

European Studies Center
Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies
Consortium for Educational Resources in Islamic Studies



European and Eurasian

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



Tuesday - Thursday, May 11-13, 2021

Schedule of Events

TUESDAY, May 11, 2021 | [Register in advance for the URS](#)

9:00 a.m. – LINGUISTICS

- "The Sorbian Language - Education's Struggle Against a Millennium of Occupation"
Sean Lis, University of Alberta
- "The Difficulties Related to the Borrowing of Scientific Terminology into the Kazakh Language"
Moldir Bizhanova, Nazarbayev University
- "The Kazakh Verbs For "Wearing" In A Cross-Linguistic Perspective"
Bibarys Seitak, Nazarbayev University
- "Ideology, Etymology and Taboo in Ethnic and Homophobic Slurs in Russian Speaking Context"
Bailey Truitt, University of Kentucky

Discussant: **Joseph Patrick**, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh

11:00 a.m. – THE PAGE AND THE STAGE

- "Dostoevsky's Radical Reimagination: Ritual Violence and Sacred Justice in *The Brothers Karamazov*"
Grace Clifford, Columbia University
- "Guilt and Punishment in Dušan Jovanović's Drama *Kdo to poje Sizifa (Who Is Singing Sisyphus)*"
Jasna Reščič, University of Ljubljana
- "Finding God in "The Old Woman:" Reading Daniil Kharm's through Yakov Druskin"
Patrick Dylan Powers, Oberlin College
- "The Production of Art in Isaac Babel's Red Cavalry"
Charles Smith, Columbia University

Discussant: **Dr. Kathleen Manukyan**, Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures, University of Pittsburgh

2:00 p.m. – RESPONSES TO CRIMEA

- "The Demilitarization of Kaliningrad"
Helen McHenry, The Ohio State University
- "The Russian World": An Analysis of the Concept's Trajectory and Rossotrudnichestvo's Policy"
Maksim Nikitin, The Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, The Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, the University of Manchester
- "Examining the Cooperative Durability of the Visegrad Group"
Naveen Rajan, The University of Texas at Austin

Discussant: **Dr. Trevor Erlacher**, Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies, University of Pittsburgh

May 11, 2021 (continued)

4:00 p.m. – SECESSION TENSION

- “Language, Party Leadership, and the Construction of Greenlandic Identity”
Alexander Erdman, George Washington University
- “Transition from Militant Republicanism to Political Nationalism in Northern Ireland: Analysing the PIRA Route to Peace”
Polina Maximova, Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy & Public Administration; Moscow Higher School of Social & Economic Sciences; University of Manchester
- “Ethnic or Supra-Ethnic Cleavages: Explaining Civil War Onset in Transnistria”
Marika Sofia Olijar, University of Pittsburgh
- “Brexit: A Fluke or the Future of British Conservatism? Analyzing the Post-Brexit Conservative Party’s Populist Status Quo”
Jacob Winn, George Washington University

Discussants: **Brianna Howell** and **Tony Ocepek**, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

10:00 a.m. – INTERSECTIONS OF THE EAST AND WEST IN ART

- “Vertov’s Kino-Eye: Formalist or Functional?”
Peter Busscher, University of Pittsburgh
- “The Russian Academy of Arts and Nelson Shanks: A Contemporary Realist Painting Connection”
Jessica Ruggieri, Muhlenberg College
- “Gender Approach to Studying American and Ukrainian Female Poetry (on the material of A. Rich’s Poem ‘The Roofwalker’)”
Olha Viun, Oles Honchar Dnipro National University

Discussant: **Emi Finkelstein**, Department of History of Art & Architecture, University of Pittsburgh

11:30 a.m. – KEYNOTE: CRISIS AND REIMAGINING OF DEMOCRACY

Dr. Anna Grzymala-Busse, Stanford University

Michelle and Kevin Douglas Professor of International Studies in the Department of Political Science
Director of the Europe Center
Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute

Dr. Grzymala-Busse is the author of three books: *Redeeming the Communist Past: The Regeneration of Communist Successor Parties*; *Rebuilding Leviathan: Party Competition and State Development in Post-Communist Europe*; and *Nations Under God: How Churches Use Moral Authority to Influence Politics*. She is also a recipient of the Carnegie and Guggenheim Fellowships.

Dr. Graeme Robertson, University of North Carolina

Professor of Political Science
Director of the Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies

Dr. Robertson is the author (with Samuel A. Greene) of *Putin v. The People* in addition to *Revolution and Reform in Ukraine*, (with Silviya Nitsova and Grigore Pop-Eleches) and *The Politics of Protest in Hybrid Regimes: Managing Dissent in Post-Communist Russia*. He currently serves as the Associate Editor for Comparative Politics for the American Journal of Political Science.

[Register here](#) for the keynote session.

May 12, 2021 (continued)

12:30 p.m. – ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

- “Who Wins the Most from the Russian Arctic Strategy?”
Maria Filatova, The Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, The Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, the University of Manchester
- “Russian Caviar: A Delicacy in Jeopardy”
Bronwyn Galloway, Syracuse University
- “Too Young to Make a Difference? The Representation of Greta Thunberg by Russian Online-Newspapers”
Ilya Tyurikov, National Research University Higher School of Economics

Discussant: **Dr. Vasili Rukhadze**, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh

2:00 p.m. – EXPRESSIONS AND IMPRESSIONS OF GENDER

- “The Harvard Project on the Soviet Social System: Women in Agriculture”
Julie Brock, University of Kentucky
- “Nikolai Chernyshevsky’s *What is to Be Done?* And Its Impact on 19th Century Attitudes to Gender Equality in Radical Socialist Communities”
Samuel Elzinga, Utah Valley University
- “Rereading the (Non-Conforming) ‘Conformist’ Female Soviet Socialist Subject in Larisa Shepit’ko’s *Kryl’ya* (1966): Nadya Petrukhina as Positive Socialist Feminist Heroine”
Andrew George, University of London

Discussant: **Dr. Frank Karioris**, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program, University of Pittsburgh

4:00 p.m. – EDUCATION AND THE STATE

- “How Soviet Politics Impacted Societal Health Outcomes through Educational Shortcomings”
Michael Albdewi, Muhlenberg College
- “Reform, Resources, and Survival in Soviet and Russian Public Education, 1984-1998”
Sagan A. S. Costello, Swarthmore College
- “Legitimation in Authoritarian Regimes: How Political Leaders Manipulate the Youth to Maintain Political Legitimacy”
Lucas John Waldron, University of Pittsburgh

Discussant: **Dr. Susan Dawkins**, Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies, University of Pittsburgh

Schedule of Events

THURSDAY

May 13, 2021

9:00 a.m. – POWER AND IDENTITY IN CENTRAL ASIA

- “The Impact of the Belt and Road Initiative on Spatial Inequalities in Central Asia: The Case of Kazakhstan”
Marta Granados-Hernández, Fordham University
- “Dear Nike, Just Don't Do It: Uyghur Rights Advocacy on Instagram”
Tomiris Mashan, Nazarbayev University
- “Khojas of Turkestan General-Governorship(1868-1917): History, Identity and Russian Policies Towards Them”
Gulnaz Tulenova, Nazarbayev University

Discussant: **Dr. James Pickett**, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh

10:30 a.m. – ART AS A TOOL FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

- “The Impact of D. Gerasimov's 15th Century The Tale of the Princes of Vladimir as a Political Instrument in the Policy of the Russian Tsars Vasily III and Ivan IV”
Daria Zaitseva, University of Crete
- "Let It All Burn: IC3PEAK and the Aesthetics of Protest in Putin's Russia"
Anna Tseselsky, University of California at Berkeley
- "Contextualizing Russian Propaganda in Turkey"
Eric Workman, University of Pittsburgh
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Discussant: **Dr. Olga Klimova**, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh

12:30 p.m. – KEYNOTE: GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCY IN YOUR CAREER

Dr. Aaron Abbarno, Facebook

Dr. Abbarno is a user experience researcher at Facebook, where he works to increase transparency and accountability around content regulation. Prior to his work there, he was Director of Social and Behavior Science at Democracy International, an organization that promotes citizenship and development in four areas: politics, governance, peace & resilience, and learning. He earned his doctorate in Comparative Politics and Mass Political Behavior at the University of Pittsburgh.

Jessica Kuntz, Department of State

Ms. Kuntz is a foreign service officer at the Department of State. Before working at the State Department, she did consulting and research for several organizations. She earned her master's degree in public policy and political economy from the University of Pittsburgh. While at Pitt, she completed an internship with the United Nations Development Programme and was also a Boren Research Fellow for the National Security Education Program, focusing her work in Bosnia & Herzegovina.

[Register here](#) for the keynote session.

2:00 p.m. – RUSSIAN (GRAND?) STRATEGY

- "Belarus and Russia - A Complex Relationship"
Alina Snopkowski, La Salle University
- "Political and Economic Development in Post-Soviet Nations"
Kaitlyn Hiner, John Carroll University
- "Media Coverage in Russia: Sustainable Development and SDGs"
Denis Lomov, Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences / Russian Presidential Academy

Discussant: **Dr. Trevor Erlacher**, Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies, University of Pittsburgh

May 13, 2021 (continued)

4:00 p.m. – SUPPRESSION, ASSIMILATION, AND DISSOLUTION

- "These Are the Boundaries of the Fatherland: The Monument to Victory and Italianization in South Tyrol "
Jeffrey Barckert, The Ohio State University
- "No Space for Others? The Presence of Religious Minorities in Warsaw"
Anna Becker, University of Pittsburgh
- "Staring Death in the Eyes: Life, Death, and Loyalty in the Great Patriotic War"
Charlie Devaul, Indiana University-Bloomington
- "The Slow Death of an Empire"
Thomas Albert Swope, St. Francis University

Discussant: **Dr. Sean Guillory**, Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies, University of Pittsburgh
