Melvin Thomas

9139 Frist Campus Center
Princeton, NJ 08544

(347) 850-5038
mt29@princeton.edu

EDUCATION

Princeton University, The Graduate School   Princeton, NJ
Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures   August 2020 – May 2026 (Expected)
Master of Arts in Slavic Languages and Literatures   September 2023
Cumulative GPA: 3.98/4.00
Dissertation: *When Third Rome Falls: Viacheslav Ivanov, Georges Florovsky, and Religious Patriotism Amid the Russian Emigration*. Advised by Ilya Vinitsky.

Georgetown University, Georgetown College of Arts and Sciences   Washington, D.C.
Bachelor of Arts in Government and Russian, Minor in Economics   August 2014 – May 2018
Magna Cum Laude, Cumulative GPA: 3.84/4.00 (Government GPA: 3.85, Russian GPA: 4.00)
Senior Honors Thesis in Russian with Distinction

WORK AND INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Princeton University, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures   Princeton, NJ
Assistant in Instruction   January 2023 – December 2024
- Prepared lesson plans, facilitated discussion sections, and graded students' midterm and final assignments for two undergraduate Russian literature courses (Spring 2023 & Fall 2024).
- Taught the first two courses of the undergraduate Russian language curriculum (Fall 2023 & Spring 2024).

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP   Washington, D.C.
Legal Assistant - Litigation   June 2018 – July 2020
- Was responsible for document management and organization for eight client matters.
- Drafted corporate disclosures and quality-checked various productions, e.g., mediation binders, memos, and closing sets.
- Assembled and indexed interview prep and deposition binders employing PacerPro and Relativity databases.
- Utilized Russian legal databases to research laws and presidential decrees regarding oil production rights in Kazakhstan.
- Used LexisNexis to maintain a tracker of local, county, and state policies affecting people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic as part of a pro bono matter for the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.
- Assisted with on-campus interviews, final round interviews, and training sessions for new legal assistants.

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Advisory Services LLC   Arlington, VA
Forensics - Global Intelligence Intern   June 2017 – August 2017
- Researched target corporate entities and individuals' background, shareholding, and litigation history by utilizing open sources and syndicated corporate records databases in both English and Russian.
- Composed three due diligence reports on Russian corporate entities and individuals, ranging from 11 to 23 pages each.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Nominated for the 2025 Rumsfeld Foundation Graduate Fellowship, which is awarded to graduate students who aspire to careers in public service.
- Awarded the A. Watson Armour, III '33 Centennial Fellowship by Princeton University Graduate School for the 2023-24 academic year.
- Received the Bradley Graduate Fellowship, sponsored by the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, for the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 academic years.
- Selected as a 2018 Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate by the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR).
- Awarded the 2018 Leroy W. Grever Memorial Award, which "is presented to the student who has exhibited strong moral character, who has maintained a strong academic record, and who plans to pursue graduate studies," by the Georgetown University Department of Slavic Languages.
- Permanent member of *Dobro Slovo*, the National Slavic Honor Society, *Alpha Sigma Nu*, the honor society of Jesuit universities, and *Pi Sigma Alpha,* the National Political Science Honor Society.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) rank of "Superior" for oral proficiency in Russian.
- Two years of study in French; reached an advanced level of oral and written proficiency.