What is your Family Story?
Introduction to Genealogy for Adults

A six week course
NSU Alvin Sherman Library
2019 Adult Summer Programming
Nora Quinlan
Session 2: Library Resources
The Library Catalog

- Library holdings including books, e-books, media, microforms, periodicals, government documents, etc.

- Record includes – if known – author, title, publisher, place of publication, year of publication, volume(s), edition. Also subject and added entries.

- Location – using either Library of Congress classification, Dewey Decimal classification, SUDOC number, collection name, etc.

- Examples:
  - NovaCat – NSU Libraries only! https://sherman.library.nova.edu/
  - FamilySearch Catalog https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog
  - FamilySearch Digital Library https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/
  - WorldCat – https://www.worldcat.org/
    - holding from over 72,000 libraries from 172 countries
WorldCat

- Not every library collection is in WorldCat!
  - Ex: HistoryMiami; Fort Lauderdale Historical Society
  - How to check if a library or historical collection is included

- Nor is every book!
  - Why?
    - Self published
    - Local or private distribution
    - Some library secrets!
      - CIP
      - Backlog
      - Lack of staff
Archives

• What are archives?
  • Different from a library in what they have, catalog and access

• Society of American Archivists https://www2.archivists.org/about-archives

• Archivists are not librarians nor are librarians archivists!

• Locating materials in archives
  • Laura Schmidt. *Using Archives. A Guide to Effective Research.*
  • Finding aids
  • Websites
    • ArchiveGrid a collection of over five million archival material descriptions, including MARC records from WorldCat and finding aids harvested from the web.
      • https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/

Check the intuition directly
Your Research Sources

• Consider these before using any source:
  • Access and availability
  • Reliability
  • Completeness
  • Documentation and validation
Bibliographies

Bibliography

• A list of citations. Bibliographies are used to list resources referenced within a researched work (e.g., book, journal, or encyclopedia article). They are also used to provide a collection of resources on a particular topic.

Ex:

• *New York State Censuses & Substitutes*

• *A Bibliography of American County Histories*
Directories

Directory

- A systematically arranged list of people, departments, businesses, organizations, etc. Usually includes contact and/or other relevant information.
  - Newspapers
    - *U.S. Newspaper Directory* and *Chronicling America* (both online)
  - Organizations:
    - *Gale Directory Library* (NSU database)
  - Biographical Directories
Indices

• Index

• A resource that arranges citations by author, title, and/or subject.
  • Ex.
    • New York Times Index (NSU database)
    • PERSI – The Periodical Source Index: https://www.findmypast.com/persi
Geographic sources

- Maps
- Atlas

- Gazetteer: dictionary or encyclopedia listing alphabetically the names of places, political divisions, and physical features of the earth and giving some information about each.
Other sources

- Family histories and Genealogies
- Local histories
- Compiled lists – including registers, logs, directories, etc.
- Biographical works

  - Not just online!
  - But remember not always accurate!
Genealogical and Historical Periodicals

- Tequesta
- Florida Historical Quarterly
- National Genealogical Society Quarterly
- NGS Magazine
- American Ancestors
- FamilyTree Magazine
Copyright Law and Public Domain

Copyright law and public domain.

- **How long does a copyright last?**
  The term of copyright for a particular work depends on several factors, including whether it has been published, and, if so, the date of first publication. As a general rule, for works created after January 1, 1978, copyright protection lasts for the life of the author plus an additional 70 years. For an anonymous work, a pseudonymous work, or a work made for hire, the copyright endures for a term of 95 years from the year of its first publication or a term of 120 years from the year of its creation, whichever expires first. For works first published prior to 1978, the term will vary depending on several factors.

- Most works published in 1923 or earlier are now in public domain.
E-Books and E-Journal Sources

- **Project Gutenberg**: a collaborative, open source ebooks in the public domain.

- **Google Books**: If the book is out of copyright, or the publisher has given Google Books permission, find preview of the book, and in some cases the entire text.

- **Europeana**: Material from more than 2,000 European institutions

- **Digital Public Library of America**: DPLA goal is to provide universal access to digital resources in American libraries and archives.

- **Internet Archive**: huge repository of text, audio and video files, including public domain titles.

- **Online Books Page**: Maintained by the University of Pennsylvania Library with more than one million free books on the web.

- **HathiTrust**: a partnership of major research institutions and libraries. Restrictions on access.

- Individual library databases and institutional websites
InterLibrary Loan

- Never say you cannot get it – because libraries offer interlibrary loan.

Go to:

- [https://sherman.library.nova.edu/sites/interlibrary-loan/](https://sherman.library.nova.edu/sites/interlibrary-loan/)