

# Germany to Pennsylvania: 18th Century Odyssey

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Outline:

## I. Introduction

### A. Acknowledgments

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### B. Limitations

General statements can be wrong in any specific case

Reliability of data narrowed by amount and “points of view”

### C. Goals

Describe briefly the length, route and trials of the journey

Evaluate commonly held stereotypes about the 18th century German emigration

Let the diaries, journals, and letters of the immigrants tell their stories

## II. The Stages of the Journey

### A. Preparation

### B. Rhine River basin to Rotterdam

### C. Rotterdam to England

### D. England to America

## III. Evaluation of 18th Century Voyage Narratives

## IV. Stereotypes of 18th Century Immigration

A. Most Colonial German immigrants came for religious reasons

B. All immigrant voyages were long, perilous, and deadly

C. Many Germans could not afford the fare and needed to work as indentured servants to pay for their passage.

D. A substantial proportion of your Colonial German Ancestors were indentured.

E. Communications with and return trips to Germany were impossible

F. Many immigrants practiced geographic mobility once in Pennsylvania.

G. A large percentage of 18th century German-speaking emigrants headed west to America.

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