

Family History Research



Jon Linford, Dean, Foundations and Interdisciplinary Studies

Online Degree Programs
(208) 496-9819
onlineadvising@byui.edu

Introduction

The Associate of Applied Science in Family History Research is a rigorous program designed for the student who wishes to enter the job market as a professional genealogical researcher. The degree provides a strong background in genealogical methodology, emphasizing practical research, report writing, and instruction on starting a small business. The degree will start students on the path of obtaining professional credentials through the Board of Certification of Genealogists and the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists. This is an online degree only.

Former 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 physical, on-campus studies, not through online or distance programs. You may also earn these 15 credits through the BYU-Idaho Pathway Program.

Apply online at www.besmart.com as an "Online Student" to earn a certificate or degree. View a step-by-step Online Degree registration guide.

All Others

You are welcome to apply as a continuing education student to take individual courses. 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.

AAS - Family History Research (376)

Take required Foundations courses (17 credits)

Major Requirements

No Double Counting of Major Courses - No Grade Less Than C- in Major Courses

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| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| FHGEN 251B | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Total Major Credits=38

Additional Elective Credits Required for Graduation=5

This major is available on the following tracks:

Fall-Winter---- YES

Winter-Spring---- YES

Spring-Fall---- YES

Family History Research Minor (240)

Minor Requirements

No Double Counting of Minor Courses - No Grade Less Than C- in Minor Courses

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| FDREL 261 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 111 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 112 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 120 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 130 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 160 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 211 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 212 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Total Minor Credits=23

This minor is available on the following tracks:

Fall-Winter---- YES

Winter-Spring---- YES

Spring-Fall---- YES

Family History Research Certificate (C 107)

Certificate Requirements

No Double Counting of Certificate Courses - No Grade Less Than C- in Minor Courses

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| FDREL 261 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| FHGEN 120 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 130 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| FHGEN 112 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 160 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FHGEN 211 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Total Certificate Credits=14

Family History Pre-approved Clusters

| Family History Research | 7000 |
|---|-----------|
| <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 1 | 3 |
| Total Credits | 14 |

Course Descriptions

Credits*

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

An introduction to basic genealogical research principles and record groups. Students will learn how to:

- Use United States records to solve basic research problems
- Identify original sources to answer genealogical questions
- Record genealogical information using professional standards
- Use key record sources to identify ancestors
- Organize family history information

(Check Schedule)

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

Prerequisite: FHGEN 111

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 courses using professional standards
- Place their ancestors in historical context

(Check Schedule)

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

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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 130 Paleography (3:3:0)

An introduction to paleography in early United States genealogical records. Students will learn how to do the following:

- Identify key genealogical record types from the Colonial era and 19th century
- Read and interpret key genealogical information, including terms and phrases written in English and Latin

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 140 Genealogical Writing (3:3:0)

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.

(Check Schedule)

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

This course teaches (1) how families interact with the law and government as illustrated in original United States sources and (2) how these interactions produce records that help researchers discover genealogical information. Students will become familiar with the origins of and purpose for 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. Students will add family history information to the RootsMagic software.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 211 Research Methodology, Part 1 (3:3:0)

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

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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 212 Research Methodology, Part 2 (3:3:0)

Prerequisite: FHGEN 211

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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 251A GSC 1: U.S. Regions Research, Part 1 (3:3:0)

Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in FHGEN 211

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 251B GSC 1: British Isles Research, Part 1 (3:3:0)

Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in FHGEN 211

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 251C GSC 1: German Research, Part 1 (3:3:0)

Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in FHGEN 211

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 251D GSC 1: Scandinavian Research, Part 1 (3:3:0)

Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in FHGEN 211

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 252A GSC 2: U.S. Regions Research, Part 2 (3:3:0)

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251A

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 252B GSC 2: British Isles Research, Part 2 (3:3:0)

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251B

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 252C GSC 2: German Research, Part 2 (3:3:0)

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251C

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 252D GSC 2: Scandinavian Research, Part 2 (3:3:0)

Prerequisite: FHGEN 251D

Focuses on how to do 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.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 270 Genealogy as a Business (3:3:0)

Teaches students how to apply their genealogical skills to conduct paid genealogical research for clients. Students will learn how to establish and manage a research business. Students will also learn about other job opportunities for genealogists. Students will learn how genealogists conduct a successful research business. They will prepare a business plan that consists of a marketing plan that uses various media, including print and electronic. They will create a resume and learn how to conduct a successful job interview.

(Check Schedule)

FHGEN 399 Capstone: Professional Research (3:3:0)

Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in FHGEN 212

Practical application of all the skills students have gained in the Family History Applied Associates Degree program. Students will practice evidentiary analysis and writing skills in preparing different types of reports and exploring professional credentialing options in the field of genealogy. Students will learn about real-world environments by interacting with online guest speakers. Students will gain experience in completing research projects for clients. They will choose a client (fellow student, family member, or friend) and conduct research. They will prepare a well-organized client report. Students will add family history information to RootsMagic software.

(Check Schedule)