Handout – Session #1 – October 5

# Getting started: Interview, Plan, Organize, Research

## Syllabus contents:

1. Genealogy starts with YOU - what do you know about yourself and your family? Write it down.
2. Interview any older family members you can find. Interview tips.
3. Make a Plan - who do you want to research? Pick one family line at a time.
4. Start as you mean to go on - choose a filing system, use forms to help track what you know and what you still need to find
5. Begin preliminary research. Don't forget to cite your sources.
6. Learn to use FamilySearch website.

Lab session - assist students in filling out some preliminary forms, making a plan, and using FamilySearch (free) repository online. Everyone will need to sign up for or log onto FamilySearch for best results. All forms and results can be saved to a USB memory stick

### Interview Tips:

<http://genealogy.about.com/cs/oralhistory/a/interview.htm>

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohlths/interview2.htm>

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/20-questions>

### Plan

Printed handout

### Organization

Demonstration of binder system and file folder system

### Preliminary Research

FamilySearch website

[www.familysearch.com](http://www.familysearch.com)

Ancestry website

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2010/01/04/ancestry-search-improved-wildcard-flexibility/>

Castle Garden and Ellis Island both have websites that can be useful to Genealogists.

<http://www.understandingyourancestors.com/ia/entrywayAtCastleGarden.aspx>

<http://castlegarden.org/>

<http://libertyellisfoundation.org/family-history-center>