

**BYU Religion 266
Germanic Family History**

Winter 2004

Th 11:00 – 11:50 a.m. in Room 164 JSB

Instructor:

Prof. Roger P. Minert, Ph.D.,A.G. JSB 210L 422-2370
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Course Objectives:

An introduction to family history research among the inhabitants of Germanic areas of Europe and emigrants from those areas. Students will learn of research tactics and resources in the Family History Library. They will search for data on ancestors from Europe and will review procedures for sharing data with other researchers and submitting data for temple work. All reading and writing assignments will focus on the advancement of each student's personal ancestral data collection.

Required Texts:

Available on the internet at www.familysearch.org or in the Family History Library/family history center as a booklet:

Family History Library: *Hamburg Passenger Lists (HPL)* [34047000]
Family History Library: *German Handwriting Guide (GHG)* [36316000]
Family History Library: *Germany Research Outline (GRO)* [34061000]
Family History Library: *Tracing Immigrant Origins (TIO)* [341111]

Family History Lab:

This course presumes novice experience in family history research. Those students who have not completed Religion 261 ("Introduction to LDS Family History & Genealogy") or have not accumulated basic research skills elsewhere are sincerely encouraged to attend a series of study sessions in the Family History Lab (102 JSB) or to do the learning activities on the internet as described in the Family History Lab literature. For details see the website at <http://261.byu.edu>. This work is *not* required and need *not* be reported to the instructor.

Final examination:

The final exam will be written in the Family History Center of the HBLL on Wednesday, 21 April, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students will be given 20 research problems to solve. The responses will be handwritten but must be legible and will be collected by the instructor at the same location at the conclusion of the testing period. The students will have access to all personal literature and the resources of the HBLL (including the internet), but may not seek assistance from any person(s).

Course Grade:

Class attendance	20%
Assignments	25
Research progress reports	35
Final exam	<u>20</u>
	100%

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
940-1000	A
900-939	A-
870-899	B+
840-869	B
800-839	B-
770-799	C+
740-769	C
700-739	C-
670-699	D+
640-669	D
600-639	D-
0-599	E

Syllabus Revisions:

Changes to the above standards will only be made with sufficient notice to the students. Changes to the class schedule shown below may be required or appropriate in response to unforeseen events or student needs.

University Standards:

The BYU Honor Code and standards as defined in the official BYU literature will be valid for this course. Likewise, BYU standards and applicable laws will be observed regarding sexual harassment and the rights of the disabled.

Instructor Consultation:

The instructor is available for personal or group consultation during the office hours listed above. Other times may be available by appointment. When sending messages via email, please put **266** on the **subject** line.

Course Schedule:

Day & Date	Class Discussion Topics	Pre-discussion Readings*
8 Jan	Course introduction, procedures, etc.	<i>[Buy/procure the books!]</i>
15 Jan	Review of basic family history methods; <i>familysearch.org</i> ; <i>PAF</i>	www.familysearch.org
22 Jan	Pedigree analysis; personal goals; FHL Catalog	www.familysearch.org
29 Jan	Correspondence with Europeans	<i>GRO, GLG</i>
5 Feb	Name spelling variations	<i>GRO, SV</i>
12 Feb	German immigrants in North America—records and methodology	<i>GRO, TIO, Place of Arrival</i>
19 Feb	Emigration from Europe—history and resources	<i>TIO, Place of Origin</i>
26 Feb	<i>Hamburg Passenger Lists; Germans to America</i>	<i>HPL, GRO</i>
4 Mar	Finding vital records in Europe; Introduction to Gazetteers	<i>TIO, GRO</i>
11 Mar	<i>Meyers Orts.</i> ; introduction to <i>Fraktur</i> typeset	<i>GRO, GHG</i>
18 Mar	Finding European records in the FHLC; types of FH records	<i>GRO</i>
25 Mar	Reading European vital records; Old German alphabets	<i>GHG, GRO</i>
1 Apr	<i>RAI; OSB</i> ; Maps; <i>GRC</i> ; other important literature	<i>GRO, RAI, GRC</i>
8 Apr	Researching in Europe	<i>RIG</i>
21 Apr Wednesday	Final exam written in the UVRFHC in the HBLL 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	

*Not all readings are listed here.

Assignments:

All assignments will be due at the beginning of class on the date specified. All assignments will show the following in the upper left corner of the first page:

[name]
Rel. 266
Assignment number/letter
[due date]
[submission date if different]

Each assignment will be worth 30 points. Late assignments (marked *L*) will lose 10% per week day. Handwritten assignments will not be accepted.

The course is designed such that during any given two-week period there will be (A) one Research Progress Report (RPR) requiring three hours of student effort and (B) one or more reading and writing assignments requiring a total of one hour of student effort.

Status of personal family history research: this report will summarize what is known about specific end-of-line ancestors and indicate the location of the family history data. (Each student should have a computer file of family history data, such as PAF.)

Goals for personal family history research: this statement will define three (3) specific types of information you wish to find on your ancestors during this semester. The goals can, of course, be revised during the semester as conditions dictate. It is possible that not all goals will be achieved during the course of the semester.

Research Progress Report: this report will describe your efforts during the previous two weeks to collect data on your family members in fulfillment of your course goals. Time spent in writing the report is not to be counted as part of the three-hour research effort.

Other assignments: smaller assignments will be given from time to time, none of which will require more than one hour of student time outside of class.

The following schedule does **not** include all assignments.

Due	Description
15 Jan	Status of personal* family history research
22 Jan	Goals for personal* family history research
29 Jan	Research progress report A
12 Feb	Research progress report B
26 Feb	Research progress report C
11 Mar	Research progress report D
25 Mar	Research progress report E
8 Apr	Research progress report F

*Students may conduct research for friends, neighbors, and other persons.