

OLGA NECHAEVA

Address: 1253 N 29th St, apt. 3,
Philadelphia, PA, 19121, USA
E-mail: nechaeva@sas.upenn.edu
Telephone: +1 (267) 901-5117

Date of birth: March 29, 1991
Place of birth: Yoshkar-Ola, Russia
Nationality: Russian
Website: https://olyanechaeva.github.io/my_site/

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. (in progress) University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA). Comparative Literature and Literary Theory. Started in 2018. PhD Candidate (ABD).
- M.A. (2018) National Research University Higher School of Economics (Moscow, Russia). Magna cum laude in Comparative Studies: Russian Literature in the Cross-Cultural Perspective. Thesis: *The Higher Institute of Literature and Art in the Historical and Cultural Context of the 1920s*.
- M.Sc. (2014) Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne University, Paris School of Economics (Paris, France) and National Research University Higher School of Economics (Moscow, Russia). Economics. Thesis: *Central Bank Transparency and Public Information Acquisition*.
- B.Sc. (2012) National Research University Higher School of Economics (Moscow, Russia). Business Informatics. Thesis: *The Development of the Procedures of Client Database Checks*.

DISSERTATION

The Gorky Literary Institute: Creative Writing under Socialism

This project examines the questions of mutual influences among formalized education, creative processes, and literary evolution in the socialist world. By analyzing educational activities of the Gorky Literary Institute (1933-) which produced (or sometimes failed to produce) socialist writers, this project shows how socialist creative writing institutions impacted the formation of the international “Soviet Republic of Letters.”

PUBLICATIONS

“The Instruction of Non-Soviet Writers at the Gorky Literary Institute: Gaoussou Diawara and Malian Literature.” In *The Soviet Cosmopolis: A Project of World Literature and its Global Impact*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2023. Forthcoming.

“Незаменимые помощники или убийцы вдохновения: сравнительный анализ руководств по литературному мастерству 1920-х годов” [“Irreplaceable Assistants or Killers of Inspiration: A Comparative Analysis of Creative Writing Textbooks in the 1920s”]. In *Литературное мастерство как дисциплина [Creative Writing as a Discipline]*. Moscow: Novoe literaturnoe obozrenie, 2023. Forthcoming.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Soviet Literature, Socialist Realism, Socialist Internationalism, Sociology of Literature, Digital Humanities, Soviet Education, Creative Writing, Modernism, Postcolonial Literature, Indigenous Studies

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

- 2023
- Panel organizer and presenter: “The Gorky Literary Institute as a Network.” American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) Conference. Online. Forthcoming.
- Stream co-organizer and presenter: “Dagestan Literature of the Soviet period and the Gorky Literary Institute.” American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) Conference. Online. Forthcoming.
- Presenter: “Ivan Kharabarov and Iurii Pankratov at the Crossroads.” Modern Language Association (MLA) Convention. San Francisco, CA. Forthcoming.
- Speaker. Roundtable: War and Dissent in Slavic Literatures and Cultures. Modern Language Association (MLA) Convention. San Francisco, CA. Forthcoming.
- 2022
- Panel organizer and presenter: “Networks, Coalitions, and Factions at the Gorky Literary Institute: a Digital Humanities Analysis.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Convention. Chicago, IL. Forthcoming.
- Presenter: ““The Little Library of a Young Writer”: an Attempt to Transfer Literary Experience Between Generations.” Theories and Practices of Literary Craft. National Research University Higher School of Economics. Moscow, Russia (online).
- Presenter: “The Gorky Literary Institute, Gaoussou Diawara, and Malian Literature.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Meeting. Online.
- Presenter: “Vasilii Zakharchenko: Introducing the World to the Soviet Youth.” The Red Globe: Writing the World in Eastern European Travel Literature. Leibniz Center for Literary and Cultural Research. Berlin, Germany (online).
- Presenter: “Soviet Creative Writing Textbooks on Versification: Alexander Kovalenkov against Ilia Selvinskii.” Princeton University Graduate Conference. Princeton, N.J.
- Presenter: “The Intergenerational Exchange and Its Failures in the Gorky Literary Institute During the Thaw.” The Northeast Corridor Russian History and Culture Workshop. Rutgers University. New Brunswick, N.J.
- Keynote speaker: “The Gorky Literary Institute: Teaching Creative Writing under Socialism.” Slavic Bazaar. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.
- Speaker. Roundtable: Digital Humanities: Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature in Translation. American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) Conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2021
- Presenter: “The Instruction of Non-Soviet Writers at the Gorky Literary Institute: Gaoussou Diawara and Malian Literature.” (Post-)Soviet Cosmopolis: The Soviet Project of World Literature and its Legacies. Leibniz Center for Literary and Cultural Research. Berlin, Germany.
- Presenter: “For Party-Mindedness and Against “Peaceful Coexistence of Ideology”: the Gorky Literary Institute During the Thaw.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Convention. New Orleans, LA.

Conference co-organizer and presenter: “Viktor Shklovsky’s Formalism: Creative Writing vs. Creative Reading.” Theories and Practices of Literary Craft. National Research University Higher School of Economics. Moscow, Russia (online).

Presenter: “Write or Translate: Cultural Transfers at the Gorky Literary Institute.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Meeting. Online.

2020 Panel organizer and presenter: “Socialist Content, (Inter)National Form: the Gorky Literary Institute and Non-Russian Writers.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Convention. Online.

Presenter: “Style and Stylization in Literary Studies: Experience of 20C Century Russian and French Writers.” Theories and Practices of Literary Craft. National Research University Higher School of Economics. Moscow, Russia (online).

Workshop co-organizer and presenter: “Teaching Creative Writing in the Soviet Union in the 1920s.” Constructivist Criticism Workshop for Graduate Students in the Social Sciences and Humanities Studying Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. New York University and Columbia University in the City of New York. New York, NY.

Stream co-organizer and presenter: “The Gorky Literary Institute: on the Emergence of a New Class of Soviet Writers in the 1930s—Early 1940s.” American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) Conference. San Diego, CA.

2019 Panel organizer and presenter: “Creative Writing Programs in the Soviet Union in the 1920s-1930s: From Briusov’s Writers Institute to Gorky Literary Institute.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Convention. San Francisco, CA.

Workshop co-organizer. Constructivist Criticism Workshop for Graduate Students in the Social Sciences and Humanities Studying Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.

2017 Conference co-organizer and presenter: “Literary Canon in Russia in the 1920s: the Role Models for Aspiring Writers.” Russian Literature in Comparative Perspective. National Research University Higher School of Economics. Moscow, Russia.

Conference co-organizer. Effects of Verisimilitude: Modes of Russian Realism. National Research University Higher School of Economics. Moscow, Russia.

Presenter: “The Writer’s Profession: Literary Educational Institutions in Russia in the 1920s.” Tradition and Innovation in Historical Perspectives. Central European University. Budapest, Hungary.

2016 Conference co-organizer. World Literature as a Soviet Cultural Project. National Research University Higher School of Economics. Moscow, Russia.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Summer 2022 Instructor. Enhanced Intermediate Russian. Middlebury College.

Spring 2022	Instructor. Advance Conversation and Composition (Independent Study). University of Pennsylvania.
Spring 2021	Instructor. RUSS 002 Elementary Russian II. University of Pennsylvania.
Fall 2020	Instructor. RUSS 001 Elementary Russian I. University of Pennsylvania.
Summer 2020	Instructor. REES-145 Masterpieces of 19C Russian Literature. University of Pennsylvania.
Spring 2020	TA. REES-155 Masterpieces of 20C Russian Literature. University of Pennsylvania.
Fall 2019	TA. RUSS-145 Masterpieces of 19C Russian Literature. University of Pennsylvania.
Fall 2017	TA. War in 20C European Literature. National Research University Higher School of Economics. Lecturer. Russian Language in Literature and Media. National Research University Higher School of Economics.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2022 – 2023	International Dissertation Research Fellowship from the Social Science Research Council (IDRF SSRC) German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) One-Year Research Grant Dissertation Research Award from the University of Pennsylvania
2021 – 2022	Mellon Mid-Doctoral Fellowship from the Price Lab for Digital Humanities at the University of Pennsylvania
2018 – 2023	Benjamin Franklin Fellowship from the University of Pennsylvania
2013 – 2014	French Government Scholarship (Bourse du gouvernement français)

RESEARCH GROUPS

2020 – present	DH Project “Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature in Translation.” University of Pennsylvania. Research Project “19C and 20C Literary Circles: History of Literary Education.” National Research University Higher School of Economics. The Graduate Initiative on Indigenous Studies in Russia
2017 – 2018	Research Group “The Questions of the Translation of Style.” National Research University Higher School of Economics.

SERVICE

2019 – 2020	Representative of the Comparative Literature and Literary Theory Program at SASGov – a student government body for graduate students of Penn’s School of Arts & Sciences. University of Pennsylvania.
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LANGUAGES

Russian (native), English (fluent), French (advanced), German (intermediate)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2022 “Digital Humanities in the Classroom,” Dream Lab, Price Lab for Digital Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Roberto Vargas and Dorothy Berry, June 13-16, 2022.
- 2021 “Text Analysis,” Dream Lab, Price Lab for Digital Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Katie Rawson and Scott Enderle, June 14-17, 2021.
- “Price Lab Summer Projects,” Price Lab for Digital Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Cassandra Hradil and J.D. Porter, June 14 – August 9, 2021.
- 2020 “Creating Community in the Remote Literature Classroom,” Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Jo Park and D. Brian Kim, August 11, 2020.
- “Creating Community in Your Online Class,” Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Ian Petrie, August 5, 2020.
- “Incorporating Theory into Undergraduate Courses,” Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Emily Steinlight, February 25, 2020.
- 2019 “Teaching in Translation: Using Translated Works and the Practice of Translation in the Classroom,” Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Emily Wilson, February 11, 2019.
- 2018 “How to Teach in the Contemporary Political Moment,” Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania, taught by Kevin Platt, November 5, 2018.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- 2022 – 2023 Humboldt University of Berlin. Berlin, Germany.
Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies. Berlin, Germany.
Modern Language Association (MLA)
- 2020 – present American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
- 2019 – present Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

REFERENCES

Kevin M. F. Platt, kmfplatt@sas.upenn.edu
Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Term Professor in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania

Benjamin Nathans, bnathans@history.upenn.edu
Alan Charles Kors Endowed Term Associate Professor of History, University of Pennsylvania,

Maria Alley, malley@sas.upenn.edu
Senior Lecturer in Foreign Languages, Language Program Coordinator, University of Pennsylvania