

# Beginner's Guide to Germanic Genealogy

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>About This Book</b> .....	5
<b>How to Use This Book</b> .....	6
<b>Research Checklist</b> .....	8
<b>Worksheets</b>	
1. Immigrant Ancestor.....	10
2. Dates List.....	12
3. Immigration.....	14
4. Place of Origin.....	16
5. Church Records.....	18
6. German Family.....	20
<b>Getting Started</b>	
An Essential Step in Germanic Genealogy.....	22
Basic Terms.....	24
Best Books for Beginners.....	26
Best Internet Sites for Beginners.....	28
<b>Personal Names</b>	
German Surnames.....	30
German Given Names.....	32
<b>Place of Origin</b>	
Using American Records.....	34
Finding a Place of Origin.....	36
Clusters and Chains.....	38
<b>Geography &amp; History</b>	
Major Historic Events for German Genealogy.....	40
Timeline of German and American Events.....	42
German Political Geography.....	44
Lands Outside the German Empire.....	46
Rivers, Ports, and Cities.....	48
Locating a Town.....	50
Using <i>Meyers Orts</i> —.....	52
Using Maps in Germanic Genealogy.....	54
Finding Maps of German Lands.....	56

## **Emigration and Immigration**

Migration, Emigration and Immigration.....	58
German Immigration to America.....	60
Patterns in German Emigration and Immigration.....	62
New York Immigrants—Ellis Island or Castle Garden?.....	64
Locating Ships' Passenger Lists.....	66

## **Just Enough German Language**

German Language—Book Words.....	68
German Language—Genealogy-Book Words.....	69
German Language—Place Words.....	71
German Language—Church-Record Words.....	72

## **Gothic Print and Script**

Gothic Print (Fraktur).....	74
Gothic Script—Upper Case.....	76
Gothic Script—Lower Case.....	78

## **German Church Records**

German Church Books.....	80
German Baptism Records.....	82
German Marriage Records.....	84
Locating German Church Records.....	86
Locating a Record on Microfilm.....	88
Translating a German Record.....	89