



NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Press Release

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Learn How To Use DNA for Family History 2016 NGS Family History Conference

ARLINGTON, VA, 31 MARCH 2016— Family historians interested in learning more about DNA testing and genetic genealogy should be sure to check out this year's [National Genealogical Society Conference](#) in Florida, 4-7 May. The 2016 conference at the Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center is a premier opportunity to meet and network with other genealogists. It offers [180 presentations](#), including twelve lectures focused on DNA and genetic genealogy, for both new and seasoned researchers. For those interested in genetic genealogy, topics include testing companies, the types of DNA testing available and their strengths and weaknesses, and using DNA as evidence in conjunction with traditional documentary sources.

Beginners won't want to miss "Sex, DNA, and Family History," presented by Shellee A. Morehead, PHD, CGSM, which covers how DNA is transmitted, and describes the types of testing available to the genealogist. Additionally, Ft. Lauderdale's own Diahn Southard will offer insight into ethnicity estimates and interpreting the maps and percentages provided by the testing services in "DNA Testing and Your Ethnic Origins."

Conference attendees will be able to see how seasoned genealogists have solved genealogical brick walls using DNA testing, and learn about third-party tools that they use. Thomas W. Jones, PHD, CG, CGLSM, will demonstrate the methodology he used to solve an early 1800s, longstanding genealogical problem in his lecture, "Systematically Using Autosomal DNA Test Results To Help Break Through Genealogical Brick Walls." Ginger R. Smith, MLS will explain the basics of using a popular third-party tool, "How To Use Gedmatch.com To Optimize Your DNA Testing Experience."

In all, the conference offers a [broad array of topics](#), including building your family tree, problem-solving, researching ethnic and religious groups, military records, land records, migration patterns, and online and archival records as well as technology. Visit the [NGS 2016 NGS Family History Conference website](#) for more information about this year's conference or to register. Attendees may register at the door, please note that registration for all meals and social events closes on 22 April 2016.

Please visit the [NGS Pressroom](#) for further information.

NGS courses on DNA and genetic genealogy can be found [online](#).

Founded in 1903, the [National Genealogical Society](#) is dedicated to genealogical education, exemplary standards of research, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Arlington, Virginia, based nonprofit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian, seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, and guidance in research. It also offers many opportunities to interact with other genealogists.

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