

Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate Program

Required Textbooks

The following texts are required for the Genealogical Research Program, **Summer 2020**:

Bettinger, Blaine T., *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, Second Edition. New York: Family Tree Books, 2019.

Board of Certification of Genealogists. *Genealogy Standards*, 50th Anniversary Edition. Nashville: Ancestry, 2014.

Jones, Thomas W. *Mastering Genealogical Documentation*. Arlington, VA: National Genealogical Society, 2017.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. ed. *Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice & Standards*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2018.

Reading Assignments

Each module has required reading assignments. This information should help you manage your time and set expectations. These are subject to change and you should refer to your instructor's announcements throughout the course.

Reading assignments correlate with page numbers for physical text books. If you purchase an ebook, the page numbers may be different, but content will be the same.

Module 1: Genealogical Methods

Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice, and Standards

- Chapter 13, "Problem Analyses & Research Plans"
- Chapter 14, "Research Procedures"
- Chapter 16, "Genetics for Genealogy"
 - pages 363-70 Basic Concepts, Mitochondrial DNA, and Y-Chromosome DNA
 - pages 377-86 Genetic Genealogy & the Genealogical Proof Standard, Professional Practice, and Ethical Considerations & DNA Testing
- Chapter 18, "Research Reports"

The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy, Second Edition

- Chapter 1, "Genetic Genealogy Basics"
- Chapter 2, "Common Misconceptions"
- Chapter 5, "Y-Chromosomal (Y-DNA) Testing"
- Chapter 6, "Mitochondrial (mtDNA) Testing"
- Chapter 10, "Analyzing Complex Questions with DNA"

- Only read the section entitled “Solving Questions with mtDNA and Y-DNA

Genealogy Standards, Second Edition

- Chapter 1, “The Genealogical Proof Standard”
- Chapter 3, “Standards for Researching”
 - Read the entire chapter but pay very close attention to the section entitled Reasoning from Evidence
- Chapter 4, “Standards for Writing”

Mastering Genealogical Documentation

- Chapter 1, "The Purpose and Nature of Genealogical Documentation"
- Chapter 2, "Noncitation Aspects of Genealogical Documentation"
- Chapter 3, "Citation Settings, Forms, and Shortcuts"

Module 2: Evidence, Evaluation, and Documentation

Genealogy Standards

- Chapter 1, “The Genealogical Proof Standard” (review)
- Chapter 2, “Standards for Documenting”
- Chapter 3, “Standards for Researching” (review), especially standards 10, 11, 35–39, and 46–50
- Chapter 4, “Standards for Writing” (review), especially standards 61–71, 73
- “Evidence Analysis” map (in the back of the book) and glossary (as needed)

Mastering Genealogical Documentation

- Chapter 17: read this first, and then re-read the ten steps on pages 181–83 often as you work your way through the book
- Review chapters 1–3, especially chapter 3
- Chapters 4–10
- Chapter 11
 - pages 113–top of 115, 119, 121
- Chapters 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

We will occasionally draw on citation examples from the Greenfield article in Appendix A of *Mastering Genealogical Documentation*, but reading the whole article is not assigned. Chapter exercises are not assigned but you are welcome to do them.

Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice & Standards

- Chapter 12, “Reasoning from Evidence”
- Chapter 20, “Proof Arguments & Case Studies”

Supplied article: Baty, Laurel. "Parentage of Martha Smith of Alabama and Mississippi: Overcoming Inconsistent, Incorrect, and Missing Records." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 101 (June 2013):85–102.

The student will also choose one or more from a list of supplied articles for the final discussion forum of the module.

Module 3: Forensic Genealogy

Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice, and Standards

- Chapter 5, "Ethical Considerations"
- Chapter 15, "Forensic Specialization"
- Chapter 16, "Genetics for Genealogy"

The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy, Second Edition

- Chapter 1, "Genetic Genealogy Basics" (Review)
- Chapter 2, "Common Misconceptions" (Review)
- Chapter 3, "Ethics and Genetic Genealogy"
- Chapter 4, "Autosomal-DNA (atDNA) Testing"
- Chapter 7, "X-Chromosomal (X-DNA) Testing" (Optional)
- Chapter 8, "Third-Party Autosomal-DNA Tools"
- Chapter 10, "Analyzing Complex Questions with DNA" (pp. 198-208 only)
- Chapter 11, "Genetic Testing for Adoption and Other Brick Walls" (pp. 214-219 only)
- Appendix A, "Comparison Charts" (pp. 241-243 only)
- Appendix B, "Research Forms" (pp. 245 only)
- "Glossary" (Optional)

Genealogy Standards, Second Edition

- Chapter 3, "Standards for Researching", especially Standards 51-57
- Appendix A, "The Genealogist's Code of Ethics"

Module 4: Genealogy as a Profession

Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice & Standards

- Chapter 2, "Educational Preparation"
- Chapter 5, "Ethical Considerations" (Review)
- Chapter 6, "Executing Contracts"
- Chapter 8, "Structuring a Business"
- Chapter 10, "Setting Fees"
- Chapter 11, "Marketing"
- Chapter 18, "Research Reports" (Reread thoroughly)

Genealogy Standards

- Chapter 4, "Standards for Writing," Standards 58–80 (Review)
- Chapter 5, "Standards for Genealogical Educators," Standards 81–88