

ALEXANDRA KOSTINA
Associate Professor of Russian

Rhodes College
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Education

Ph.D. equivalent in Russian Language, Herzen Russian State Pedagogical University / St. Petersburg State Gornyi University, St. Petersburg, Russia.
Dissertation topic: "Folkloric Elements in the Prose of Valentin Rasputin: Origins of Russian Mentality" 2011

M.A. equivalent in Linguistics, ESL, and Education.
Novgorod State University, Novgorod, Russia
M.A. Thesis: "William Faulkner: Expressive Means and Stylistic Devices of the Comic." 1996

Experience

Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, USA (currently)

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| Associate Professor | 2016-present |
| Coordinator of Russian Studies | 2006-2012, 2017-present |
| Full-time Instructor of Russian | 2000-2011 |
| Part-time Instructor of Russian | 1995-2000 |
| Coordinator of Russian Studies | Fall, 1999 |

Novgorod Pedagogical Lyceum, Novgorod, Russia

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| Administrator of English Entrance Exam | 1994-2007 |
| Teaching Assistant (English) and Student Affairs Coordinator | 1992-1993 |

Novgorod Boarding School for Children with One Parent/Guardian, Novgorod, Russia
Extracurricular Activities Organizer 1989-1990

Research interests

Twentieth-century Russian Literature
Russian Folklore
Intercultural Communication
Linguistics

Courses Taught

Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Russian
Russian Stylistics and Composition

Analytical Reading
Business Russian
Phonetics
Topics courses: The Russian Verb of Motion, Russian Cartoons
Senior Seminar in Russian
Russian 205: The Russian Mind
The Russian Novel (19th-century Russian Literature)
Dostoevsky in Literature and Film
Introduction to General Linguistics
Putin's Russia and the Media
Intercultural Communication for Health Professions

Languages

Russian (native speaker), English (fluent), Ukrainian and Old Church Slavonic (reading),
German (reading with a dictionary)

Publications

Booklet:

1. Фольклорные элементы в лексической структуре художественных текстов Валентина Распутина: к истокам народной ментальности. Автореферат на соискание ученой степени кандидата филологических наук. СПб.: Лема, 2011 (Folkloric Elements in the Prose of V. Rasputin: On Origins of Russian Mentality. Synopsis of dissertation).

Articles:

1. (co-authored with Aleshina A.B.) Инновационные технологии в преподавании РКИ // Актуальные проблемы гуманитарного знания в техническом вузе (сб. науч. трудов VII Международной научно-методической конференции). СПб., 2019. сс. 228-231 – **Innovative Technologies in Teaching Russian as a Foreign Language** (*Humanities at a Sciences University (collection of scholarly essays, VII International Research Conference)*). St. Petersburg, 2019 (pp. 228-231). <https://elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=42384546> eLIBRARY ID: [42384546](https://elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=42384546)

2. Движение как духовная практика в языке и культуре // Актуальные проблемы гуманитарного знания в техническом вузе: Сборник научных трудов / Национальный минерально-сырьевой университет "Горный". СПб, 2015. 372 с. (V Международная научно-методическая конференция. 19-20 ноября 2015 г.) - с. 150-153. – **Motion as Spiritual Practice** // *Humanities at a Sciences University (collection of scholarly essays)*. St. Petersburg, 2015 (pp.150-153).

3. "Russian Cultural Tradition of Divine Folly and the Practice of Wandering," *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook: A Publication of Mediterranean, Slavic, and Eastern Orthodox Studies*. Volume 30/31, 2014/2015 (pp. 295-305) – peer-reviewed.

4. Лексическая объективация двух образов русского фольклора в повести В. Г. Распутина «Прощание с Матерой» // Мир русского слова, март 2011 (Lexical Mapping of the Two Characters of Russian Folklore in V. Pasputin's "Farewell to Matyora" // *Mir russkogo slova*,

March 2011) – peer-reviewed.

5. **Засоряют ли язык «гламуры», «креативы» и прочие «пиары»? // Актуальные проблемы гуманитарного знания в техническом вузе (сб. науч. трудов). Спб., 2010. сс. 89-91. – Do “glamour-s”, “creative-s”, and other “PRs” contaminate the Russian language? Humanities at a Sciences University (collection of scholarly essays). St. Petersburg, 2010 (pp.89-91).**

6. **Логоцентризм русской ментальности: к вопросу о значении слова в русской культуре Logocentricity of Russian Mentality: Concerning the Role of the Word in Russian Culture, (Записки Горного Института (Gornyi Institute Annals), St. Petersburg, 2005).**

7. «Вначале было слово»: (русское) слово в концептосфере повести В. Распутина «Дочь Ивана, мать Ивана // Записки Горного института, т. 163. - Материалы межвузовской научной конференции "Горный институт и петербургская высшая школа в пространстве образования, науки и культуры" (25-26 ноября 2004 г.) – СПб, 2005. - сс.236-238. - **“In the Beginning Was the Word”: the (Russian) Word in the Conceptual Framework of V. Pasputin’s Novella Ivan’s Daughter, Ivan’s Mother // Записки Горного Института (Gornyi Institute Annals), v. 163 – Gornyi Institute and the Petersburg Institutions of Higher Learning in the Areas of Education, Science, and Culture Conference (November 25-26, 2004), S. Petersburg, 2005 (pp. 236-238).**

8. **Окно в новый мир: обучение русской культуре на уроках русского языка как иностранного. От теории к практике // Тенденции и инновации в обучении иностранному языку магистрантов и аспирантов неязыковых вузов России: Сб. трудов региональной научно-практической конференции "Обучение иностранным языкам в рамках постдипломного образования в техническом вузе" (24-25 марта 2005 г.) - СПб., 2005. - сс. 18-22. - A Window into another World: Teaching Russian Culture in the Russian as a Foreign Language Classroom: from Theory to Practice // Tendencies and Innovations in FL Instruction for Graduate and Post-Graduate Students of Non-Language IHL in Russia: Papers at the Regional Conference “FL Instruction at a Technical University” (March 24-25, 2005) – St. Petersburg, 2005 (pp. 18-22).**

9. **Культура речи и фольклорное слово: обучение иностранцев языку русского фольклора – Culture of Speech and the Folkloric Word: Teaching Foreign Students the Language of the Russian Folklore, Записки Горного Института (Gornyi Institute Annals), v.160, part II, Saint Petersburg, 2005, pp. 108-110).**

Translations:

Translation of “Amnesty” by I. Elagin, Asheville Poetry Review Vol. 6, No. I, sp/sum 1999 (issued November 2003).

Translation of “Poslushaite!” (Listen!) by V. Mayakovsky, Asheville Poetry Review (Spring/Summer 1999), p. 89; Republished in Best of Asheville Poetry Review: 10th Anniversary Issue, 1994-2004, vol.11. no.1, 2004, p. 174

Translation of “Druz’yam”(To My Friends) by V. Soloukhin, Asheville Poetry Review (Fall/Winter 1997), pp. 148-150

Conference Presentations and Participation

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| October 25, 20019 SCMLA, Little Rock, AR | “Innovative Technologies in Teaching Russian” |
| October 12, 2018 SCMLA, San Antonio TX | “Markers of Anti-Russian Bias in US Media and Political Rhetoric” |
| October 6, 2017 SCMLA, Tulsa OK | “Possessed or Dispossessed: What Teaching Dostoevsky’s “Demons” Taught Me about Pussy Riot and Donald Trump.” |
| November 2-4, 2016 SCMLA, Dallas, TX | Linguistic Mapping out of Emotions and Values in English and Slavic Languages |
| October 31, 2015 SCMLA, Nashville, TN | Paper “Journey to Eternity: Space and Time in E. Vodolazkin’s novel <i>Laurus</i> .” |
| October 10-21, 2014 SCMLA, Austin, TX | Paper ‘Is the Russian Soul Still the Same? What Changes in Language Can Tell Us about National Psyche.’” |
| October 3-7, 2013 SCMLA, New Orleans, LA | Paper “Glamur, Kreativ, and Other PRs: Do Anglicisms Really Contaminate the Russian Language?” |
| November 7-10, 2012 SCMLA, San Antonio, TX | Paper “Mytho-Poetic Interpretation of Time and Space in V. Rasputin’s <i>Farewell to Matyora</i> .” |
| January 5-8, 2012 AATSEEL, Seattle, WA | Paper “The Role of Folkloric Phrasal Units in Explicating the Concepts of <i>Life</i> and <i>Death</i> in V. Rasputin’s “ <i>The Last Term</i> .” |
| October 27-29, 2011 SCMLA, Hot Springs, AR | Paper “Semantic Differences in Perceived Russian-English Equivalents: A Pedagogical Angle” |
| Oct 29-Nov 1, 2009 SCMLA, Baton Rouge, LA | Paper “Culture in the Language Classroom: Supplementing Russian Language Textbooks with Authentic Materials” |

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| Nov 16-19, 2006 AAASS, Washington, DC | Participant in a Panel “Unorthodox Russian Language” – paper titled “Лужер или Хедлайнер: Pros and Cons of Linguistic Ecology” |
| December 28, 2005 AATSEEL, Washington, DC | Participant in Panel “Literature in Its Social and Political Dimensions” – paper titled ‘In the Beginning Was the Word’: Logo-centricity of the Russian Mentality |
| March 2, 2005 | Rhodes College, Modern Languages and literatures Department, Forum on Translation, discussant |
| Nov 20-24, 2002 AAASS, Pittsburgh | Participant in Panel “Problems in Russian Philosophy” – paper titled “Folklore in Dostoevsky’s Philosophy” |
| Dec 27-30, 1999 AATSEEL, Chicago, IL | Participant in Round-Table “Using the Components of the <i>Nachalo</i> Text” -- presentation titled “Using <i>Диалог</i> in First-Year Russian” |

Work in Progress

Designing a sequence course to *Introduction to General Linguistics* (Language the Social Mirror: Guide to Intercultural Communication).

Professional Development

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| July, 2018 | Attended workshop “Innovative technologies in teaching Russian as a Second Language” at the Initiative Center, Petrozavodsk, Russia |
| May 28, 2015 | Participant of the round table “Modular systems in Russian as a Foreign Language Program,” organized by the Russian department of Gornyi University and the Methodology department of St. Petersburg State University |
| Oct 1-4, 2009 Sept. 29-Oct., 2006 | Melon Faculty Workshop in Linguistics at Swarthmore Pedagogy and Digital Technology: Language Labs in the 21 st Century. NITLE conference at Wabash College |
| March 24-26, 2006 | Collaborative and Technology-Assisted Approaches to Teaching Arabic. NITLE workshop, DePauw University |
| Nov 19-21, 2005 | New York State Association for Computers and Technology in Education conference, Albany, NY – hands-on workshops |
| Nov 5-6, 2005 | Cultures and Languages across Curriculum: Responding to a National Need, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa |

April 8-10, 2005

Russia, Central Europe, and the Liberal Arts: A Global Partners Symposium and Reunion, the University of Richmond – participant in session “Languages and Literatures”

Grants

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| Melon Equity Grant, project “Intercultural Communication for Health Professions” | 2020 |
| Backman Curriculum Grant, collaboration with other ACS colleges | summer 2019 |
| Melon Faculty Fellow, project titled “Language the Social Mirror” | 2017-2018 |
| Rhodes Faculty Internationalization Grant | summer 2015 |
| Rhodes FDE summer grant “Is the ‘Russian soul’ still the same?” | summer 2014 |
| Rhodes Faculty Internationalization Grant | summer 2012 |
| Rhodes International Curricular Grant | summer 2009 |
| FDC summer research grant “What’s in a (Borrowed) Name?” | summer 2008 |
| Global Partners travel grant to Russia | spring, 2005 |
| Co-recipient of Fulbright-Hays Croup Projects Abroad | summer, 2004 |
| Global Partners project “Rhodes-St. Petersburg Connections” | spring 2002 |

Professional Activities

Book Reviews:

In Praise of Poetry. Olga Sedakova. Tr. and ed. By Caroline Clark, Ksenia Golubovich, and Stephanie Sandler. Open Letter International Poetry Series. Rochester: Open Letter, 2014.

Appeared in The Russian Review, Volume 76, Issue 1, January, 2017

Long, Long Tales from the Russian North. Tr. and ed. by Jack V. Haney. University of Mississippi Press. 2013, 352 pages. Appeared in jfrr-l@indiana.edu.

The Way of Kinship: An Anthology of Native Siberian Literature. Eds. A. Vaschenko and Claude C. Smith. 2010. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. Appeared in *Journal of Folklore Research Reviews* (<http://www.indiana.edu/~jofrr/review.php?id=1224>).

Village Values: Negotiating Identity, Gender, and Resistance in Urban Russian Life Cycle Rituals by Jeanmarie Rouhier-Willoughby, Bloomington, IN: Slavica Publishers, 2008, 310 pages. Appeared in jfrr-l@indiana.edu.

Dobychin, Leonid. *Encounters with Lise and Other Stories*. Trans. Richard C. Borden with Natalia Belova. Slavic and East European Journal 51.1, Spring 2007.

Russian Pulp: The Detektiv and the Russian Way of Crime by Olcott, Anthony, Russian Review (January, 2003)

Other reviews:

Review of the dissertation by Julija Sutuginiene titled “Use of Summative Testing in Final Assessment of Pedagogical Competences of Majors (BA) in Russian as a Foreign Language (in Lithuania and Russia)” for a dissertation committee at the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Review of chapter 3, book 1 of “Nachalo” Russian language textbook, second edition (2000)

Services:

Member of Vocation group, fall, 2020-spring, 2021.

Member of the Student Mobility subcommittee of the Global Rhodes committee, fall 2019-present.

Member of Conference Program Committee, XI International conference “Teacher Training Education: History, Present, Perspectives,” Novgorod State University, October 3-4, 2019
Member of the Health Equity Program Committee (sp’2019 – present)

Member of the New Programs and Revenues subgroup of the Strategic Planning group at Rhodes (2017-2019)

Rhodes FYS instructor (2017-2018)

Regional chair for the American Council of the Teachers of Russian annual Olympiada of Spoken Russian for local middle and high schools (Fall’15 – present).

International Academic External Consultant for Assessment Review of Gornyi University of St. Petersburg, Russia. (Dec., 2012-- present)

Coordinated the Russian Studies part of application for Teacher Licensure (January, 2016)
Supervisor of Independent Inquiry project on linguistics by Rebecca Sabin of St. Mary’s schools for girls (spring, 2016).

Chair of the “Russian Literature” panel at the SCMLA conference in Nashville, TN (Nov. 1, 2015).

Chair to the panel “Orthodox Wandering and Pilgrimage in the Modern Era: Russia and Abroad” at the ASEES conference in San Antonio, TX (November 21, 2014).

SCMLA Russian Pedagogy and Methodology Session Chair, 2013 conference in New Orleans, LA

Panelist in Critical Language Scholarship Program review process in Washington, DC (January 2012).

SCMLA Russian Pedagogy and Methodology Session Chair, 2010 conference in Fort Worth, TX

Operation and Oversight Committee for the Memphis City Schools FLAP grants, member (2008-2010)

Advisor to Memphis City Schools on designing Russian curriculum K-5 (Apr-May, 2008)

Chair of Panel “Philosophy and Aesthetics” AAASS, Toronto (Nov 20-22, 2003)

Meeman Center for Lifelong Learning Courses:

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| Spring, 2021 | Possessed and Dispossessed: Dostoevsky and <i>Our Demons</i> |
| Spring, 2020 | Bulgakov’s “The Heart of a Dog” |
| Spring, 2018 | Dostoevsky’s “Brothers Karamazov” |
| Spring, 2017 | Vodolazkin’s novel “Laurus” |
| Spring, 2016 | Pasternak’s “Doctor Zhivago.” |
| Fall, 2015 | 2 sessions in “Lore of Literature” on Blok and Akhmatova |
| Spring, 2015 | “Fathers of Russian Literature. Pushkin and Gogol: Writing the Phantasmagoric City.” |
| Fall, 2013 | “Live and Remember” by V. Rasputin |
| Fall, 2012 | “ <i>The Idiot</i> by F. Dostoevsky” |
| Spring, 2012 | “St. Petersburg: Where Russia Meets the West” |
| Fall, 2011 | “Language Matters” |
| Fall, 2009 | “Myths about Russia” |
| July, 2006 | served as an educational guide to the Meeman Center 11-day educational trip “Waterways of the Czars” for a group of 50+ adults traveling on a river cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow, Russia |
| Spring, 2006, 2014, 2019 | Mikhail Bulgakovs’ “Master and Margarita” |
| June, 2005 | served as an educational guide to the Meeman Center 2-week educational trip “Amber Cities”; for a group of 20+ adults and traveled to the Czech Republic, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. |
| Spring, 2005 | “Chekhov’s <i>Uncle Vanya</i> ” |
| Spring, 2004 | “Leo Tolstoy’s <i>Anna Karenina</i> ” |
| Spring, 2003 | “A Voice of Her Own: Russian Women Poets.” |
| Fall, 2002 | “Dostoevsky: Life and Work” |

Fall, 2001 “Award Winning Soviet/Russian Films”
Fall, 2000 “The Russian’s World: Society and Culture”

Awards

Inducted as a faculty member in Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honorary fraternity that recognizes leaders in college activities who promote the best interests of the College 2012

3rd place for the essay “Логоцентризм русской ментальности: к вопросу о значении слова в русской культуре” – Logo-centricity of Russian Mentality: Concerning the Role of the Word in Russian Culture – at a Conference of Young Scholars at SPGGI (TU) March, 2005

Creative Activity

Part of the theater production of a documentary play “Seven” (directed by Cookie Ewing) at McCoy Theater, Rhodes College February, 2011

Related Travel

Faculty coordinator and escort of Rhodes Maymester at Gornyi University, St. Petersburg, Russia 1997-2009

Professional Affiliations

American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)

American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR)

South Central Modern Languages Association (SCMLA)

Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC)