

*Curriculum vitae*

**Vera J. Proskurina**  
**Associate Professor (Teaching)**  
**Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures,**  
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**Education:**

Ph.D. Moscow State University, Department of Russian Literature (1985)  
M.A. / B. A. in Russian and Slavic Language and Literature from Moscow  
State University(1981)

**Professional Experience:**

- 2012 - Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures, Emory  
University, Senior Lecturer
- 2012 - Associate Director of the Kathryn Wasserman Davis School of  
Russian, Middlebury College
- 2009 - 2012 Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures, Emory University,  
Lecturer
- 2006 – 2009 Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures, Emory University,  
Instructor

- 2004-2011 Middlebury College, Faculty of the Kathryn Wasserman Davis School of Russian, Middlebury College
- 2005-2006 Georgia Institute of Technology, Visiting Assistant Professor
- 2002-2003 Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, Regional Fellow
- 1995-2001 Cornell University, Department of Russian Literature, Visiting Professor and Associate Scholar
- 1990-1995 Institute of World Literature, Russian Academy of Science, Department of Russian Literature (Moscow), Research Fellow

**Service:**

Director of Undergraduate Studies (2021 - 2022) (2015-2016)  
 Emory College Language Center, Executive Committee, member  
 Undergraduate Research Symposium Steering Committee (2015-21)  
 Studies Abroad Adviser  
 Russian Program's major/minor Adviser  
 Language Program Coordinator  
 Language Placement Coordinator  
 Emory PACE Adviser  
 Dobro Slovo, National Slavic Studies Honor Society, Emory  
 Chapter Adviser

**Service to the Field**

- Kathryn Wassermann Davis School of Russian, Middlebury College, Associate Director since 2012 (in charge of the Graduate Program: MA in Russian & PhD in Modern Languages)
- American Association of East European and Eurasian Studies, member & organizer of panels:
  - Politics and Poetry in the Time of Three Russian Emperors (Catherine II, Alexander I, and Nicholas I): Rebellion, Counter-rebellion, and Fear (November 2020)
  - Pushkin: Visual Representation, Performance, and Power (2018)

- Political Symbols and Russian Literature: Transgressions, Oppositions, Appropriations (2017)
- The Power of Dialogues: Conversations with Europe (2016)
- Facts and Literary Myths in Mapping the Russian Empire (2015)

■ ***Historica Nova Prize for the Best Book in Russian Intellectual History, Academic Studies Press & Mikhail Prokhorov Foundation, Jury member & Speaker for Nomination (2016)***

■ Organization of a conference & a collection of articles on methodology of Russian language acquisition in USA: *Russian Language and Culture. Studies, Methods & Approaches, and Interpretations*. Middlebury College-Moscow, 2015, 359 pp. (together with Jason Merrill and Alexander Logunov).

### **Teaching Experience:**

RUSS 403 21<sup>st</sup> Century Russian Literature in Original (2017)  
 RUSS 361/CPLT 389/IDS 385 Leo Tolstoy (2019)  
 RUSS 351 Political & Business Russian (2021)  
 RUSS 301 Advanced Russian (2017)  
 RUSS 201-202 Intermediate Russian (every year)  
 RUSS 101-102 Elementary Russian (every year)  
 Graduate Committee-2022: Sophie Rice, BA in International Studies & REES

### **Research Interests:**

Russian literature (18th-19th centuries)  
 Cultural Studies  
 Russian language: method, new strategies of teaching, language through media & cinema

### **Languages:**

Russian, French, Latin

## **Awards:**

- 2018 The Andrew Mellon Foundation & National Endowment for Humanities grant (collective) for Open Access of my book *Creating the Empress. Politics and Poetry in the Age of Catherine II*.
- 2013 Phi Beta Kappa (Emory) Excellence in Teaching
- 2011 Mikhail Prokhorov Fund Award (Program Transcript)
- 2002 - 2003 Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, Senior Regional Fellowship
- 2000 & 2006 Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies, Short-term Grant
- 1997 Open Society Institute  
Research Grant

## **Conferences and Presentations:**

*Pushkin & Gogol in 1836*. Gogol Conference & Workshop. Princeton, 2023, May 13-14), paper presentation.

*What Survives: Teaching Russian Culture during Putin's Invasion into Ukraine*. Roundtable with Dr. Caryl Emerson of Princeton and Emory University's REEES faculty (participant of the panel; April 13, 2022.)

*Catherine the Great, and the First Vaccination in Russia* (REALC's Faculty Spotlight series, Emory University, Lecture, online; October 18, 2021.)

*A. S. Pushkin between Peter I & Catherine II*. Conference: Institutes of Literature & State Power in Russia in the 18th - the beginning of 19th century (Pushkin House, Russian Academy of Science, Saint Petersburg, Presentation, online; October 15, 2020.)

*The Tale of Tsarevich Chlor by Catherine II and G. R. Derzhavin's Felitsa: Politics of Prototypes*. ASEES, November 16, 2020, online)

*Catherine II and Alexander Pushkin's 'Captain Daughter'.* (Paper presentation) Pushkinalia III: Pushkin in Transit. Annual Pushkin Conference. Princeton University, January 11, 2020.

*Around Felitsa by G. R. Derzhavin: Representation of Power, Politics, and Poetics.* (Princeton University. Guest Lecture. November 14, 2019.)

*Catherine II in Pushkin's Captain's Daughter: Visual Representations & Literary Contexts,* December 2018. ASEEES Boston 2018.

*The Cult of Vladimir the Saint & the Annexation of Crimea (1783): Poetics of Appropriation.* ASEEES Chicago, November 2017.

*Catherine II and Voltaire: Imperial Chimeras and Utopias of Enlightenment,* ASEEES Washington, DC, November 2016.

*Catherine II's Antidote and its Political and Ideological Context,* ASEEES Philadelphia, November 2015.

*Russian Annexation of Crimea in Time of Catherine II: Politics and Myths,* UPENN, October 2015. Guest Lecture.

*Crimea in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century:* Middlebury College, August 2014.

*Russian Intellectual History as a Special Discipline,* ASEEES, Boston, 2013.

*The Second Gavriliada: Laughter, Satire, and Blasphemy in Russian Culture,* ASEEES, New Orleans, 2012.

*The Mirror of Power: Visual and Poetic Representations of Catherine II,* Lamar Dodd School of Arts, University of Georgia, 29 October 2012.

*Laughter, Witticism, and Libertinism in the Late 18th Century,*  
*ASEEES, Washington DC, 20 November 2011.*

## **List of Publications**

### ***I. Monographs:***

1. *An Imperial Script of Catherine the Great: Governing with the Literary Pen* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2023). In Print.

2. *Catherine II's Empire of Letters: Literature as Politics*, 2017 (Moscow: Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie, 2017), 240 pp.

Review: Hilde Hoogenboom, *Catherine the Great and Royal Biographies*, in *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, 19:3 (2018), 649-660; Dmitry Bavilsky. At the origin of the land of words, in *Novyi Mir*, 11 (2018).

3. *Creating the Empress: Politics and Poetry in the Age of Catherine II* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2011), 310 pp.

Review: A. J. DeBlasio, Dickinson College, in *CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*, July 2011.

4. *Mify Imperii: Literatura i vlast' v epokhu Ekateriny II* (Myths of the Russian Empire: Literature and Power in the Time of Catherine the Great. (Moscow: Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie, 2006), 330 pp.

Review: Paul Keenan, Department of International History, London School of Economics and Political Science, in *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, 10:1 (2009), 179-182.

5. *Techenie Gol'fstrema: Mikhail Gershenzon, ego zhizn' i mif* (The Current of the Gulf Stream: Mikhail Gershenzon: His Life and His Myth), (Saint Petersburg: Aleteia, 1998), 502 pp.

## **II. Book Editions:**

M. O. Gershenzon. *Izbrannoe* (Selected Works.) Vol. V. Ed., articles, commentary. Moscow-Saint-Petersburg, 2019. 400 p.

*Russian Language and Culture. Studies, Methods & Approaches and Interpretations*. Middlebury College-Moscow, 2015 (together with Jason Merrill and Alexander Logunov)

M. O. Gershenzon. *Izbrannoe* (Selected Works). Vol. I-IV. Ed., articles, commentary. Moscow-Jerusalem: Universitetskaia kniga-Gesharim, 2000.

M. O. Gershenzon, *Pal'mira* (Palmyra.) Ed., article, commentary by Vera Proskurina (Tenafly: Hermitage, 1997), 140 pp.

P. Ia. Chaadaev, *Izbrannye sochineniia i pis'ma* (Selected Works and Letters.) Ed., article, commentary by Vera Proskurina (Moscow: Pravda, 1991), 557 pp.

M. O. Gershenzon, *Griboedovskaia Moskva. P. Ia. Chaadaev. Ocherki proshlogo* (M. O. Gershenzon, Griboedov's Moscow. P. Ia. Chaadaev. Essays of the Past. Ed., article, commentary, index by Vera Proskurina (Moscow: Moskovskii rabochii, 1989), 400 pp.

P. Ia. Chaadaev, *Sochineniia* (Works.) Commentaries. (Series: From the History of National Philosophy.) Moscow, 1989.

### *III. Selected Articles.*

'Gogolevskii Nos v pushkinskom krugu: o redaktsii povesti v zhurnale *Sovremennik* 1836 goda (Gogol's "The Nose" in Pushkin's circle: about the editing version of the story in the magazine *Sovremennik* of 1836)', *Pushkin. Vremennik Pushkinskoi Komissii*. Saint Petersburg: Pushkin House. 2023, 37: 118 – 138.

'Pir Petra Pervogo' A. Pushkina: poslednii urok tsariu? ("Feast of Peter the First" by A. Pushkin as the last lesson to the czar?), *Pushkin. Vremennik Pushkinskoi Komissii*. Saint Petersburg: Pushkin House. 2022, 36: 147 – 169.

Catherine II in Alexander Pushkin's "The Captain Daughter" and its Visual-Literary Context. *Homo Scriptor. A collection of papers and materials for M. Epstein's 70th birthday*. Moscow, 2020, 140-169.

Catherine the great: Selected letters, *Women's Writing* (UK). Vol. 26 (4), 2019, 479-481. (Book review.)

Landshaft Imperii : *Antidot Ekateriny II protiv Puteshestviia v Sibir'*, ili Granitsy tsivilizatsii (The Landscape of Empire: Catherine II's *Antidote* against the *Travel to Siberia*, or Borders of the European Civilization, *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 2017, # 144 (2), 7 – 42.

"Perepiska iz dvukh uglov': simbolika tsitaty i struktura teksta" ("The Correspondence between Two Corners: the Symbolism of the Quotation and the Structure of the Text"), Viacheslav Ivanov: Pro et Contra, Anthology. Vol. 2, Saint Petersburg, 2016, 219-244.

Russian Women Poets of the Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries . Ed. and trans. Amanda Ewington. Toronto: Center for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, 2014), *Early Modern Women Journal*, 2015, Vol. 10, # 1 (Fall 2015), 256 – 258 (book review.)

Fedor Karamazov as a Libertine: F. M. Dostoevsky and the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, *Russian Language and Culture. Studies, Methods & Approaches and Interpretations*. (Middlebury College-Moscow, 2015), 46 – 69.

“Politicheskii libertinage v XVIII veke. Kniaz’ D. P. Gorchakov i ego *Sviatki*” (“Political Libertinage in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century: Prince D. P. Gorchakov and his *Noël*”), *Russko-frantsuzskii razgovornik, ou Les Causeries du 7 September. Sbornik statei v chest’ V. A. Mil’chinois (Russian – French Talks, or 7 September. Collection of articles in honor of V. A. Mil’china)*, (Moscow, 2015), 11 – 22.

“Vtoraia Gavriliada, ilu A. S. Pushkin i Kniaz’ D. P. Gorchakov” (“The Second *Gavriliada* or A. S. Pushkin and Prince D. P. Gorchakov, *AMP*. In the *Memorial of A. M. Peskov*. Moscow (2013), 239 – 249.

“Spor o svobodoiazychii Fonvizin i Ekaterina II (The Dispute on a Freedom of Speech: Fonvizin and Catherine II)”, *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 105 (2010), 125 – 144.

“Mezhdu Felitse i Fortuno: Derzhavin i barkoviana” (“Between Felitsa and Fortune: Derzhavin and barkoviana”), *Permiakovskii sbornik* (Moscow, 2009), 128 -- 143.

“Oda G. R. Derzhavina *Na Schastie*: Politika i poetika (“The Ode by G. R. Derzhavin *To Fortune*: Politics and Poetics”), *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 97 (2009), 153 – 185

“Ekaterina-tselitel’nitsa: sakral’naia traditsiia i politicheskii kontekst” (“Catherine the Healer: the Sacred Tradition and Political Context”), *I vremia i mesto: Istoriko-filologicheskii sbornik k shestidesiatiletiiu Aleksandra L’vovicha Ospovata (A Time and a Place: An Historico-Philological Collection in Honor of the Sixtieth Birthday of Aleksandr L’vovich Ospovat)* (Moscow, 2008), 73-83.

“Peterburgskii mif i politika monumentov” (The Saint-Petersburg Myth and Politics of Monuments), *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 72 (2005), 158 – 189.



“Mif ob Astree i russkii prestol” (“Astraea’s Myth and the Russian Throne”), *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 63 (2003), 153 -- 185.

“Peremena roli: Ekaterina Velikaia i politika imperskoi transversii” (“Changing the Role: Catherine the Great and translatio imperii”), *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 54 (2002), 98 - 118.

“The Immortality in the Quotation Marks: Pushkin-Nabokov-Gershenzon”, *Nabokov’s World. Vol. 2.* (London: Palgrave, 2002), 27 -- 40.

“Perepiska iz dvukh uglov’: simbolika tsitaty i struktura teksta” (“*The Correspondence between Two Corners: the Symbolics of the Quotation and the Structure of the Text*”), *Lotmanovskii Sbornik (Lotman Collection: In Memoriam of Iu. M. Lotman)* 2 (Moscow: RGGU Press, 1997), 671 - 695.

“Cor Ardens” by Viacheslav Ivanov: The Meaning of the Title and the Esoteric Tradition, *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 51 (2001), 128 - 143.

“Krylov and Catherine II: The Poem *A Dying Coquette* in the Context of Russian Libertinism”, *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 46 (2000), 104 - 121.

Vasilii Rozanov’s Erotic Mythology, *Eros and Pornography in Russian Culture*. Ed. Marcus Levitt and A. Toporkov (Moscow: Ladomir, 1999), 275 - 287.

“S. E. Raich”, *Dictionary of Literary Biography. Volume 205: Russian Literature in the Age of Pushkin and Gogol: Poetry and Drama*. Ed. by Christine A. Rydel. (Detroit, Washington, D.C., London: A Brucoli Clark Layman and Gale Publishers, 1999, 286 - 291.

“Pushkinskii mif M. Gershenzona” (“The Pushkin Myth of M. Gershenzon”), *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 20 (1996), 151-205.

“Vtoroi ‘Portret’ Gogolia” (“The Second *Portrait* by Gogol”), *Novye bezdelki. Sbornik statei k 60-letiiu V. E. Vatsuro* (Moscow: Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie, 1995-1996), 223 - 236.

“Mezhdu Afinami i Ierusalimom: kul’turnyi status antichnosti v 1830 - nachale 1840-kh godov” (“Between Athens and Jerusalem: The Reception of Antiquity in the 1830s and the Beginning of the 1840s”), *Lotmanovskii Sbornik*

(*Lotman Collection: In Memoriam of Iu. M. Lotman*) 1 (Moscow: RGGU Press, 1994), 488 - 502.

“Rukopisnyi zhurnal ‘Bul’var i pereulok’: Viacheslav Ivanov i ego moskovskie sobesedniki v 1915 godu” (“The Manuscript Magazine *The Boulevard and The Side-street*: Viacheslav Ivanov and His Moscow Literary Friends”), *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie*, 10 (1994), 173 - 208.

“Viacheslav Ivanov i M. Gershenzon: Na puti k ‘Perepiske iz dvukh uglov’” (“Viacheslav Ivanov and M. Gershenzon: On the Way to *the Correspondence Between Two Corners*”), *Cahiers du Monde Russe*, 35: 1-2 (1993/ 1994), 377 - 392.

“‘Nagornaia propoved’ M. Gershenzona” (“*The Sermon on the Mountain* by M. Gershenzon”), *Simvol*, 28 (Paris, 1992), 259 - 277.

“Pis’ma L. Shestova M. Gershenzonu. 1917 - 1923” (“The Letters of L. Shestov to M. Gershenzon. 1917 - 1923”), *Evreiskii zhurnal*, 2 (Munich, 1992), 97 - 116.

“Temnyi lik V. V. Rozanova” (“The Dark Face of V. V. Rozanov”), *Novyi Mir*, 3 (1992), 260 - 263.

“K istorii sozdaniia ‘Vekh’” (“On the History of the Creation of *Vekhi*”), *Minuvshee* (Paris: Atheneum, 1991), 249 - 291 (with V. Alloi.)

“Perepiska V. V. Rozanova s M. O. Gershenzonom. 1909 - 1918” (“The Correspondence Between V. V. Rozanov and M. O. Gershenzon. 1909 - 1918”), *Novyi Mir*, 3 (1991), 215 - 242.

Republished: *Targum. Jewish Heritage in the Context of World Culture*. 2 (Jerusalem & Moscow, 1991), 95 - 134.