

Experience

Master of Science in History with thesis topic in the family history traditions of Bavaria, Germany.

Previously employed by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City for nine years

Lectured at over 200 national, regional and local family history conferences.

Conducted family history research in over seventy European archives and libraries.

Conducted family history research in over sixty American archives and libraries.

Worked as a genealogist with private clients for twenty years.

Currently a fulltime Genealogical Researcher for Ancestry.

Warren specializes in German and Swiss research and is conversant in German and proficient in German Gothic handwriting.

Warren Bittner brings thirty years of in-depth European and American archival research experience to the lecture audience.

Warren lectures frequently at venues nationwide. He has a wide variety of topics available for German research, research methodology, and U.S. research topics

To schedule an engagement please contact:

WARREN BITTNER

1155 N 700 W
Centerville, UT 84014
Tel 801-898-0165

bittnerfw@gmail.com

WARREN BITTNER



Professional
Genealogical
Lecturer

LECTURE SERIES

Do a One or Two Day Workshop, or Choose Specific Lectures for Your Group

SERIES 1

INTRODUCTION TO READING GERMAN

German Gothic Handwriting: Anyone Can Read It

Have fun learning to read again in this two-hour class. Spend an hour learning the 29 upper-case letters and another hour learning the 32 lower-case letters and letter sets. Learn which letters are easily confused and how to distinguish them. This is a hands-on workshop with writing practice.

German Gothic Handwriting: In-depth Reading and Writing Practice

Enjoy reading German Gothic Script from different centuries. A Hands-on workshop with writing practice to help solidify your newly-acquired reading skills.

SERIES 2

IDENTIFYING GERMAN LOCATIONS

Bads, Bergs, Burgs, and Bachs

Locations in Germany are frequently misspelled, no longer exist, or the names have changed. Gain tools to identify difficult places.

Meyer's Gazetteer: Gateway to Germany

Learn the layout and structure of indispensable Meyer's Gazetteer. Learn how to interpret its many abbreviations and cross references.

German Maps and Territories

Learn about German boundary changes, and see documents from different archives.

Wo Ist Das? German Geography and Topography

Learn the major rivers, forests, mountains and states of Germany in this animated presentation.

SERIES 3

GERMAN MARRIAGE RESEARCH

Understanding Illegitimacy: The Bittner Bastards of Bavaria

See new light on nineteenth century morality. Follow a couple with three children born during a ten-year wait for marriage.

German Marriage Laws and Customs

Learn how German marriage laws changed 1500-1900, about tight marriage restrictions, and about marriage customs.

The Fisherman Who Wanted to Marry the Executioner's Daughter: Stories You Missed from German Marriage Sources

Learn about German marriage records beyond church books. Hear stories found in documents from many areas of Germany.

SERIES 4

IMMIGRANT RESEARCH

Impossible Immigrants! U.S. Case Study in "Exhaustive Research"

Associations with neighbors and distant relatives help pinpoint the place of origin for a "brick wall" immigrant.

Elusive Immigrant! The Search for Dora Lühr

Follow the search for an immigrant who is not found where she is supposed to be and whose name is anything but certain.

Pitty the Poor Pfuhl

Follow two cases from the American Midwest to identify the place of origin in Germany using a variety of techniques.

SERIES 4

ADVANCED GERMAN RESEARCH

German Research and the Law

Learn how the relationship of people with the law has changed over the centuries and how those changes affect research and records.

German Calendars and Feasts

Over the years, Germans have used several different calendars, which can be confusing. The feasts and holidays they celebrated also affect their records.

Village Family Books

Learn about the thousands of books that give family details for everyone in town.

GERMAN PUBLISHED SOURCES

The published sources for German research hold many clues to finding families. Learn about these valuable resources.

SERIES 5

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

"Beat the Children with a Birch Stick" Historical Context from the Library

How to find books about the cultural, political, social, and occupational lives your ancestors.

Complex Evidence: What it is, How it Works, & Why it Matters

Genealogists seek to establish identity and prove relationships; complex evidence is the best way to do this. Follow a case that combines clues from multiple sources to solve a complex problem.

Document to Narrative: Writing to Engage your Reader

Learn tricks of good writing and how to turn dry documents into an interesting family story.