Breakfast: 8:30am – 9:00am  
Room: 222

SESSION I: 9:00am – 10:45am

1.1. **Aestheticizing Brutality: Methods and Ethics in Depicting Violence**  
Chair: Maya Vinokour, New York University  
Discussant: Eliot Borenstein, New York University  
Room: 229

“Articulating the Unrecognizable Self: Writing Survived Trauma in the Work of V. Shalamov, Brendan Nieubuurt, Columbia University


Alexander Prokhanov's “Remake” of his Kabul Putsch Novel: Writing in the Violence, Holly Myers, Columbia University

1.2. **Politics, Protest, And Economic Choices In Post-Communist Eastern Europe**  
Chair: Jonathan Bone, William Paterson University  
Discussant: Deirdre Shannon, independent scholar  
Room: 223

Charting a New Path for Poland or Turning Its Back on More than a Quarter Century of Economic Progress? Poland's Change of Economic Strategy, Richard Hunter, Seton Hall University

Contentious Solidarity: Protest and Politics in Contemporary Poland, Dominika Kruszewska, Harvard University

Breaking Chains: Lithuania's Strategic Pursuit of Energy Independence, Emily Holland, Columbia University

1.3. **New Perspectives on The Bolshevik Revolution: Language, Ideology And Information**  
Chair: Nathaniel Knight, Seton Hall University  
Discussant: Anne O'Donnell, New York University  
Room: 224

The language of peasants and the Bolshevik revolution: an exercise in historical sociolinguistics, Alexander Nakhimovsky, Colgate University

The Other Bolshevik Revolution, Ian Crookston, Harvard University

From the zemstvo to soviets: the local authorities in 1917-1920, Julia Sweet, Rutgers University

1.4. **Language and Power**  
Chair: Chloe Kitzinger, Princeton University
Discussant: Alan Timberlake, Columbia University
Room: 228

On Language, Political Power and the Regulation of Russian Orthography, Linna Liberchuk, The Institute of World Politics

English-Russian Proverbs, Sayings and Aphorisms on War: Comparative Study, Elena Ivanova, Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia, Moscow

The Sword of Michael and the Word of God: St. Filaret Drozdov on War, Nicholas Racheotes, Framingham State University (emeritus)

1.5. Diplomacy And Engagement
Chair: Elidor Mëhilli, Hunter College CUNY
Discussant: Joseph MacKay, Columbia University
Room: Jordan Center Conference Room

The Conspiracy between Indian Nationalists and Soviet Russia in Central Asia: The Case of M.P.T. Acharya, Lina Bernstein, Franklin & Marshall College

American Foreign Policy in Central Asia: Next Steps for Cooperation, Security and Strategic Engagement, Pharaohl Charles, NYU Center for Global Affairs

SESSION II: 11:00am – 12:45pm

2.1. Between National and Transnational
Chair: Brigid O’Keeffe, Brooklyn College CUNY
Discussant: Tarik Amar, Columbia University
Room: 225

Transnationalism and Self-Determination: The Comintern, Race, and the National Question in the Americas", Tony Wood, New York University

Glasnost in the Embassy and The Death(s) of Socialism in Mozambique and the Soviet Union, Elizabeth Banks, New York University

The Paradoxes of Socialist Development, Elidor Mëhilli, Hunter College/ CUNY

2.2. Dostoevsky
Chair: Rebecca Stanton, Columbia University
Discussant: Chloe Kitzinger, Princeton University
Room: 223

This whole account “seems to be true”: Gossip’s centrality and functionality in Dostoevsky's The Idiot, Inna Kapilevich, Columbia University

Intersubjectivity in Crime and Punishment: A Gombrowiczean Reading, Piotr Axer, Brown University

The Book in Yellow Cover: The Ascetical Homilies of St. Isaac the Syrian as a Source of The Brothers Karamazov, Yekaterina Ozherelyeva, Yale University

2.3. Nationality and Nationhood: Culturally Construed, Politically Realized
Chair: Kate Antonova, Queens College CUNY
National in form, divided in content: The Soviet nationalities policy and the Jews, Yarden Avital, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

Nationalism, Orientalism, and the Kuchka, Ashley Bozian, St. John's University

Negotiating Imperial Legacies: Gender, Race, and Nationhood in Borisav Stanković’s "Impure Blood", Milica Ilicic, Columbia University

Globalization and the Nation in Hungary, 1867 - 1918, (Tyler) James Callaway, New York University

2.4. Between Dissidence and Diplomacy: Unauthorized Exports of Soviet Culture in the Postwar Era
Chair: Yanni Kotsonis, New York University
Discussant: Sergei Zhuk, Ball State University
Room: 224

A Cursed Blockbuster: Ivchenko’s Ivanna and The Specter of Ukrainian Nazi Collaboration, Kathryn David, New York University

Ballet with a Soviet Tinge: British Cultural Export in the 1960s, Laura Quinton, New York University

Beyond Dissidence: Shanson and Soviet Jewish Immigrants in 1980s Brighton Beach, Natalie Oshukany, The Graduate Center, CUNY

2.5. Evaluating the Sustainability of Russia’s Revisionist Challenge
Chair: Aaron Schwartzbaum, Johns Hopkins University
Discussant: Aaron Schwartzbaum, Johns Hopkins University
Room: 228

Russia’s Regional Debt Crisis: Politically-Motivated Causes, Politically-Crafted Solutions, Chris Jarmas, Harvard University

A Rationalist Explanation of Hybrid War, Matthew Pickle, Harvard University

Commitment Issues: The Syrian and Ukraine Crises as Bargaining Failures of the Post-Cold War International Order, Yuval Weber, Harvard University

2.6. Roundtable:
LGBT Pasts and Presents between Russia and the USA: A Transhistorical Comparative Perspective
Chair: Janet Johnson, Brooklyn College CUNY
Room: 229

Homonational Constructions of Russian, Soviet, and Eastern European "Other" in U.S. Homophile Periodicals, 1953 - 1964, Dasha Serykh, York University

Russia in the News: contemporary US-media, US-American value negotiations and vulnerable LGBT bodies, Katharina Wiedlack, University of Vienna

When History Repeats Itself: Save Our Children and the Russian Gay Propaganda Ban, Alexandra Novitskaya, State University of New York at Stony Brook
“We will get there, but we have to grow as high as that” - Spinning the narrative of backwardness in the Russian LGBTIQ movement, Masha Neufeld, Dresden University of Technology

SESSION III: Lunch and Keynote

Lunch: 12:45pm – 1:45pm
Room: 222

Keynote: 1:45pm – 2:45pm
1st Floor Auditorium: Room 102
Communism’s Shadow: Historical Legacies and Contemporary Political Attitudes (Princeton Studies in Political Behavior), a book talk by Joshua A. Tucker, Director, NYU Jordan Center

Session IV: 2:45pm – 4:30pm

4.1. American Perspectives on the Russian Revolution
Chair: Alisa Sniderman, New York University
Discussant: Ben Whisenhunt, College of DuPage
Room: Jordan Center Conference Room

How Russia's Female Warriors Influenced Women's Suffrage in the United States, Christine Vecchio, College of Staten Island CUNY

The American Red Cross Front in Revolutionary Russia, Peter Scasny, College of Staten Island CUNY

American Perspectives on the Russian Revolution: The American Red Cross, Kori Tjornhold, College of Staten Island CUNY

4.2. Afterlives of Violence in the Postwar USSR
Chair: Fran Bernstein, Drew University
Discussant: Brigid O’Keeffe, Brooklyn College CUNY
Room: 224

Death Notes: Official Deception in the Soviet Rehabilitation Process, Samuel Casper, University of Pennsylvania


4.3. Ideology And Influence In Post-Soviet Russia And Its Near Abroad
Chair: Linna Liberchuk, The Institute of World Politics
Discussant: Edward Tyerman, Barnard College, Columbia University
Room: 223

Locating a Post-Imperial Europe: Yuri Andrukhovych’s Recreations, Post-Soviet Absurdity, and Ukrainian National Identity, Sandra Russell, University of Massachusetts Amherst

4.4. **Romantic Aesthetics**  
Chair: Anne Lounsberry, New York University  
Discussant: Maya Vinokur, New York University  
**Room: 225**

The Zhukovian ‘Happily Ever After’: Undina as a story of the Eternal Feminine, Viktoria Basham, Hampden Sydney College

Two Afterlives: The Immediate Posthumous Reception of Nikolai Gogol, Benjamin Sigelman, New York University

The Downfall of the System, or Solovyov's Aesthetic Turn, Evgeniya Koroleva, The Graduate Center CUNY

4.5. **Researching And Teaching Russia**  
Chair: Marta Deyrup, Seton Hall University  
Discussant: Kate Antonova, Queens College CUNY  
**Room: 229**

The Russian-American Collection at the Library of Congress, Angela Cannon, Library of Congress

History as Double Vision: Boris Eikhenbaum, Erich Auerbach, and Walter Benjamin, Vasily Lvov, Graduate Center CUNY and Moscow State University

Organizing an Advanced Russian Course around Large Narrative, Irina Shilova, University of Calgary

Women Power: Milka Bliznakov Academic Papers and Records of Russian Women Architects at IAWA, Anna Sokolina, Milka Bliznakov Scholar

4.6. **After The Fall: Politics And Protest**  
Chair: Julie George, Queens College CUNY  
Discussant: Robert Orttung, George Washington University  
**Room: 228**


Christ is One of Us: Assessing the Role of Iconography in Ukraine's Euromaidan Revolution, Sarah VanSickle, Harvard University

The Left Parties Choices and The Emergence of The Far Right, Maria Snegovaya, Columbia University

**SESSION V: 4:45pm – 6:30pm**

5.1. **Soviet Culture and Mythology**  
Chair: Erin McBurney, Independent Scholar  
Discussant: Jonathan Bone, William Paterson University  
**Room: 223**

The Red Army Choir and the Musical Expression of Soviet Transformation, Michael Iasilli, St. John's University
True “Space Brothers and Sisters”: Expanding the Soviet Family in Thaw-era Letters to the Cosmonauts, Kate Seidel, Columbia University

From the Fall of Icarus to “Stalin’s Falcons”: Flight and Aviation in the (Pre) Revolutionary Era, Julia Trubikhina, Hunter College CUNY

5.2. Crossing Boundaries and Borders: Transnational Connectivity
Chair: Larry Wolff, New York University
Discussant: Hugo Lane, York College CUNY
Room: 225
Religion and Dynastic Politics in early modern Poland-Lithuania: Stanisław Herakliusz Lubomirski’s Travels to Rome in 1687, Marysia Jonsson, New York University


The Russian Pantheon: Alexander Pushkin, Victor Hugo, and the Formation of Literary Commemorations Paradigm in the 1880s-1900s Russia, Olga Voronina, Bard College

5.3. What Just Happened? Bunin, Babel, and Historical Memory in the 1920s
Chair: Edward Tyerman, Barnard College, Columbia University
Discussant: Rebecca Stanton, Columbia University
Room: 229
Ivan Bunin’s "Cursed Days" as the Narrative of Pain, Natalia Vygovskaia, Brown University

How We Speak When We Speak Violence: The Case of Babel’s Конармия, Rachael Allison Lee, Harvard University

Reviving the Vita: Vanishing Cultural Space and Unstable Historical Memory in the Russian Émigré Hagiobiography of the 1920’s, Vera Senina, Columbia University

The Ritual Theatre of the October Revolution: Nikolai Evreinov and Mass Spectacle, Alisa Sniderman, New York University

5.4. Identities, Politics and Protest in Post-Soviet Russia and Ukraine
Chair: Melissa Chakars, Saint Joseph’s University
Discussant: Heather DeHaan, Binghamton University
Room: 224

Struggle for Survival: Constraining NGO Response to Russia’s HIV Epidemic, Judith Mazdra, Harvard University


5.5. The Sale of Russian America, the Purchase of Alaska
Chair: Angela Cannon, Library of Congress
Discussant: Susan Smith-Peter, College of Staten Island CUNY
Room: 228

Selling Imperial Russian Nostalgia: A Historical Geography of Today's Sitka, Alaska, Amanda Bosworth, Cornell University

"Alexander's Folly, or Why Did Russia Sell Alaska to the United States?" Ilya Vinkovetsky, Simon Fraser University

Room: Jordan Center Conference Room

Robert Orttung, George Washington University
Sufian N. Zhemukhov, George Washington University
Vadim Volos, Independent Scholar
Urban Jaska, Columbia University

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Graduate students who have presented at this conference are eligible to submit a revised version of their paper for the NESEEES Graduate Student Essay Prize. The winner will then be nominated for the ASEEES Graduate Student Essay Prize. The submitter must clearly indicate the format of the essay submitted and provide an abstract. Essays should have a minimum word count of 7,500 and a maximum word count of 14,000 (25 to 50 pages approximately) inclusive of footnotes and bibliography. Submissions must be double-spaced and include footnotes or endnotes.
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