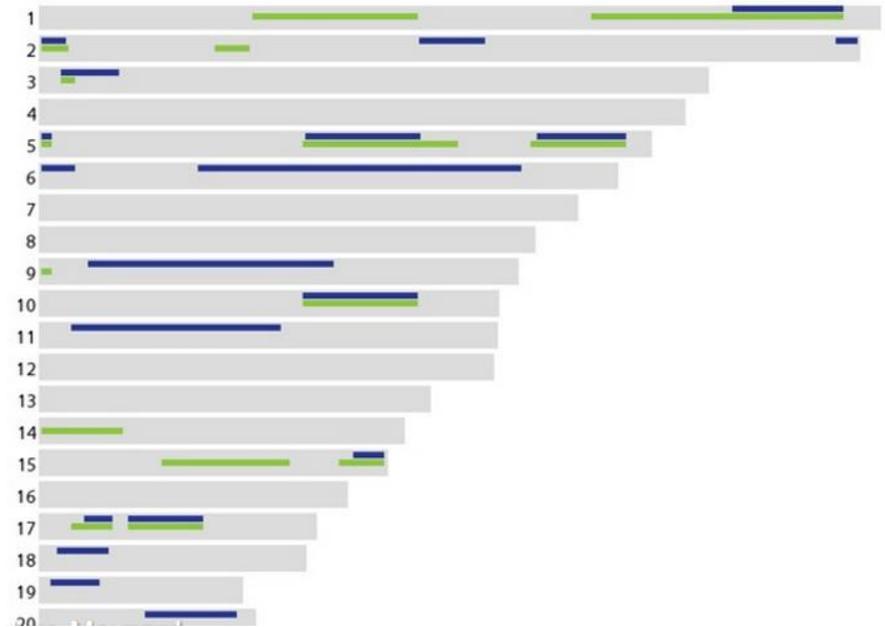# Class Description

Do you want to unlock the secrets in your family tree?
Are you an adoptee, a genealogist who's hit a roadblock,
or just plain curious about your roots?

If so, then the rapidly-evolving field of genetic genealogy
can take you beyond the end of the paper trail. By
combining traditional genealogy with cutting-edge DNA
testing, secrets hidden for decades – even hundreds of
years -- can be uncovered. You just need the determination
and the know-how.

This self-paced, six-week online course will introduce you to
the tools you'll need with step-by-step techniques developed
by genealogists, geneticists, IT experts, programmers, search
angels and others determined to find their roots -- so that
you can, too.

Recommended for:

- Genealogists who want to break through brick walls
- Adoptees who want to identify their birth families
- Families wanting to prove or disprove blood relationships
- Anyone wanting to discover new family members

Prerequisites

- Autosomal DNA Test Results from Ancestry.com, 23andme and/or Family Tree DNA

- A spreadsheet application (*Microsoft Excel is recommended*)

- Working knowledge of spreadsheets *(See Resource List for tutorials if you need to beef up first)*

- An internet connection

- Patience and determination

- Your gracious donation will help us develop new and improved tools.

  Every penny goes towards the cost of hosting, storage, and development. You can send your PayPal donation to moodle@DNAGEDCOM.com or by clicking the Donate button.

  And, if you select "gift" or "send to family and friends" when sending your donation, PayPal will waive the fees for DNAGEDCOM.com -- and that means more funds are available to support the cause!)

  If you would rather donate by check, please make your check payable to Karin Corbeil and send to:

  Karin Corbeil
  1 Admiral Lane
  Salem , SC 29676

Class Moderators

Karin Corbeil

Karin, an adoptee, is a retired international accounting manager, a published author, and has been a genealogist for 30 years. Currently, as a volunteer Search Angel she helps other adoptees to work with their DNA results in hopes of finding their families.

A Project Administrator for the Family Tree DNA Global Adoptee Genealogy Project and Moderator of the groups UnknownFatherDNA, AdoptionDNA_Tools and DNAadoption (all of Yahoo!), she has worked closely with Rob Warthen as a partner in DNAGedcom.com since 2012.

She has written a blog about her own adoptee experience using DNA at FindingFoleys.

Diane Harman-Hoog

Diane is a retired systems analyst and senior IT manager for Microsoft, Novell and Boeing. Diane has been an entrepreneur with an eCommerce business, an online University and a consultant for small business marketing and website design.

She currently serves as the analyst for the team and developed the concept of the methodology to triangulate matches, posted on DNAadoption.com.

Diane is currently working as a partner with DNAGedcom.com to help define its product and scope, along with the opportunities to proceed in this new field.

As an experienced volunteer Search Angel and a professional genealogist, she has been researching DNA data and finding genealogical and biological connections through that research.

FAQs

Can I really find a biological relative if I take a DNA test?

Many people have been searching for years without success and are asking the question: Can DNA testing really help me? The answer (honestly) is "possibly."

Are there any success stories?

Over 300 people have taken this class since it was developed in 2013. Many alumni are discovering their heritage through the techniques and tips they learned.

To see some of these success stories, please visit http://dnaadoption.com/index.php?page=reunions.

What if I already have some non-identifying info? Do I still need to take a DNA test?

Traditional adoptee search methods along with DNA testing can possibly be the best way to a successful search. If your non-id is more than 3-5 years old, we recommend you get it updated as the most recent information in non-id may contain additional clues.

What if I have additional questions?

Please post your question in the the DNAAdoption newsgroup on Yahoo! At:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DNAAdoption)

Our newsgroup is quite robust and the place to discuss DNA as it applies to those seeking unknown family; to ask questions; and learn how to better work your DNA results.

Recommended Tools and Resources

Software

- **Spreadsheet software** to organize and analyze matches *(Microsoft Excel is used in class examples)*

- **Genealogy application** to build trees

  Ancestry.com is recommended so you can utilize their "hint" system. As you build trees, Ancestry automatically searches its numerous databases to provide information for the people in those trees. This system can help you expand trees by finding more relatives through census records, other family trees, city directories, obituaries, etc. It's well worth the subscription price. It's also available on a month-by-month basis if you'd like to temporarily use it for this class.

- **Family trees** or GEDCOMs

  A GEDCOM (pronounced JED-com), or GEnealogical Data COMmunication file, is a computer file format for family trees that can be used by most genealogy programs, including Ancestry.com. This process is automated on **DNAGEDCOM.com** for FTDNA family trees provided by your first 500 matches. Or, you can generate one GEDCOM at a time as needed.

- **JWorks and KWorks**, free tools also available on DNAGEDCOM.com, organize your matches into one chromosome browser. They will do the sorting, grouping and matrix-building necessary for you to quickly identify your most promising matches to triangulate to find your ancestors.

- **Adobe Acrobat Reader**

  Our classes are in the PDF format. To open these files, please **download Adobe Reader** if you do not have it installed on your PC.

Recommended Tools and Resources

Web Sites and Resources

- A free account on **www.dnagedcom.com**

  This awesome suite of tools created by Rob Warthen and other volunteers automates many processes described in the class to make it easier to identify relationships with your matches. Features are always being updated and added.

- A free account on **www.gedmatch.com**

  Another great set of free tools to analyze your test results, as well as discover new matches. It's like taking another DNA test for free and having another pond to fish in. GEDmatch also allows you to upload your Ancestry.com raw data so that you can include these matches in your master chromosome browser.

- Subscriptions to the DNAAdoption and AdoptionDNA_Tools newsgroups on Yahoo!

  In these robust newsgroups, many dedicated experts, including search angels, genetic genealogists, birth families who have successfully discovered bio family members through DNA and IT gurus answer questions, share information, and provide updates on new ways to identify your DNA relatives.

- A Cousin Chart to understand relationships within families

- A Master File or Spreadsheet to track your confirmed matches

You, Too, Can Be a Genetic Genealogist!

About DNAGEDCOM.com

Purpose

In 2012, DNAGedcom.com was born under the direction of Rob Warthen, an IT professional and a Director of Product Development for an information technology solutions firm.

Volunteers noticed a need for tools and instructions to interpret the results of DNA tests for genealogical guidance. DNAGEDCOM.com is the site which contains specially-developed tools and utilities to help you analyze and organize the results from DNA tests. DNAAdoption, its sister site, provides documentation.

All of these resources are available to you at no charge! The development team strongly believes that everyone has a right to their biological background. DNAGEDCOM.com and DNAAdoption.com are both volunteer-supported and funded.

Goal

The goal is to reduce the human involvement in extracting, measuring the data, and to provide software for solutions for DNA matching. The tools on the site will help determine relationships, expand family trees and provide additional metrics and comparisons not now available to the user.

Team

Our team consists of those experienced in DNA analysis, genetic genealogy, research, software programming and website development. Please feel free to contact us with any questions concerning DNAGedcom at support2@dnagedcom.com.

About DNAAdoption.com

Success in using DNA is now becoming a more common event, especially for adoptees. A new world of adoptee searching is gaining momentum, and we expect we will also see new discoveries in the world of genealogy, as well.

DNAAdoption.com, the sister-site for DNAGEDCOM.com, serves as the repository for documentation. You'll find an ever-growing library of information about DNA testing, analyzing and triangulating your DNA results, success stories, tips and tricks, etc. Our main goal is to give you the information you need to find your unknown ancestors.

The site's main document is the "Methodology," which provides a framework for working with DNA test results, tools and utilities, as well as conducting genealogy searches using tried and true methods.

All material is constantly being developed, revised and updated as new developments in DNA research are discovered. You can contact us about DNAadoption.com at webmail@dnaadoption.com

You, Too, Can Be a Genetic Genealogist!

Registration

Classes fill up quickly! Please visit http://dnaadoption.com/index.php?page=online-classes to see open sessions. If you find an open class you'd like to take, send an email to Register@dnagedcom.com with your name, email address and city/county you live in.

Also, please also remember to send your donation. We request a donation for class participants in the amount of $35.

All of our work is 100% supported by donations which pay for servers, hosting, storage, and development. Every penny goes towards the cost of hosting, storage, and development. You can send your PayPal donation to moodle@DNAGEDCOM.com or by clicking the Donate button.

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