



**My British Isles Origins:**

**When and How Do I Cross the Pond?**

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## **Course Outline**

### **Lesson One: Are You Ready?**

Introduction

What Lesson One Is About

Immigration and Internal Migration

Start from Strength: Check Your US and Colonial Research First

Major Records on Your Checklist: Federal, State, Colonial

Tips for Record Searching

Planning Advice

### **Lesson Two: Where and How Do I Venture into British and Irish Records**

Introduction

Learning Outcomes

Routes Out: Ports of Departure

London

Surname Distribution

Clues in Place Names

Groups Departing for America

A Related Factor: Population Shifts within the British Isles

Conclusion: First Steps in Finding Resources

### **Lesson Three; Sources, Finding Aids and Tactics,1713 to 1830**

Introduction

Learning outcomes

Place Information: Four Aspects

Ready to Search

Church Record indexes

Church Records

Probate Record indexes

Probate Record copies

Other Important Tools

Plan Your Research

## **Lesson Four: Seventeenth Century Challenges Are Good For You**

Introduction

Learning Outcomes

Check your Skills

War and Records

Discovering National and Local History

More about Church Records in England and Wales

About Early Records of Baptism, Marriage and Burial

More about Probate Records in England and Wales

Church and Probate Records in Scotland and Ireland

Taxes

Other Lists and Other Records

Completing a Research Plan

Conclusion

## **Learning Outcomes**

### **Lesson One**

The lesson provides a review of immigration background and internal migration within the continental United States. Students should be able to locate information that will contribute to an understanding of the history of immigration at the time their ancestor arrived or migrated elsewhere. Students will be able to review work done to date: whether or not all sources have been checked, and whether research has been thorough. The lesson concludes with tips for improving search skills and some planning advice to initiate analysis and preparation for research in British Isles records.

### **Lesson Two**

In this lesson students learn about the points of departure and migration pathways. This will include gaining some understanding of population shifts within the British Isles which were precursors to overseas migrations. Students will be able to use several resources to investigate surname distribution around the British Isles and will be able to apply some quantitative methods to their research analysis. Finally, students will learn that an awareness of migrant groups and of parallels in sources, UK and US, may help their research.

### **Lesson Three**

In this lesson, students get right into research, beginning with learning how to solve place and jurisdictional problems. Important sources are reviewed from the perspective of their value in identifying migrants. Student will know the contents and about access to finding aids and records. Some valuable tools, both indexes and collaborative catalogues, will be demonstrated so students understand how to manipulate information to their benefit. The lesson will cover these topics for all parts of the British Isles, according to the interests of the class, and will conclude with additional advice on writing out a research plan.

### **Lesson Four**

Research in Stuart and Tudor Britain presents special challenges. In addition, some of the sources are different. The lesson helps students understand the historical background and the research techniques for this period. Special sources are explained, including content, finding aids, access and use. Topics covered elsewhere, such as surname distribution and jurisdictions, are given a seventeenth century perspective and students will understand how to find the information they need. The lesson concludes with planning help.

At the end of the course students will understand the challenges to be faced in “crossing the pond” and will have new knowledge and confidence to begin and undertake their research. They will also have new ideas about how to expand their knowledge through reading, websites and further education.

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