



Classroom Basics

GRANT RESOURCES

In order to provide your students with the necessary tools for genealogy research, make sure to apply for access to Ancestry Classroom. Through this classroom grant, your students will also have access to the basic version of Newspapers.com and Fold3. Go to ancestryclassroom.com to get started.

FAMILY TREES

Unfortunately, students will not be able to build family trees in Ancestry Classroom. Use Familysearch.org for student trees. During this section, guide your students through lessons on primary sources and record verification.

CULTURAL CUISINE

Provide a warm and engaging atmosphere by adding food to your classroom. Have students research cultural dishes and desserts based on their ancestry. Dedicate class time to a new ancestry each day/week. Rather than purchasing food, students should make the food at home (preferably with family!). In class, they present the food, its origins, and cultural significance.

ENGAGING TOOLS

Make students genealogy research meaningful and fun by using engaging tools like RelativeFinder to enhance their research. Did your students descend from Mayflower ancestors? Do they have famous cousins? FamilySearch provides many tools to engage your students like RelativeFinder, Compare-a-Face, and All About Me. Explore options at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/discovery/>

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Family is the cornerstone of your genealogy classroom. Through family interviews, students build their initial trees and learn valuable clues. They bond through the research process, whether they are having meaningful conversations or cooking family recipes together. Finally, invite family in to your school to learn about the final product your students created.

FINAL PRODUCTS

Have your students compile their genealogies in a user friendly format. Whether they create presentation slides or family books, students should record their research in an organized and meaningful way that they can share with their immediate and extended family. The final weeks of your course are a great time to invite family in to view your students completed genealogies.



Genealogy Book Basics

PICK A SIDE

Genealogy trees branch out quickly; it's easy to lose control of your narrative. When you focus on your maternal or paternal side only (or better yet, a maternal or paternal grandparent), you create a manageable and enjoyable legacy book.

COVER YOUR BASES

Family history is a journey, and you are inviting your reader to travel. Make sure you provide signposts along the route. Divide your book up by creating title pages for each generation, and follow the generations through the paternal line.

MIX IT UP

Genealogy books can easily become boring accumulations of names and dates that only make sense to the researcher. Other times, they are little more than scrapbooks. A successful legacy book, however, incorporates a mixture of documents, photographs, and text.

DIG DEEP

The home, the town, the world in which your ancestors lived informed their daily lives. To tell their story, you must research the events that were taking place during the time and in the places they lived.

HAVE FUN

We record our family legacy through multiple artifacts, and we can include these items in our legacy books. Why not include a page from a family cookbook, an image of those military medals, or the story behind Aunt Lorelei's name? These creative pages truly make your legacy book come alive.

Start Your Family History Journey

Genealogy Resources

RECORDS

ANCESTRY.COM (S)
FAMILYSEARCH.ORG (F)
AMERICANANCESTORS.ORG (S)

NEWSPAPERS

NEWSPAPERS.COM (S)
GENEALOGYBANK.COM (S)
FALMOUTHPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG/FALMOUTH-ENTERPRISE/ (F)

MISC.

FINDAGRAVE.COM (F)
FOLD3.COM (MILITARY) (S)
RELATIVEFINDER.ORG (FAMOUS RELATIVES) (F)

HISTORICAL PHOTOS

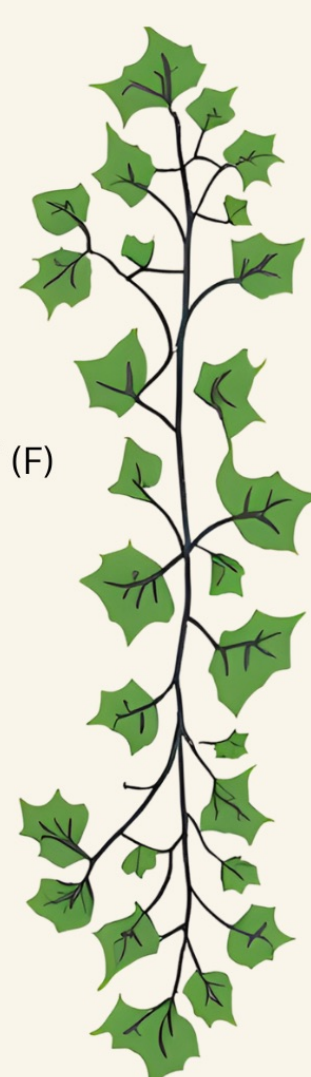
DIGITALCOMMONWEALTH.ORG (F)
DP.LA (DIGITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY OF AMERICA)(F)
LIBRARY.SI.EDU/IMAGE-GALLERY (SMITHSONIAN) (F)
CARDCOW.COM (VINTAGE POSTCARDS) (P)

ADDITIONAL LINKS

AZORESGENWEB.ORG (F)
CULTURACORES.AZORES.GOV.PT/IG/REGISTOS/ (F)
IRELANDXO.COM (F)
IRISHGENEALOGY.IE (F)

(S) - SUBSCRIPTION

(F) - FREE RESOURCE



Classroom Solutions

Most students begin their genealogies with the assumption that unlimited records and resources exist to help them complete their genealogies (and that you are responsible for providing said resources!). They believe the internet contains all of the names/dates they need to research. Other times, students have exhausted their resources and are truly stuck. Through genealogy class, students learn patience and perseverance. Create teachable moments when student issues arise.

SOME COMMON PROBLEMS INCLUDE:

FAMILY DYNAMICS

MATERNAL/PATERNAL GENEALOGIES
ADOPTION AND STEP-FAMILIES
CRIMINAL/PROBLEM ANCESTORS

MISSING PHOTOS

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT
LOCATION AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH

BRICK WALLS

TOWN/CITY RESOURCES
LOCAL LIBRARIES
ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENTS
TEACHABLE MOMENTS

TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

GENEALOGY FOLDERS
PASSWORDS
ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENTS
GO GUARDIAN

