

# **AncestryDNA Lab: From DNA Evidence to Discoveries**

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In this hands-on lab, you will learn how to use DNA evidence to make family history discoveries. You will be shown how to identify your AncestryDNA Matches, determine how they fit into your family tree, and track discoveries. You will then practice this process using your own AncestryDNA results.

## Lab Prerequisites

- AncestryDNA test results (you will need to have taken the AncestryDNA test and have access to your results, or be the manager of someone else's results)
- Know the Ancestry login and password for the account where the DNA results are managed (you will be using computers in the lab and/or can bring your own device)
- If you haven't already, you might want to start a family tree on Ancestry and then go into your DNA Settings and attach your DNA to yourself in your tree.

## Class Outline

- Quick Tour of AncestryDNA Match List and new features
- Understanding centimorgans and possible relationships with probabilities
- Match clustering, grouping, and labeling
- Review of discovery tools and methods for tracking AncestryDNA evidence
- Connections between DNA and trees

## Worksheet

1. How many matches do you have in each of the following AncestryDNA “buckets?”

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Child                      \_\_\_\_\_ Close Family                      \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Cousin

\_\_\_\_\_ Immediate Family                      \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Cousin                      \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup> Cousin

2. Do you know all of your first cousin (and closer) matches?

- a. Make a note on each of them that includes their name, who the common ancestors are, what the actual relationship is, and how much DNA you share.
- b. If you don't have any/enough, list who you could invite to take an AncestryDNA test.

3. Use the SHARED MATCHES feature to cluster 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins matches with 4<sup>th</sup> cousins. Make a note on each.

4. Whose DNA match list do you need access to in order to best make new discoveries? Are you willing to share yours with them in return?

*Want more from Crista? Find past episodes of her weekly internet show, The Barefoot Genealogist, on the Ancestry YouTube channel at <http://ancstry.me/TBGVids>.*

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