



Research in Poland

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The purpose of this class is to give you some ideas to help you understand Polish research and to help you become aware of websites and sources that will be of help in finding your Polish ancestry.

OBJECTIVES

1. You will learn about differences in record keeping styles
2. You will become familiar with research helps online
3. You will learn how to use some online digital collections

Beginning Your Research

1. It is important for you to know some basic Polish history to learn and understand about the many partitions and occupation times that developed Poland into the country it is today. A good source is the Polish Research Outline which can be found at this link:
https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/images/b/b0/Research_Outline_Poland.pdf
2. A good place to start your research is at FamilySearch.org. To help you with your Polish work you will want to search the FamilySearch Wiki for Poland research help. On the Polish page you will find links to online records, both in FamilySearch and other sites. You can find a letter-writing guide, word list and lots more.
3. At the FamilySearch site you can find online classes to guide your research in the Learning Center.
4. Digitized images can be found online for several Polish regions.
5. Films, books and other materials for Poland are available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. With the exception of some restricted films, most films can be ordered to Family History Centers around the world.

Websites

A handout that will accompany this class will give you a list of links that will help you locate some of the main Polish websites used by many researchers. These sites are often in the Polish language, but many have British flags and the site appears in an English version. When this is not the case, you may need the help of Google Translate or a similar program.

Church and Civil Registration Records

Although the purpose of this class is not to teach you how to read the documents, it will show

you some record types and styles typically seen in their respective local regions. For step by step instructions on how to use the Polish State Archives, please go to the following link for a webinar on this subject

<https://meet.lds.org/orion/webcomponents/widget/playback/close.do?siteurl=meet> as well as a detailed handout. (see link below).

[https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/images/a/a1/How to Use the Digitized Records of the Polish State Archives%29.pdf](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/images/a/a1/How_to_Use_the_Digitized_Records_of_the_Polish_State_Archives%29.pdf)

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