Aaron Michael Thompson

aaronmthompson.net

EDUCATION

University of Virginia • Charlottesville, VA   2018 – present

Doctor of Philosophy, Slavic Languages and Literatures (ABD, expected May 2024)

A Revolutionary Gospel: Orthodox Origins of Russian Socialist Literature
- This dissertation analyzes the history, writing culture, and religious sensibilities surrounding the events of Bloody Sunday in 1905 and argues that Maxim Gorky alongside his Capri writers circle reoriented Russians' religious impulses into a force for political and cultural revolution.
- Russian OPI: *ACTFL Superior* (Nov 2023)

Doctoral Certificate, Digital Humanities (expected May 2024)

Kollektiv Minds
- A digital project complements the dissertation with a multidimensional analysis of Biblical transpositions in Russian literature to highlight a rich intertextual history.

Master of Arts, Slavic Languages and Literatures   May 2020

University of Arizona • Tucson, AZ   2011 – 2015

Bachelor of Arts with Honors (Magna Cum Laude)
Russian & Slavic Studies
Anthropology

TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin-Madison • Madison, WI   Summer 2022

Russian Language Instructor, Pushkin Summer Institute
- Co-designed and taught elementary Russian language and culture for underserved college-bound students at summer residential program.

University of Virginia   2018 – present

Instructor, Slavic Languages and Literatures

RUTR 2500: Orthodoxy, Atheism, and A Changing Reality in Russia (Spring 2024)
- Interdisciplinary course on Orthodox tradition and its historical role in culture and politics of Russia through the present day.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Slavic Languages and Literatures

RUSS 3010-3020: Third-Year Russian Language (Fall 22, AY 23-24)
- Conversational Russian course focusing on abstract topics and extended production

RUSS 2010-2020: Second-Year Russian Language (AY 19-20, 21-22)
- Intermediate Russian course focusing on various complex grammar topics

RUSS 1010-1020: First-Year Russian Language (AY 18-19)
- Introductory Russian course focusing on basic communicative skills

Graduate Assistant

Department of Computer Science   2020 – 2021
- Advised undergraduate capstone research project on predictive analysis in English detective literature

Interactive Materials for First-Year Russian   2019 – present
- Co-creator of digital first-year Russian language textbook (expected publication 2024)

Mapping Imagined Geographies of Revolutionary Russia ("MAPRR")   2019 – present
- Subject biographer and database manager

A&S Learning Design & Technology   2019 – present
- Managed world language commons space with dedicated personnel and event schedule for university learning communities.
- Designed and led online pedagogy training and support for UVA faculty to learn Zoom and other technologies during COVID-19 pandemic.
- Contributed to range of topics for UVA's online resource knowledgebase: accessibility, instructional tools, digital pedagogy, classroom technology.

Consulting-Educational Agency "Intellect" • Almaty, Kazakhstan   2015 – 2018

Educational Director
- Created curriculum for local highschool students applying to universities abroad.
- Led search team, mentored new hires, and acted as an intermediary and advocate between instructors and directors.

English Language Instructor
- Designed and executed short- and long-term curriculum approaches, methods for individual and group instruction for all ages.

- Led local, international focused study trips for intermediate and advanced students.
- Mentored students before and during their studies on success in university.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Interactive Materials for First-Year Russian. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2024.

Articles

"The Other Revolution: Bloody Sunday and Gor'kii's Blueprints for Spiritual Socialism."
Publication for the Inaugural Conference of the Northwestern University Research Initiative for the Study of Russian Philosophy and Religious Thought. (*in review*)

INVITED & CAMPUS TALKS

"Revolution from Afar: American and Italian Influence in the Russian Socialist Movement."
Russian-Italian Intercultural Conference, Charlottesville, VA. April 2024.
"Factories of Worship: Rebuilding God after Bloody Sunday." Slavic Colloquium, University of
Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. April 2023.
"Regular Expressions and Narratives." Meeting of the Slavic Digital Humanities Group,
Stanford University, Stanford, CA. February 2020.

PRESENTATIONS

"Augmented Textuality and the Digital Presentation of Related Texts." ASEEES, Philadelphia,
PA. November 2023.
"Bloody Sunday and a Transposed Transcendence in Gor'kii's Spiritual Socialist Literature."
Inaugural Conference of the Northwestern University Research Initiative for the Study of
Russian Philosophy and Religious Thought, Evanston, IL. April 2023.
"Factories of Worship: Rebuilding God after Bloody Sunday." Southern Conference for Slavic
Studies, Gainesville, FL. March 2023.
"Poetic Geographies of Revolutionary Russia: Mapping Russian Place-Based Identity with
Digital Humanities." ASEEES, online. November 2020.
Shredding the Map: Poetic Geographies of Revolutionary Russia (1914-1922)." ASEEES,
online. November 2020.
"The Fall of the Word: An Aural Reconstruction of Gogol's Oral Narratives in *Vechera na
Khutore bliz Dikan'ki*." Central Slavic Conference, St. Louis, MO. February 2020.
"Sophic Windows in Alexander Blok's Early Poetry." Slavic Forum, Charlottesville, VA. March
2019.

FELLOWSHIPS
Praxis Digital Humanities Fellow, Scholars' Lab, University of Virginia   2020 – 2021

- [*Connection Established*](#): year-long collaborative project with fellow Humanities doctoral students in the Humanities to develop digital narrative on university pandemic experience.

AWARDS & GRANTS

Graduate Global Research Grant. Center for Global Inquiry & Innovation. May 2023.
Summer Research Grant. Slavic Languages and Literatures. April 2023.
Summer Research Grant. Slavic Languages and Literatures. April 2022.
Summer Research Grant. Slavic Languages and Literatures. April 2021.
Summer Research Grant. Slavic Languages and Literatures. April 2020.
Summer Research Grant. Slavic Languages and Literatures. April 2019.

SERVICE & COMMUNITY

University of Virginia

Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Student Council
- As president, raised highest amounts of funds for student research grants in organizational history.
- Represented graduate students on committees for three decanal-level positions in Graduate School, a Vice-Provost level position for entire the university, and awards.
- Led democratic restructuring of student organization, a university-wide graduate campaign for childcare support, and the first graduate DEI committee after presidency.

Society for Graduate Students in Slavic
- Organized events for department's graduate students, planned student conference for graduate students in Eastern US with invited speaker.

Charlottesville City Public Schools

Volunteer
- Worked at educational events with local elementary schoolchildren to discuss language learning, living abroad, and Russian-speaking cultures.

LINGUISTIC COMPETENCIES

Natural Languages
English, native
Russian, *ACTFL Superior*
Italian, intermediate-advanced
Spanish, intermediate-advanced
German, reading
French, reading
Polish, reading
Ukrainian, reading
Mandarin, intermediate-low

Computer and Programming Languages
Bash
HTML+CSS+Javascript
mySQL
PHP
Python

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for the Study of Eastern European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC)
National Slavic Honor Society (Dobro Slovo)
Northwestern University Research Initiative for the Study of Russian Philosophy and Religious
        Thought (NU RPRT)
Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (SSCS)

REFERENCES

Edith W. Clowes (doctoral advisor)
Brown-Forman Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
University of Virginia
eec3c@virginia.edu
434 924-6686

Dariusz Tolczyk (doctoral committee)
Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
University of Virginia
dt8n@virginia.edu
434 924-4015

Anna Borovskaya-Ellis (instruction supervisor)
Assistant Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
University of Virginia
ab7gp@virginia.edu
434 924-6688

Hope Fitzgerald (direct supervisor)
Director, Learning Design & Technology
University of Virginia
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