

Reading old German Script — Antje Petty — 3 May 2021

<http://mki.wisc.edu>

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Resources referenced in the presentation

Fonts: — See your name in *Fraktur* or *Kurrent*:

<http://www.waldenfont.com/GutenbergPress.asp>

<http://www.kurrentschrift.net/index.php?s=schreiben>

German Genealogy Vocabulary

General

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/German_Genealogical_Word_List

(extensive, alphabetical)

Church Record vocabulary

<https://sktranslations.com/german-church-record-vocabulary-important-words>

German Genealogy Vocabulary in *Fraktur* and Old German Script

“Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents” by Roger P. Minert, GRT Publications

“Deciphering Gothic Records” by Fay S. Dearden, Family Roots Publishing

Learn to read (and write) the Old German Script/*Kurrent*:

Family Search Tutorials:

<https://www.familysearch.org/help/helpcenter/lessons/old-german-script-part-1>

BYU Online Tutorial:

<https://script.byu.edu/Pages/German/en/welcome.aspx>

Online course by Katherine Schober:

<https://german.handwriting.teacheable.com>

Max Kade Institute in-person workshops — check the MKI website for upcoming events

<https://mki.wisc.edu/eventspage/workshops>

Hire a transcriber/translator: Transliteration first, translation second!

Max Kade Institute list of people who do transcriptions and translations for a fee

<https://mki.wisc.edu/genealogy/list-of-transcribers-and-translators>

Special German Characters

- Ä, Ö, Ü
- ä, ö, ü, ß
- Obsolete today:
 - Ț, Ț
 - two different forms of “s”

Characters that look alike

Fraktur

- B–V, C–E, G–S, I–J, K–N–R
- h–n–y, f–s, c–e, i–j

Script

- B–C–L, F–P–T, K–R,
- a–o–v–w, c–e–n–m–r–u, g–p–y,

