

Curriculum vitae

Vera J. Proskurina
Associate Professor (Teaching)
Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures,
Emory University

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Languages Building, 532 Kilgo Circle, Atlanta, GA 30322
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Education:

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

Professional Experience:

- 2012 - Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures, Emory University,
Associate Professor (Teaching)
- 2012 -2024 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 (2015-25)
 Studies Abroad Adviser
 Russian Program's major/minor adviser
 Language Program Coordinator
 Language Placement Coordinator
 Dobro Slovo, National Slavic Studies Honor Society, Emory
 Chapter adviser
 Graduate Committee-2022 (Honor)
 Graduate Committee-2025 (Honor)

Service to the Field

- 2025 ECRESA (Eighteenth-Century Russian Empire Studies Association Marc Raeff Prize Selection Committee), Chair
- Kathryn Wassermann Davis School of Russian, Middlebury College, Associate Director 2012-2024 (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 21st Century Russian Literature in Original
 RUSS 375 Special Topics: Political Reading of Russian Literature.
 RUSS 361/CPLT 389/IDS 385 Leo Tolstoy
 RUSS 351 Political & Business Russian
 RUSS 301 Advanced Russian
 RUSS 270 Russian Culture and Society
 RUSS 201-202 Intermediate Russian
 RUSS 190 Freshman seminar: Tolstoy's Short Stories
 RUSS 101-102 Elementary Russian

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:

- 2024 Marc Raeff Prize for the best book in Russian Imperial History
(My book *The Imperial Script of Catherine the Great. Governing with the Literary Pen* (Boston, Academic Studies Press, 2023)
- 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:

Boris Godunov: the concept of legitimacy and the reception of Pushkin's tragedy by Nicolas I (An International Online Conference hosted by Academic Studies Press (October 2025), paper presentation.

"Rose without thorns," or the political context of Catherine II's fairy tales, A.M.P. - 70. International Scientific Conference in Memory of A.M. Peskov (April 2024), paper presentation.

The Concept of A. S. Pushkin's Magazine *the Contemporary*. Pushkin after 1831: An International Online Conference hosted by Academic Studies Press (December 2023), paper presentation.

Catherine II the Healer, or the First Vaccination in Russia, Séminaire d'histoire de la littérature russe, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France (September 2023), paper presentation.

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. ASEEEES, 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. ASEEEES Boston 2018.

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

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

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

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

Crimea in the 18th Century: Middlebury College, August 2014.

Russian Intellectual History as a Special Discipline, ASEES, Boston, 2013.

The Second Gavriliada: Laughter, Satire, and Blasphemy in Russian Culture, ASEES, 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, ASEES, Washington DC, 20 November 2011.

List of Publications

I. Monographs:

1. *Canon and its boundaries in Russian literature of the 18th – early 20th centuries* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2025), 442 pp.

2. *The Imperial Script of Catherine the Great: Governing with the Literary Pen* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2023), 220 pp.

Review: Kelsey Rubin-Detlev, *Catherine the Great Authors Her Empire*, in Вивліюєика: E-Journal of Eighteenth-Century Russian Studies, vol. 11 (2023): 276-280.

3. *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).

4. *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.

5. *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.

6. *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.

'Pushkin's *Sovremennik* and the 18th Century', *Pushkin after 1831*. Ed. by I. Nemirovsky (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2025), 373-392.

Poslednii Pol'skii Korol': Koronatsiia Nikolaia I v Varshave v 1829 g. i Pamiat' o Russko-Pol'skikh Voinakh XVII – nachala XIX v. by Ekaterina Bolrunova. Moscow: Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie, 2022, 560 pp., *Slavic Review*, Cambridge University Press (2024), in Press.

'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 *Puteshestvoia 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 18th 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 18th Century: Prince D. P. Gorchakov and his *Noël*”), *Russko-frantsuzskii razgovornik, ou Les Causeries du 7 September. Sbornik statei v chest’ V. A. Mil’chinoi (Russian – French Talks, or 7 September. Collection of articles in honor of V. A. Mil’china)*, (Moscow, 2015), 11 – 22.

“Vtoraia Gavriiliada, ilu A. S. Pushkin i Kniaz’ D. P. Gorchakov” (“The Second *Gavriiliada* 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 Fortunoi: 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: Ladimir, 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 Bruccoli 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.