**Use of historical death certificates as a tool to study the changing dynamics of human populations**

**research TOPIC SUGGESTIONS**

* Urban mortality vs. rural, males vs. females, age group, by county, by ethnicity mortality, underlying conditions, mortality by season, duration of disease.
* World War II Japanese internment camps and mortality (several camps located in AZ)
* Water-borne diseases and agricultural practices (typhoid fever, dysentery, polio)
* Raw human sewage used in irrigation
* Milk-related diseases (children)
* Disease during the Great Depression

 - Causes of infant/children mortality, congenital malformations and nutrition

* Tuberculosis mortality (high rates in 1940’s-1950’s AZ); length of disease before death
* Chronic diseases (In 1950s were leading cause of illness in AZ)
* Diabetes, heart disease, cancers
* Polio deaths before and after the polio vaccine was implemented (before/after 1955)
* Zoonotic Diseases (Ex. Brucellosis, Botulism or Malta fever)
* Weather phenomena and mortality (ex., droughts, flooding, excess heat, car accidents)

 - Heat-related, coccidiomycosis (in 1930s 6% of US cases were in AZ), drownings

* Occupational health (ex., lung disease, accidents)

- Mining (copper, coal mines), Military personnel, Industrial (chrysotile asbestos mill in Globe, AZ)

* Vaccine-preventable diseases and children mortality

 - Before and after vaccine implementation

* Nuclear blast fallout health effects

 - During the 1950's, nearly 100 nuclear tests were conducted in AZ

* Influenza mortality
* Native American, Mexican/Mexican American health issues (diabetes, heart disease)
* Loss of pregnancy, causes of fetal mortality (ex. congenital malformations)
* 1918 and 1957 influenza pandemics
* Childhood, infant mortality (ex., 1913, Arizona had the 2nd highest in the US)
* Smallpox mortality