

# OGEN150 Reading List

This document contains the assigned reading list for the Genealogical Principles course. We encourage you to get an early start on the readings from your assigned textbooks and linked articles. Please note, there are multiple readings that are only available in the course itself.

1 Module = 1 Week

BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY

## Module 1: Foundations

### Readings

- Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG). *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Pages xix-xxii
  - All of Chapter 1
  - Chapter 3, Standards #25–27, 35 and 36
  - The Evidence Analysis Process Map inside the back cover
  - Glossary as needed
- Powell, Kimberly. *The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy*. 3rd ed.
  - Chapters 1-3, see Day 1 announcement for corrections

## Module 2: Mining Records

### Required Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #23, 24, 29, 30, 41, 46-48
- Powell. *The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy*. 3rd ed.
  - Chapter 5: Dig into Death Records
  - Chapter 6: Check the Census
  - Chapter 10: A Nation of Immigrants
- Smith, Marian L. "[Manifest Markings: A Guide to Interpreting Passenger List Annotations](#)," *JewishGen*.

### Additional *Optional* Readings

- Greenwood, Val D. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*. 3rd ed. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing, 2000.
  - Chapter 24, "American Aids to Finding the Home of the Immigrant Ancestor" – **All Greenwood Chapters only available via Genealogical Principles course.**
- Russell, Judy G. "[Bonding the Bride and Groom](#)." *The Legal Genealogist*, blog, 17 November 2014.
- Russell, Judy G. "[A Matter of Consent](#)." *The Legal Genealogist*, blog, 6 July 2017.

## Module 3: Discovering Answers

### Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #10, 12, 35, 36
- Powell. *The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy*. 3rd ed.
  - Chapter 14
- Greenwood. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*. 3rd ed.
  - Chapter 15, "[Understanding Probate Records and Basic Legal Terminology](#)"
  - Chapter 16, "What About Wills"
  - Chapter 17, "The Intestate—Miscellaneous Probate Records—Guardianships" - **All Greenwood Chapters only available via Genealogical Principles course.**
- Izard, Holly V. "Random or Systematic? An Evaluation of the Probate Process." *Winterthur Portfolio* 32 (Summer-Autumn 1997): 147-167. **Provided via XanEdu – Only available through Genealogical Principles course.**
- Russell, Judy G. "[The Beer Bust and the Surety Bond](#)." *The Legal Genealogist*, blog, 28 August 2012.
- Finley, Carmen J. "[Who Was Aunt Mary? A Brief Case Study in Identification and Kinship 'Correction'](#)."

# Module 4: Proof in a Narrative Structure

## Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #10, 14, 17-19, 42, 45, 48-50
  - Chapter 4, introductory paragraph on p. 33, and Standards 58-61, 64-66, 68-70
- Johnson, Melissa A. "Mothers for Sophie (Kanetski) Howe of Scranton, Pennsylvania." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 103 (August 2015): 105-113. Available to read or download as a PDF at the [BCG website](#).
- Green, Shannon. "Parents for Cynthia (Parker) Wilcoxon of Ohio and West Virginia." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 105 (August 2017): 93-100. [Available as PDF on the author's website](#).

# Module 5: Reliable Resources

## Lesson 1 Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #19, 25, 27, 35-36, 40-48
- Powell. *The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy*. 3rd ed.
  - "Database Search Strategies," pp. 53-56
  - "Get Creative with Names," pp. 56-57
- Washington, Reginald. "[The Freedman's Savings and Trust Company and African American Genealogical Research](#)." *Prologue Magazine: Federal Records and African American History* 29, no. 2 (Summer 1997).

## Lesson 2 Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #23, 29-33
- Leary, Helen F. M. "[Skillbuilding: Converting Records into Reliable Copies](#)." *OnBoard* 5 (July 1999): 20.
- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. "[Transcribing Source Materials](#)." *OnBoard* 2 (July 1996): 8.
- Russell, Judy G. "[Guardians for the Kids](#)." *The Legal Genealogist*, blog, 1 July 2012.

## Lesson 3 Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #19, 25-27
- Sullivan, Amanda. "[This Straightforward Technique Will Help You Uncover Missed Facts About Your Ancestors](#)." *Family History Daily*.
- Hatton, Stephen B. "[A Genealogical Timeline as a Research Tool](#)." Originally published in *NGS Magazine*.

## Read after completing "Self-check Activity: Timelines."

- **Powell. *The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy*. 3rd ed.**
  - "Unearth Wills and Estate Records," pp. 122-125
  - "Chase Down Court Records," pp. 125-127
  - "Land and Property Records," pp. 134-136

# Module 6: Planning and Reporting

## Lesson 1 Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - "Planning Research," Standards #9-18
- DeGrazia, Laura Murphy. "[Planning Effective Research](#)." *OnBoard* 21 (September 2015): 17-18, 23.
- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. "[QuickLesson 17: The Evidence Analysis Process Model](#)." *Evidence Explained: Historical Analysis, Citation & Source Usage*.
- Powell, Kimberly. "[Think Like a Detective – How to Develop a Genealogy Research Plan](#)." *ThoughtCo*.
- Lenzen, Connie M. *Oregon*. NGS Research in the States Series, Special Publication No. 78 Arlington, VA.: National Genealogical Society, 2007.
  - **Note:** This book is available by the permission of the National Genealogical Society. It is available to student in read-only format during the time they are enrolled in the course. Students are not permitted to print the book or to download it to any other site. **Only available through Genealogical Principles course.**

## Module 6 (Continued)

### Lesson 2 Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #25-27, 35-36
- Powell. *The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy*. 3rd ed.
  - “A Research Log is Essential,” pp. 24–25
  - “Taking Good Notes Will Improve Results,” pp. 25–26
  - “Document Your Findings,” pp. 31–33
- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. “[Skillbuilding: Producing Quality Research Notes.](#)” *OnBoard* 3 (July 1997): 8.

### Lesson 3 Readings

- BCG. *Genealogy Standards*. 2nd ed.
  - Standards #62-71, 74.
- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. “[QuickLesson 20: Research Reports for Research Success.](#)” *Evidence Explained: Historical Analysis, Citation & Source Usage*.

# Module 7: Genetic Genealogy Concepts, Standards, and Ethics

### Readings

- Bettinger, Blaine T. *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*. 2nd ed.
  - Chapter 1, “Genetic Genealogy Basics”
  - Chapter 2, “Common Misconceptions”
  - Chapter 3, “Ethics and Genetic Genealogy”
  - Chapter 4, “Autosomal-DNA (atDNA) Testing”
  - Chapter 5, “Y-Chromosomal (Y-DNA) Testing”—Read through the end of the section entitled “Daughtering Out”
  - Chapter 6, “Mitochondrial (mtDNA) Testing”—Read through the end of the section entitled “Finding an mtDNA Descendant: Working Backward to Go Forward”
  - Chapter 7, “X-Chromosomal (X-DNA) Testing”—Read through the end of the section entitled “The Unique Inheritance of X-DNA”
  - Chapter 9, “Ethnicity Estimates”