

Tatyana Gershkovich
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Modern Languages
Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2022– William S. Dietrich Associate Professor of Russian Studies, Carnegie Mellon University
2022–2023 Visiting Scholar, Department of Slavonic Studies at the University of Vienna
2016–2022 Assistant Professor of Russian Studies, Department of Modern Languages, Carnegie Mellon University
Fall 2015 Visiting Lecturer, Russian Department, Dartmouth College

EDUCATION

2016 Ph.D., Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University
Dissertation: “Held Captive: Tolstoy, Nabokov, and the Aesthetics of Constraint”
2007 B.A., magna cum laude in Slavic Studies, Harvard University

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Areas of Interest:

Nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russian prose; European philosophy and intellectual history; aesthetics; philosophical skepticism; interwar émigré history and culture; migration and diaspora studies; feminist and postcolonial narratology; digital archives; the epistemology of computational literary analysis; Siberia as a cultural space in Imperial and Soviet Russia.

Monograph:

Art in Doubt: Tolstoy, Nabokov, and the Problem of Other Minds (Northwestern University Press, 2022)

Special Journal Issue:

2023 “House Rules”: Reading with Authorial Instructions.” Editors Tatyana Gershkovich and Chloë Kitinger. Special Issue, *Narrative* (forthcoming 2023)

Peer-Reviewed Publications:

2019 “Suspicion on Trial: Tolstoy’s *The Kreutzer Sonata* and Nabokov’s ‘Pozdnyshev’s Address,’” *PMLA*, 134. 3 (May 2019): 459–474.

Tatyana Gershkovich
Curriculum Vitae

- 2019 “Self-translation and the Transformation of Nabokov’s Aesthetics from *Kamera obskura* to *Laughter in the Dark*,” *Slavic and East European Journal* 63.2 (2019): 206–225.
- 2013 “Infecting, Simulating, Judging: Tolstoy’s Search for an Aesthetic Standard,” *Journal of the History of Ideas* 74 (January 2013): 115–137.
- 2017 “Хаджи-Мурат, как прообраз эстетической восприимчивости,” (“Hadji Murat’s Exemplary Aesthetic Receptivity”) *Proceedings of the 10th International Leo Tolstoy Conference at Yasnaya Polyana*, ed. by Galina Alekseeva (The Yasnaya Polyana Publishing House, 2018), 141–150. Proceedings of a peer-reviewed conference.

Book Chapters & Other Publications:

- 2022 “Novels of the Émigré Everyday: Bakunina, Gazdanov, Nabokov,” in *The Oxford Handbook of the Russian Novel*, eds. Julie Buckler and Justin Weir (Oxford University Press, 2022)
- 2021 “Pozdnyshv’s Address,” Introduction and translation of Vladimir Nabokov’s 1926 dramatic monologue “Rech’ Pozdnysheva,” *The Paris Review* 237 (Summer 2021): 106–114.
- 2019 “In Impossible Proximity: How to Read Like Nabokov,” *The Berlin Journal* 33 (Fall 2019): 55–57.
- 2016 “News of the Profession: Tolstoy and World Literature 2016,” *Tolstoy Studies Journal* 28 (2016): 143–144.

Projects in Progress:

“Bound by Genre: Persistent Patterns in the 20th-Century Russian Diary” (article co-authored with Simon DeDeo and Madeline Kehl; under review at *PMLA*)

In Praise of Idleness: Selected Essays by Yulii Aikhenvald, co-translated and edited with Stephen H. Blackwell (forthcoming with Academic Studies Press, 2023)

Tolstoy Red and White (monograph in progress)

EDITORIAL WORK & DIGITAL HUMANITIES

- 2022– Editor, *Tolstoy Studies Journal*
- 2015– Principal Investigator, *Beyond the Ant Brotherhood: A Digital Visualization of Tolstoy’s Intellectual World*, at www.colloquy.us.

Tatyana Gershkovich
Curriculum Vitae

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2021	NEH Summer Stipend for <i>The Legacy of Leo Tolstoy Inside and Outside Russia, 1920–1928</i>
2020	Gene Barabtarlo Prize for Best Essay on Nabokov, awarded by the International Vladimir Nabokov Society for “Suspicion On Trial: Tolstoy’s <i>The Kreutzer Sonata</i> and Nabokov’s ‘Pozdnyshev’s Address’”
2019	Berlin Prize, The American Academy in Berlin
2019	Falk Grant for “Conditions of Creation: Analyzing Creativity with Computational Models,” Carnegie Mellon University
2017	Mellon Digital Humanities (DH) Seed Grant for <i>Beyond the Ant Brotherhood: A Visualization of Tolstoy’s Intellectual World</i> , Carnegie Mellon University
2017	Berkman Faculty Development Grant for <i>Beyond the Ant Brotherhood: A Visualization of Tolstoy’s Intellectual World</i> , Carnegie Mellon University
2017	David Sloane Memorial Prize awarded for scholarly promise on the basis of “Held Captive: Tolstoy, Nabokov, and the Aesthetics of Constraint,” Harvard University
2016	Princeton Society of Fellows Finalist
2014–2015	Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Davis Center for Russian Studies, Harvard University
2014	The Harvard Graduate Society Merit Fellowship (Term-Time Research Award)
2014	Maurice Lazarus Travel Award, Davis Center for Russian Studies, Harvard University
2013	Setchkarev Memorial Prize for Best Graduate Student Essay, Harvard University
2011	Maurice Lazarus Graduate Research Travel Award, Davis Center for Russian Studies, Harvard University
2011–2012	Foreign Language and Area Studies Grant, U.S. Department of Education
2011	Setchkarev Memorial Prize for Best Graduate Student Essay, Harvard University
2007	Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize for Undergraduate Thesis, “Tonality of Time: Sound and Transcendence in Vladimir Nabokov’s Fiction,” Harvard University

CONFERENCES & PAPERS PRESENTED

Invited Lectures

2022	How (Not) to Read Like Tolstoy & Nabokov: Book Talk on <i>Art in Doubt: Tolstoy, Nabokov, and the Problem of Other Minds</i> , Center for Russia, East Europe & Central Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison (October 6)
2021	“A Madman’s Worldview,” Guest Lecture on Tolstoy’s “Memoirs of a Madman” in <i>Intro to the Classics of Russian Literature</i> , Massachusetts Institute of Technology (April 14)
2021	Tolstoy as Editor: A Critical Reading of <i>The Circle of Reading</i> , Slavonic Studies, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, University of Cambridge (February 4)
2020	“Generic Sentiments: Continuity in the 20th-Century Russian Diary,” Humanities@CMU, Carnegie Mellon University (November 13)
2019	“Who Should Teach Whom to Read Tolstoy? Curating the 1928 Centenary,” Gochman Lecture, Harvard University (February 27)
2019	“Tolstoy on Trial: Contesting the Imperial Past on Stage in Moscow and Berlin,” The American Academy in Berlin (November 19)
2018	“Visualizing Tolstoy’s Diaries and Letters,” Guest Lecture in the graduate seminar <i>Digital Humanities Approaches to Textual Objects</i> , University of Pittsburgh (October 11)

Tatyana Gershkovich
Curriculum Vitae

- 2018 “‘Vanity, Laziness, and Skepticism Still Possess Me. But I Continue to Fight...’: Tolstoy’s Aesthetic Cure for Doubt,” Center for Russian & East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh (March 21)
- 2017 “The Promise (and False Promises?) of Digital Humanities,” ICOR, Department of Modern Languages, Carnegie Mellon University (October 18)
- 2017 “‘Do You Have the Blessing to Draw Us?’ Victoria Lomasko’s Artistic Authority,” City of Asylum, Pittsburgh (March 24)
- 2016 “Beauty that Doesn’t Inspire,” Department of Modern Languages, Carnegie Mellon University (March 21)
- 2015 “Against Interpretation: Tolstoy’s Aesthetic Ideal,” Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Southern California (February 12)
- 2011 “Father Zosima’s Answer to Ivan’s Question About Man’s Moral Freedom,” Guest Lecture in undergraduate course *Moral Inquiry in the Novels of Tolstoy and Dostoevsky*, Harvard University (November 17)

Events & Panels Organized

- 2020 Émigré Fictions: Russian Berlin & Paris, Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), organizer and panelist (November 5–8)
- 2019 “‘House Rules’: Reading with Authorial Instructions,” American Comparative Literature Association (March 7–10), Georgetown University, Washington, DC. Seminar organizer and panelist
- 2018 Mimesis in Russian Art and Aesthetic Theory, American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) stream (February 1–4), Panel series organizer and discussant
- 2017 Tolstoy’s Silver Age, organizer, chair and presenter, ASEEES, panel & roundtable (November 9–12)
- 2017 Victoria Lomasko, *Other Russias: Angry*, Gallery Exhibit & Artist Visit (March 19–24), Ellis Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University
- 2017 Mimesis in Russian Art and Aesthetic Theory, AATSEEL stream (February 2–5), Panel series organizer and discussant
- 2016 Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Nabokov: Aikhenvald and the Stakes of Criticism, ASEEES (November 17–20)
- 2015 Rereading Russian Intellectual History Symposium, Harvard University (April 17–18)
- 2014 Confrontations with Aesthetic Philosophy in Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, and Nabokov, ASEEES (November 20–23)

Conference Presentations

- 2022 “‘How Important the Placement of Each Word’: Soviet and Émigré Publications of Tolstoy” ASEEES (November 10–13)
- 2022 Extraordinary Modernists: Nabokov, Bakunina, Gazdanov, AATSEEL (February 18)
- 2021 “Reading Tolstoy Red: Soviet Diarists Reckon with the Author’s Narratives of Self,” ASEEES (November 18–21)
- 2021 “Teaching the Russian Hacker,” Reimagining Russian Hackers Symposium, Yale University (May 12)

Tatyana Gershkovich
Curriculum Vitae

- 2020 “Tolstoy as a Ticket to Europe,” First Wave of Russian Emigration Conference, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (November 13)
- 2020 “Neither Germans nor Russians, but Only People’: Russia Abroad Celebrates Tolstoy,” ASEES (November 14–15)
- 2020 “Like reporters at a fire, around his soul’: Nabokov Reads Tolstoy in 1920s Berlin,” International Vladimir Nabokov Society and Literaturhaus-Berlin (June 5–6, postponed)
- 2020 “Reading Red: Early Soviet Criticism and the Emergence of the Red Tolstoy,” Society for Novel Studies, Oxford University (April 2–4, postponed)
- 2019 “Credulity or Loneliness: Reading Before and After Suspicion,” ACLA (March 7–10)
- 2019 “Trust, But Verify: Reading with the Grain After the Heyday of Critique,” Modern Languages Anniversary Symposium, Carnegie Mellon University (February 22)
- 2018 “Men, Women, and Skepticism in *Anna Karenina*,” ASEES (December 6–9)
- 2018 “Fictional Contracts in Russian Literature,” Invited Discussant, ASEES (December 6–9)
- 2018 “Nabokov’s Lone Companion,” Transatlantic Symposium “Vladimir Nabokov and Translation,” The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill (October 27–28)
- 2018 “The Uncertain Artist in *Anna Karenina*,” ASEES (December 6–9)
- 2017 “Dissolving in the Words of Others: Reading Tolstoy’s *Krug Chteniya*,” ASEES (November 9–12)
- 2016 “The Author’s Labor: Work and Idleness in Tolstoy and Aikhenvald,” ASEES (November 17–20)
- 2016 “Russian Literature: Philosophy, Physiology, Intertextuality,” Invited Discussant, ASEES (November 17–20)
- 2016 “Хаджи-Мурат, как прообраз эстетической восприимчивости,” (“Hadji Murat’s Exemplary Aesthetic Receptivity”) 10th International Academic Conference: Tolstoy and World Literature, Yasnaya Polyana (August 11–15)
- 2016 “Unaesthetic Pleasure in Nabokov’s *Kamera Obskura* and *Laughter in the Dark*,” AATSEEL (January 7–10)
- 2015 “Convicting Pozdnyshov: Nabokov’s Variation on Pozdnyshov’s Confession,” ASEES (November 19–22)
- 2015 “Engineering Genius,” Philosophy and Literature: In Search of Lost Synergy, Princeton University (October 15–16)
- 2015 “An Artist as Neither God Nor Craftsman in Vladimir Solovyov’s ‘First Step Toward a Positive Aesthetic,’” Rereading Russian Intellectual History Symposium, Harvard University (April 17–18)
- 2015 “No Clear Mirror: Tolstoy’s Kantian Aesthetics,” ASEES (November 20–23)
- 2014 “Tolstoy’s ‘Bad’ Theory of Art,” Dumpster Diving and Sustainability: Managing the Limited Resources of Culture, Princeton University (October 17–18)
- 2014 “‘Don’t nod as if you agreed with me’: Obligation, Rivalry, and Monologism in Tolstoy’s *Kreutzer Sonata*,” AATSEEL (January 9–12)
- 2013 “On Beauty and Bondage: Aesthetic Experience in Tolstoy,” Slavic Languages and Literatures Colloquium, Harvard University (April 15)
- 2013 “‘For what purpose’: Vol’filia Debates with the Formalists,” AATSEEL (January 3–6)
- 2012 “‘Poetry Brought into the Street as a Poster’: The Agitational Aim of Dialectical Reading in *For the Voice*,” AATSEEL (January 5–8)

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Curriculum Vitae

ADVISING, COURSES DEVELOPED & TAUGHT

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

Russian Cinema: From the Bolshevik Revolution to Putin's Russia
Radicals, Heretics, Hackers: Russian Outlaws in History, Literature, and Film
Happiness in Russian Life and Art
19th-Century Russian Masterpieces; 20th-Century Russian Masterpieces
Advanced Russian: Berlin, Paris, Harbin, New York
Advanced Russian: Great Short Works
Intermediate Russian: Life in the City
Elementary Russian

Senior theses advised: "A Russian Academic Network: An Interdisciplinary Evaluation of Realism in Russian Foreign Policy Academia," "*A Game in Hell*: Theatrics of Destruction and Play," "Kiev-gorod: Translation of Mikhail Bulgakov's 1923 story."

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Introduction to Russian Civilization
Beginning Russian

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Urban Imaginary and Visual Culture, Instructor
Imagining the City: Literature, Film, and the Arts, Teaching Assistant
Moral Inquiry in the Novels of Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, Head Teaching Assistant & Guest Lecturer

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

2022– Research Scholar, Northwestern University Research Initiative for the Study of Russian Philosophy and Religious Thought
2018– Peer-reviewer for *Comparative Literature*, *Russian Review*, *Slavic and East European Studies Journal*, *Slavonic and East European Review*, *Tolstoy Studies Journal*
2016– Modern Language Association (member)
2013– The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (member)
2012– Association for Women in Slavic Studies (member & mentor)
2011– American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (member)

DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2016–2022 Russian Program Coordinator & Faculty Advisor, Department of Modern Languages, Dietrich College, Carnegie Mellon University
2022– Humanities Scholars Program Committee, Carnegie Mellon University
2020 Search Committee for open rank faculty hire in the Modern Languages Department
2020 Anti-Racist Pedagogy Working Group in the Modern Languages Department
2020–2022 Faculty Senate, Carnegie Mellon University (senator)
2019–2021 Humanities Initiative Steering Committee, Carnegie Mellon University
2019–2020 Modern Language Resource Center Steering Committee

Tatyana Gershkovich
Curriculum Vitae

- 2018– Undergraduate Thesis Supervisor, Russian Program, Department of Modern Languages,
Dietrich College, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2018– Policies, Planning, & Strategic Initiatives Committee, Department of Modern Languages,
Dietrich College, Carnegie Mellon University

PROFESSIONAL WRITING & EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

- 2008 *Businessweek*, Web Writer
- 2008 *New Yorker*, Freelance Russian Translator/Interpreter
- 2008 *Village Voice*, Assistant to Arts Editor/Freelance Writer
- 2007 *Moscow Times*, Correspondent
- 2006 *Harvard Advocate*, Fiction Editor

LANGUAGES

Bilingual in English and Russian, elementary Ukrainian, French, reading knowledge of German and Old Church Slavonic; elementary knowledge of Python