

# Family History Research



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Online Degree Programs  
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## Introduction

The Family History Research Program, with options to earn a certificate, an Associate of Applied Science Degree, a minor, and/or a concentration in Family History Research, is a rigorous program designed for the student who wishes to enter the job market as a professional genealogical researcher, but can also benefit those conducting in-depth personal research. The program provides a strong background in genealogical methodology, emphasizing practical research, report writing, and instruction on starting a small business. The program will start students on the path of obtaining professional credentials through the Board for Certification of Genealogists and the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists. This is an online degree only.

## Eligibility

### Former or Current CES Students

If you have at least 15 credits from a Church school (BYU, BYU-Idaho, BYU-Hawaii, LDSBC), you are able to apply to BYU-Idaho's Online Degree Program to earn the certificate or degree.

**Note:** These 15 credits must be earned in on-campus studies, or through the BYU-Idaho Pathway Program.

Apply online at [www.besmart.com](http://www.besmart.com) as an "Online Student" to earn a certificate or degree.

### All Others

At this time we are not able to offer an online certificate or degree to students with less than 15 CES credits earned while physically on campus or through Pathway.

<b>AAS in Family History (376)</b>							
<b>Core Courses</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FDREL 261      2 FHGEN 111      3 FHGEN 112      3 FHGEN 120      3 FHGEN 130      3 FHGEN 140      3 FHGEN 160      3 FHGEN 211      3 FHGEN 212      3 FHGEN 270      3 FHGEN 399      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 32	<i>Complete 1 emphasis:</i>  <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border-right: 1px solid black; vertical-align: top;"> <b>U.S. Regional Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251A      3                              FHGEN 252A      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <b>German Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251C      3                              FHGEN 252C      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; vertical-align: top;"> <b>British Isles Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251B      3                              FHGEN 252B      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <b>Scandinavian Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251D      3                              FHGEN 252D      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> </tr> </table>		<b>U.S. Regional Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251A      3 FHGEN 252A      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>German Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251C      3 FHGEN 252C      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>British Isles Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251B      3 FHGEN 252B      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>Scandinavian Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251D      3 FHGEN 252D      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<i>Program Notes:</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Double Counting of Major Courses</li> <li>• No Grade Less Than C- in Major Courses</li> <li>• The FHGEN 251 and 252 courses must be selected with same letter designation.</li> </ul>
<b>U.S. Regional Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251A      3 FHGEN 252A      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>German Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251C      3 FHGEN 252C      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6						
<b>British Isles Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251B      3 FHGEN 252B      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>Scandinavian Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251D      3 FHGEN 252D      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6						
<b>Credit Requirements:</b>		<b>Tracks Available:</b>					
Foundations	17	Fall-Winter	Yes				
Major	38	Winter-Spring	Yes				
Elective	5	Spring-Fall	Yes				
Total	60	Online	Yes				

<b>Minor in Family History Research (240)</b>	
<b>Core Courses</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FDREL 261      2 FHGEN 111      3 FHGEN 112      3 FHGEN 120      3 FHGEN 130      3 FHGEN 140      3 FHGEN 211      3 FHGEN 212      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 23	<i>Program Notes:</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Double Counting of Minor Courses</li> <li>• No Grade Less Than C- in Minor Courses</li> </ul>
<b>Credit Requirements:</b>	
Total	23
<b>Tracks Available:</b>	
Fall-Winter	Yes
Winter-Spring	Yes
Spring-Fall	Yes
Online	Yes

<b>Family History Research Concentration (D 151)</b>								
<b>Core Courses</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 111      3 FHGEN 112      3 FHGEN 120      3 FHGEN 130      3 FHGEN 140      3 FHGEN 160      3 FHGEN 211      3 FHGEN 212      3 FHGEN 399      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 27	<i>Complete 1 emphasis:</i>  <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border-right: 1px solid black; vertical-align: top;"> <b>U.S. Regional Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251A      3                              FHGEN 252A      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <b>German Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251C      3                              FHGEN 252C      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; vertical-align: top;"> <b>British Isles Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251B      3                              FHGEN 252B      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <b>Scandinavian Research</b>  <i>Take these courses:</i>                              FHGEN 251D      3                              FHGEN 252D      3  <hr style="width: 100%;"/>                             6                         </td> </tr> </table>		<b>U.S. Regional Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251A      3 FHGEN 252A      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>German Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251C      3 FHGEN 252C      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>British Isles Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251B      3 FHGEN 252B      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>Scandinavian Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251D      3 FHGEN 252D      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>Interdisciplinary Courses</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> IDS 398R      1-3 IDS 499      2 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 3	<i>Program Notes:</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Double Counting of Concentration Courses</li> <li>• No Grade Less Than C- in Concentration Courses</li> <li>• It is recommended that students take FDREL 261 while fulfilling the FDREL requirement.</li> <li>• It is recommended that students with business-related career goals take FHGEN 270 as an elective.</li> <li>• The FHGEN 251 and 252 courses must be selected with the same letter designation.</li> </ul>
<b>U.S. Regional Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251A      3 FHGEN 252A      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6	<b>German Research</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FHGEN 251C      3 FHGEN 252C      3 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> 6							
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<b>Credit Requirements:</b>		<b>Tracks Available:</b>						
Total	36	Fall-Winter	Yes					
		Winter-Spring	Yes					
		Spring-Fall	Yes					
		Online	Yes					

## Family History Research Certificate (C 107)

<b>Core Courses</b> <i>Take these courses:</i> FDREL 261      2 FHGEN 111      3 FHGEN 120      3 FHGEN 130      3 <hr style="width: 50px; margin-left: 0;"/> 11	<i>Take 1 course:</i> FHGEN 112      3 FHGEN 160      3 FHGEN 211      3 <hr style="width: 50px; margin-left: 0;"/> 9	<b>Program Notes:</b> •Grade of C- or higher required in all Certificate Courses
<b>Credit Requirements:</b>		
Total		14

## Family History Predefined Clusters

<b>Family History Research</b>	<b>7000</b>
<i>Take these courses:</i>	
FDREL 261 Introduction to Family History	2
FHGEN 111 Introduction to Family History Research, Part One: Record Groups and Methodology	3
FHGEN 120 Internet and Computer Skills	3
FHGEN 130 Paleography	3
<i>Take 1 course:</i>	
FHGEN 112 Introduction to Family History Research, Part Two: Analysis of Research Evidence	3
FHGEN 160 The Family and Society	3
FHGEN 211 Research Methodology, Part I	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>14</b>

### Course Descriptions

### Credits\*

#### **FHGEN 111 Introduction to Family History Research, Part One: Record Groups and Methodology (3:3:0:0)**

This online course is an introduction to basic genealogical research principles and record groups. The course focuses on solving basic United States research problems. You will learn how to find original sources to answer genealogical questions, record genealogical information using professional standards, use key genealogical sources, and organize family history information. The course focuses on United States research. The principles and approaches can apply to worldwide family history research. Other FHGEN courses offered at BYU-Idaho focus on international research. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

#### **FHGEN 112 Introduction to Family History, Part Two: Analysis of Research Evidence (3:3:0:0)**

Prerequisite: FHGEN 111

This course is an introduction to genealogical evidence, analysis, and research methodology. Students will learn how to do the following: Use facts, proofs, evidence, and sources to build a case for accurate genealogical conclusions, analyze and weigh evidence to meet genealogical proof standards, cite sources using professional standards, place their ancestors in historical context (Fall, Winter, Spring)

#### **FHGEN 120 Internet and Computer Skills (3:3:0:0)**

This course is an introduction to genealogical software, key genealogical resources on the Internet, and the computer search skills essential for genealogical research. This course does not provide instruction in how to use a computer. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

#### **FHGEN 130 Paleography (3:3:0:0)**

This online course is an introduction to paleography as it relates to genealogical research. Paleography is the study of ancient writing systems and the deciphering and dating of historical manuscripts. The course focuses on United States records, and introduces you to Old English, German, and Scandinavian scripts found in US and European records. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

#### **FHGEN 140 Genealogical Writing (3:3:0:0)**

Principles of effective report writing for genealogical projects, including formatting, documentation, source citations, and presentation of genealogical data. Through case studies, students will learn how to prepare effective genealogical reports for clients. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

#### **FHGEN 160 The Family and Society (3:3:0:0)**

This course teaches (1) how families interact with the law, history, and culture and (2) how these interactions influence the creation of records and their content. Students will become familiar with the origins of, and purpose for, the United States record sources used to answer genealogical research questions. They will learn more in-depth information about sources introduced in the first year of study. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

#### **FHGEN 211 Research Methodology, Part I (3:3:0:0)**

Prerequisites: FHGEN 111 and FHGEN 112 and FHGEN 120 and FHGEN 130 and FHGEN 140

This course teaches principles of effective genealogical research methodology. Students will plan strategies to solve research problems. They will use various types of genealogical records and sources to complete research assignments. Through assigned research projects, students will gain experience in describing a research problem, planning and executing a research strategy, compiling and analyzing evidence, assembling documents, citing sources, and producing a professional and well-organized report. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

#### **FHGEN 212 Research Methodology, Part II (3:3:0:0)**

Prerequisite: FHGEN 211

This course provides further practice in effective genealogical research methodology. It is a continuation of Research Methodology Part One. Through assigned and self-selected research projects, students will gain experience in using various records and sources to solve genealogical problems and write professional-quality research reports. (Fall, Winter, Spring)

**Family History Research**  
**Brigham Young University–Idaho 2016-2017**

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**FHGEN 251A GSC 1: US Regions Research, Part One**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Corequisite: FHGEN 211

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in the U.S. Regions. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 251B GSC 1: British Isles Research, Part One**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Corequisite: FHGEN 211

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in the British Isles. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 251C GSC 1: German Research, Part One**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Corequisite: FHGEN 211

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in Germany. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 251D GSC 1: Scandinavian Research, Part One**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Corequisite: FHGEN 211

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in Scandinavia. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 252A GSC 2: U.S. Regions Research, Part Two**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251A

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in the U. S. Regions. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 252B GSC 2: British Isles Research, Part Two**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251B

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in the British Isles. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 252C GSC 2: German Research, Part Two**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251C

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in Germany. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 252D GSC 2: Scandinavian Research, Part Two**

**(3:3:0:0)**

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251D

This course focuses on how to conduct genealogical research in Scandinavia. Through case studies and assignments, students will learn about records, including their geographical-historical background and principles of paleography. They will learn methods for reconstruction of individual families and understand the development of demographic and family history studies. Students will learn key record types for the area and how to use them to find genealogical information. Students will produce a research report on how they solved an area-specific research problem.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring - offered every other semester)

**FHGEN 270 Genealogy as a Business**

**(3:3:0:0)**

This course teaches students how to establish and manage a research business, or be hired by a genealogical company. Students will also learn about other job opportunities for genealogists. They will prepare a business plan that consists of a marketing plan that uses various media, including print and electronic.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring)

**FHGEN 399 Capstone: Professional Research**

**(3:1:0:0)**

Corequisite: FHGEN 212

In this course, students will apply the skills they have gained in the Family History Applied Associates Degree program as they learn about earning professional genealogical credentials. Students will practice evidentiary analysis and writing skills. Students will learn about real-world genealogical environments. Students will gain experience in completing research projects for clients. They will choose a client (fellow student, family member, or friend), conduct research, and prepare a well-organized client report.  
(Fall, Winter, Spring)