts!
- Gather the information you have:
  - Names of your family up to grandparents
  - Dates of their births, marriages and deaths
  - Their photographs
  - Places where these folks live/lived
  - Records – such as news articles, postcards, school reports, birth certificates, wills, obituaries, etc.
  - Other family heirlooms (e.g. Bibles, etc.)

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Focus on key information

- For immediate family, extract the following facts:
  - **Name**
  - **Date of birth**
  - Place of birth (useful)
  - Marriage partner, date, place (useful)
  - **Date of death** (where appropriate)
  - Place of death (useful)
  - Where buried (useful)

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Plan your project

It's imperative to **be organised!**
Defining what you want to accomplish is a **critical first step.**

- What do you hope to learn from your family history?
- Why are you interested?
- What outcomes do you desire?

More on this critical task **later.**

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Step 1. Get organised

	Direct Lineage	Family Lineage
Looking backward	A direct lineage, alternately called a pedigree or ascendant tree, begins with a single person (yourself?) and then follows a single surname or bloodline back through several generations in a direct line. This can also be expanded to include multiple direct lines, both of your parents, both of their parents, and so on. This is what most people think of when they refer to a **family tree**.	Take the direct lineage family tree and throw in siblings; the siblings of your parents (your aunts and uncles), the siblings of your grandparents (your great-aunts and -uncles), and so on. This type of genealogy provides a more complete picture of the "family" going back through generations, rather than focusing only on the individuals from whom you directly descend.
	Descendant Tree	**Collateral Genealogy**
Looking forward	A descendant tree is the reverse of the family tree. It starts with an ancestor far back in the family tree and works forward to the present, attempting to account for all known descendants in all lines, both male and female. This is popular for published family histories or those looking to find relatives to plan a family reunion.	Basically an extension of the direct lineage, a collateral genealogy includes additional relatives who descend from the same common ancestor through lines other than your direct line, such as the spouses and children of siblings. Many people use collateral genealogy to help get around a brick wall in certain areas of their family tree.
	Direct ancestors only	**Includes other relatives**

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How many years in a generation?

- The average person (middle child in a family) is born to a 34 year old father and 29 year old mother. The median is (34+29)/2 or 31.5 years.
- A 2019 baby's great[8] grandfather would have been born in 2019-(10*34)=1,679
- A 2019 baby's great[8] grandmother would have been born in 2019-(10*29)=1,729

50 years

When ancestors repeat in your family tree or cousins marry, they're not always in the same generation.

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Here's a weird example

Electress Sophia of Hanover (1630-1714)
is a 10th generation ancestor of
Queen Elizabeth II (b. 1926)
7 separate times, and also her 9th
generation ancestor *2 separate times.*

Granddaughter of James I, Sophia became heir presumptive to the crowns of the Kingdoms of England and Ireland under the *Act of Settlement 1701.* After the *Acts of Union 1707,* she became heir presumptive to the unified throne of the Kingdom of Great Britain. She died less than two months before she would have become queen succeeding her first cousin once removed, Queen Anne, and her claim to the throne passed on to her eldest son, George Louis, Elector of Hanover, who ascended as George I on 1 August 1714.

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Another weird example (personal)

Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, England

Shakespeare Family

Sir John Alexander Webb 1484-1516

Margaret Arden 1488-1548

Arden Family

Richard Shakespeare 1490-1561

Abigail Webb 1515-1595

Mary Webb 1512-1550

Robert Arden 1506-1556

Grace Arden 1512-1539

Sir Henry Alexander Webb 1510-1544

John Shakespeare 1537-1601

Mary Arden 1537-1608

Margaret Arden 1538-1608

Sir Alexander Webb, Sr. 1534-1573

William Shakespeare 1564-1616

Sir Alexander Webb, Jr. 1559-1629

Mary Wilson 1561-1629

William Shakespeare's maternal and paternal grandmothers are sisters.

Alexander Webb, Jr. and family emigrated to America in 1626. One son, Richard Sr. (1580-1676), who landed in 1626 is my great great great great great great great great great great great great grandfather.

NOTE: Only maiden names are shown for clarity.

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The Great Puritan Migration

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The Great Puritan Migration

- The Webb family were among several hundred English puritans who migrated to America and the West Indies in the 1620s. They were joined between 1630 and 1640 by another 20,000.
- Pilgrims primarily left England due to religious persecution from Charles I (b 1600, r. 1625-1449) (staunch High Church, possibly "popish," and married to Henrietta Maria, a French Roman Catholic) and, after 1633, Archbishop of Canterbury Laud.
- Many also migrated for economic reasons. Most Puritans were prosperous, literate and skilled middle-class families.
- A second migrant stream was comprised of single, young men.
- Migration abruptly ended with the English Civil War (1642-1651)

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The length of a generation

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Research Methodology

- Check and recheck the information gathered
- Analyse the information; record any identified gaps
- Plan how to fill gaps; work one ancestor at a time.
- Choose forms to use. Some common ones include:
  1. A correspondence record
  2. A research log to record all activities undertaken
  3. A pedigree chart
  4. A family group record for each family
  5. Individual (personal) record for each ancestor

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1 — Correspondence Record

- Purpose:
    1. Record all communication with outside parties.
    2. Some may split into inwards and outwards logs.
- Can be colour-coded or marked with stickers to prioritise tasks yet to be done, etc.

Correspondence Record ancestry.com

Family _____ Researcher _____

DATE SENT	ADDRESSEE / ADDRESS	PURPOSE	DATE REPLIED	RESULTS

Form #F105 http://www.ancestry.com/save/charts/correcord.htm © The Generations Network, Inc. 2007

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2 — Research Log

- Purpose:

  Record all research activity in one place.
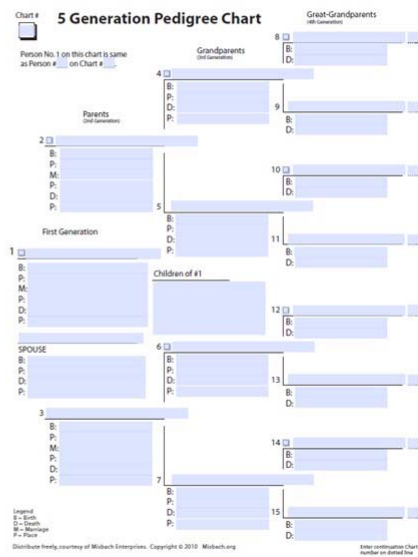- May be used to plan research and/or track outstanding ("to do") research tasks.

Date Search Opened	Name of Researcher	Research Task or Objective	Records or resources Sought	Repository or Website Visited	Location or Call Number	Source citation	Outcome of Research	Date Search Closed	Comments

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3 Pedigree Chart

- Purposes:
    1. Show relationships and record basic data.
    2. Good overall summary.
    3. Linkage to other forms including family group and individual records.

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4 Family Group Record

- Purposes:
    1. To compile key data for each family group on one page.
    2. To provide a cover page for each family group file.

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5 Individual (Personal) Record

- Purposes:
  1. To compile key data for each individual on one page.
  2. To provide a cover page for each individual file.

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Typical Family History Folder

1. Correspondence record
2. Research log
3. Pedigree chart
4. Family group records
5. Individual records

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https://www.cyndislist.com/

Since 1996, *Cyndi's List* has provided a **free** starting point for online genealogy research. It contains:

Cyndi's List

- A categorized and cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet.
- Links that point you to genealogical research sites online.
- A **free** jumping-off point to use in your online research.
- A "card catalogue" to the genealogical collection in the immense library that is the Internet.
- A genealogical research portal onto the Internet.

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