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Dept. of Slavic Languages & Literatures
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Current Position

Assistant Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Kansas
2011-

Education

Ph.D. (Russian literature) **Columbia University** October 2011
Dissertation: "From the Pastoral to the Grotesque in Late Russian Realism, 1872-1899."
Committee: Liza Knapp (sponsor), Irina Reyfman, Robert Belknap, Richard Wortman, Valentina Izmirlieva.

M. Phil., (Russian literature) **Columbia University** 2009
Minor field: Balkan Literatures

M.A., (Russian literature) **Columbia University** 2007
Master's Essay: "The Gospel as Poetic Laboratory – Tolstoy's *Harmonization and Translation of the Four Gospels*. *Readers:* Liza Knapp, Robert Belknap

B. A., (Russian literature, Classical Studies) **Dartmouth College** 2005

Awards and Fellowships

2010-2011: Harriman Junior Fellowship, Columbia University

2009: Raskin Endowment Summer Grant, Columbia University

2008: Andrew Mellon Fellow at Bakhmeteff Slavic Archives, Rare Book and Manuscripts Library, Columbia University

2007-2008: FLAS Fellowship for the Study of Serbo-Croatian, Columbia University

2005-2010: Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University

Summer 2007: Fulbright Hays Award for Summer Study

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Bureaucracy of Dreams – Surrealist Socialism and Surrealist Awakening in Ismail Kadare’s *The Palace of Dreams*.” *Slavic Review* 70.3, Fall 2011.

“‘Curse’ of the Blood – The Eastern Origins of Balkan Violence in Ismail Kadare’s *Three Elegies for Kosovo*.” *Ulbandus*, Vol. 13, 2010.

“Authoring Christ – Novelistic Echoes in Tolstoy’s *Harmonization and Translation of the Four Gospels*.” *Tolstoy Studies Journal*, vol. 20, 2008.

“To Grieve or Not to Grieve? – The Unsteady Representation of Violence in Ivo Andrić’s *The Bridge On the Drina*.” *Serbian Studies*, vol. 23, 2007.

[Republished in *Sveske Zadužbine Ive Andrića*, Belgrade, Vol. 28, Summer 2011.]

Additional Articles

“Grotesknoe ostranenie v romane Tolstogo *Voskresenie*.” Proceedings from the Seventh International Academic Conference “Leo Tolstoy and World Literature.” Forthcoming, Iasnaia Poliana: April 2011.

“Portret Khrista v knige Tolstogo *Soedinenie i perevod chetyrekh evangelii*.” Proceedings from the Fifth International Academic Conference “Leo Tolstoy and World Literature.” Iasnaia Poliana: April 2008.

Reviews

Review of: Justin Weir. *Leo Tolstoy and the Alibi of Narrative*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011. Forthcoming *Slavic and Eastern European Journal*, 2011.

“Editor's Introduction.” *Ulbandus: The Slavic Review of Columbia University*, Volume 13 (Violence).

Conference Report, “Seventh International Academic Conference ‘Leo Tolstoy and World Literature.’” Iasnaia Poliana, 2010. *Tolstoy Studies Journal*, forthcoming 2010.

Review of: Joe Andrew, ed. *Turgenev and Russian Culture – Essays in Honour of Richard Peace*. Amsterdam, New York: Rodopi Studies in Slavic Literature and Poetics, vol. 49, 2008. *Slavic and Eastern European Journal*, vol. 53, no. 4, Winter 2010.

Review of: *Balkan Beauty, Balkan Blood: Modern Albanian Short Stories*. Edited and translated by Robert Elsie. Evanston, Illinois: Northwestern University Press, 2006. *Slavic and East European Journal*, vol. 51, no. 3, Fall 2007.

Review of: Peter Prifti. *Unfinished Portrait of a Country*. Boulder: East European Monographs; New York: Distributed by Columbia University Press, 2005. *Slavic and East European Journal*, volume 50, no. 4, Winter 2007.

Work in Progress

Book

The Grotesque Moment in Russian Realism (provisional title)

Editorial Experience

2010: Editor in Chief, *Ulbandus: The Slavic Review of Columbia University*, Volume 13 (Violence).

2006-2009: Assistant Editor, *Ulbandus: The Slavic Review of Columbia University*

Conference Presentations

“Ismail Kadare’s Libidinous Resistance.” (AATSEEL, Seattle, Jan. 5-8, 2012).

“Homelessness and the Emancipation.” Roundtable presentation. (ASEEES, Washington, D.C., Nov. 17-20, 2011).

“Tolstoy’s Muslim Epic Hero Hadji Murat.” (ASEEES, Washington, D.C., Nov. 17-20, 2011).

“Grotesque Realism in Tolstoy’s *Resurrection*.” (AATSEEL, Pasadena, Jan. 6-9, 2010).

“Maslova’s, Anna Karenina’s, and Maria Pavlova’s Bodies – The Heroine’s Body and the Body Politic in Tolstoy’s *Resurrection*.” Roundtable presentation. (ASEEES, Los Angeles, Nov. 18-21, 2010).

“Demons in the Russian Countryside – Dostoevsky and Turgenev in *Besy*.” (ASEEES, Los Angeles, Nov. 18-21, 2010).

“Grotesknoe ostranenie v romane Tolstogo *Voskresenie*.” (Seventh International Academic Conference “Leo Tolstoy and World Literature,” Yasnaya Polyana, August 11-15, 2010).

“Hoarding Away the Self – Solipsism and Violence in Pushkin’s *Malen’kie Tragedii*.” (AAASS, Boston, November 12-15, 2009).

“‘Curse’ of the Blood – The Eastern ‘Other’ as Facilitator of Balkan Violence in Ismail Kadare’s *Three Elegies for Kosovo*.” Roundtable Presentation. (AAASS, Boston, November 12-15, 2009).

“The Bureaucracy of Dreams – Aesthetic Rebellion and the Indispensable Surreal in Ismail Kadare’s *The Palace of Dreams*.” (MLA, San Francisco, December 28-30, 2008.)

“The Decadent Muse in Ismail Kadare’s ‘The Albanian Writers’ Union as Mirrored by a

Woman’.” (AATSEEL, San Francisco, December 28-30, 2008.)

“The Travelogue and the Ode – Aleksander Radishchev’s Response to Odic Poetics in *Puteshestvie iz Peterburga v Moskvu.*” (AAASS, Philadelphia, November 20-23, 2008).

“Torn in Two – Individual Victimization and the Peculiarities of the Narrator’s Voice in Ivo Andrić’s *The Bridge On the Drina.*” (Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference, NYU, March 29, 2008).

“‘He did not speak to them without a parable’ (Mk. 4:34) – The Metaphorical Truth about God in Tolstoy’s Translation of the Gospels.” (American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., December 27-30, 2007).

“Where is an ‘Honorable Man’ to Live? – The Hazards of Space and Topophilia in Turgenev’s *Dvorianskoe Gnezdo.*” (Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies meeting, November 2007).

“Portret Khrista v knige Tolstogo *Soedinenie i perevod chetyrekh evangelii.*” (Fifth International Academic Conference “Leo Tolstoy and World Literature,” Yasnaya Polyana, August 12-16, 2007).

“Causality, Mythmaking, and the Epic Tradition in Ismail Kadare’s *Palace of Dreams.*” (Southeast European Studies Association (SEESA) Meeting, Ohio State University April 26-30, 2007).

“‘Mertvye pchely?’ – Prince Myshkin’s Anti-logos Stance in Dostoyevsky’s *The Idiot.*” (American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., December 27-30, 2006).

“Doing Battle with the Art of War – Tolstoy’s *What is Art?* in the War Narratives of *War and Peace.*” (Annual Yale Graduate Student Slavic Conference. New Haven, April 7-9 2006).

Teaching Experience

University of Kansas

SLAV 534: Tolstoy
(Spring 2012)

SLAV 144/145: Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature in Translation
(Fall 2011, Spring 2012)

SLAV 660: Nineteenth-century Russian Prose and Fiction
(Fall 2011)

Columbia University

Violent Muse of the Twentieth Century (Instructor) (Spring 2009)

Literature and Empire (TA, taught by Cathy Popkin) (Fall 2008)

Introductory Russian I, II (Instructor) (Fall 2005, Spring 2006)

Languages

English, Albanian (native), Russian, reading knowledge of Serbo-Croatian, reading knowledge of French.

Professional Service

Departmental

Annual Merit Evaluation Committee, University of Kansas, Spring 2012

Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, University of Kansas, Spring 2012.

Slavic Department Chair Search Committee, University of Kansas, Fall 2011.

University

Center for Teaching Excellence Committee, University of Kansas, Fall 2011-present.

Hall Center for the Humanities Graduate Summer Research Award Committee, University of Kansas, (member), Spring 2012

National

Graduate Column Editor for the AATSEEL Newsletter, 2010-2011.

Professional Affiliation

ASEEES (formerly AAASS); AATSEEL; MLA