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I. *Faculty and Staff Directory*

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Fried, Mirjam	226 East Pyne mfried@princeton.edu	8-7077
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Director of Graduate Studies
Acting chair - spring

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Williams, Edwin

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STAFF

Eggers, Gabrielle
Manager

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ling@princeton.edu

8-5405

LIBRARY STAFF

Shapiro, Nina
Slavic Bibliographer

B-9-P Firestone Library

8-3592

II. *Slavic Department Faculty*

Leonard Babby (*Ph.D. Harvard*). Director of Linguistics Program. Professor of Slavic Linguistics. Structure of Russian (especially morphosyntax), History of Russian, Old Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Syntactic theory, Language universals, Turkish linguistics.

Ksana Blank (*Ph.D. Columbia*). Lecturer. Nineteenth and twentieth-century Russian prose, Russian religious thought, Russian folklore, interdisciplinary approaches to literature (especially, relationship between literature and visual arts), and Practical Stylistics.

Ellen Chances (*Ph.D. Princeton*). Professor of Russian literature. Nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first century novel, literature and art, literature and ideas, contemporary Soviet literature, the ethical dimensions of contemporary Russian cinema, Russian intellectual and cultural history, comparative Soviet and post-Soviet/American literature and culture.

Caryl Emerson (*Ph.D. Texas at Austin*). Chairman of the Department. Professor of Russian Literature and Comparative Literature. Nineteenth century Russian prose, history of the novel, contemporary Russian literary criticism and theory, Russian intellectual and cultural history (especially philosophy and music).

Herman Ermolaev (*Ph.D. University of California at Berkeley*). Professor of Russian literature. Nineteenth and twentieth century Russian prose, Soviet literature, Socialist realism, Soviet censorship.

Mirjam Fried (*Ph.D. University of California at Berkeley*). Assistant Professor of Slavic Linguistics. Czech language. Cognitive approaches to grammar (Construction Grammar and Frame Semantics). Morphology and morphosyntax, discourse structure, lexical semantics, linguistic typology.

Olga Peters Hasty (*Ph.D. Yale*). Undergraduate Representative. Professor of Russian Literature. Russian nineteenth century poetry, Russian post-Symbolist poetry, Formalism, the Russian avant-garde, Nabokov and emigre literature, Russian drama, Russian women writers.

Francis McLellan (*Ph.D. Brown*). Senior Lecturer. Russian language coordinator. Historical Slavic linguistics, Church Slavonic of all periods, History of Russian, Old East Slavic, Slavic manuscript textual studies, Russian religious thought.

Charles Townsend (*Ph.D. Harvard*). Emeritus Professor of Slavic Linguistics. Structure of Russian, History of Russian, Common Slavic, Comparative Slavic, Czech and Czech Linguistics, Polish, Bulgarian.

Michael Wachtel (*Ph.D. Harvard*). Director of Graduate Studies. Professor of Russian Literature. Poetics, Nineteenth and twentieth century Russian poetry, Russian symbolism, Russian-German literary relations.

III. Graduate Students in Residence

Year Entered	Linguistics	Literature
2000		Dunja Popovic (dpopovic@) Tania Gordeev (tzyryano@)
2001		Tsvetelina Yordanova (tyordano@)
2002	Julia Belopolsky (jbelopol@)	
2003	Cori Anderson (coria@)	Yuri Corrigan (ycorriga@) Timothy Portice (tportice@)
2004	Vrinda Chidambaram (vchidamb@)	Zaur Agayev (zagayev@) Christine Dunbar (cdunbar@) Daria Solodkaia (dsolodka@)
2005	Anton Koychev (akoychev@)	Jesse Menefee (jmenefee@) James Tonn (jtonn@)

IV. Graduate School Directory

Academic Questions - Requirements, Programs, Change of Status.....	201 Nassau Hall
Alumni Relations and Development	315 Nassau Hall
Commencement Information.....	201 Nassau Hall
Degree Information	201 Nassau Hall
Employment	
College Work Study Program.....	202 Nassau Hall
Employment Verification/I-9s	202 Nassau Hall
Enrollment Status Questions & Change of Status Forms.....	201 Nassau Hall
ESL/AI Training Programs.....	201 Nassau Hall
Exchange Programs	201 Nassau Hall
Financial Questions	
Assistantship/Fellowship Projects	204 Nassau Hall
College Work-Study Program.....	202 Nassau Hall
External Fellowship Opportunities and Reference Library	204 Nassau Hall
Loans (short and long term).....	202 Nassau Hall
Princeton Awards (how they work)	204 Nassau Hall
Payroll Problems	
Deductions for Student Bills	Student Accounts, 1 New South
Deductions for Taxes Withheld.....	Payroll Department, 1 New South
Foreign Tax Treaties	Payroll Department, 1 New South
Missing Checks	204 Nassau Hall
Fulbright Information and Other Study Abroad Fellowships.....	201 Nassau Hall
Health Insurance/Concerns.....	202 Nassau Hall
Identification Cards	201 Nassau Hall
I-9s.....	120 Alexander St.
International Students: Visa Information	120 Alexander St.
NSF Fellowship Questions	204 Nassau Hall
Rutgers Exchange Program	201 Nassau Hall
Stipend/Tuition Questions	204 Nassau Hall
Summer Language Program	201 Nassau Hall
Visas	120 Alexander St.
W-4s	Payroll Department, 6 New South

V. Course of Study

The Ph.D. program is designed to be completed in five years. Students normally study full-time in residence during the first two years and take the general examination at the end of this period or during the first semester of the third year. The third year is devoted to completing the dissertation prospectus and beginning research. During the fourth year students combine study and teaching, though some may prefer to spend time away from campus doing dissertation research. The fifth year is usually spent on campus, with some teaching and the remainder of the time devoted to completing the dissertation.

Ph.D. Program in Russian Literature

All students acquire a broad knowledge of the history and major texts of Russian literature. In consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), students choose from a wide range of courses. Individual programs vary in accordance with the interests and background of each student. Graduate seminars cover historical periods (e.g., Russian Realism, Symbolism, Soviet and Post-Soviet Literature and Culture), specific authors (e.g., Pushkin, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Tsvetaeva), theoretical approaches to literature (e.g., twentieth-century Russian approaches to literature and culture: the formalists, the Tartu school and Bakhtin), and core courses in the development of literary genres (the evolution of Russian poetic form; the evolution of Russian prose).

Ph.D. Program in Slavic and Theoretical Linguistics

The purpose of the Joint Ph.D. Program in Slavic and Theoretical Linguistics is to train linguists who can both employ modern theories of linguistics in the analysis of the Slavic languages and contribute to the development of linguistic theory on the basis of data from the Slavic languages. To realize these goals, students take courses in both Slavic and theoretical linguistics each semester. The core Slavic courses are: The Morphosyntactic Structure of Russian (two semesters), The History of the Russian Language (two semesters), Comparative Slavic Linguistics, and Old Russian. The core courses in theoretical linguistics are: Syntax (two semesters), Morphology, Semantics, and the Proseminar. Students are encouraged to take other courses in theoretical linguistics when they are offered (e.g.,

Computational Linguistics, Historical Linguistics, Language Acquisition, Construction Grammar, Language, Mind, and Brain). The Slavic languages offered on a regular basis are: Czech, Polish, and Croatian/Serbian (see the Language Requirement).

- **Coursework**

As a rule, graduate students in Slavic want to take more courses than advisable. The department faculty strongly discourages taking more than four courses each semester, particularly in the first year. Likewise, it is not recommended that beginning students supplement these four courses by auditing others. Experience has shown that serious, worthwhile auditing requires more time than students have at their disposal.

First-year graduate students ordinarily take a mix of courses, including advanced Russian language, beginning and intermediate courses in other Slavic languages, as well as graduate seminars. Often, only half of the courses in the first year are devoted to the student's special area of interest (i.e. literature or linguistics). This is sometimes a cause of frustration, but it is far better to fill in lacunae at this point in the curriculum than to wait until later.

After the first year, students have a better sense of the demands made on them. At this point, most of the requirements are out of the way, leaving room in the schedule for more advanced seminars. Auditing may be valuable at this point. Similarly, this may be a good time to explore the possibility of taking courses at other universities through the graduate school's various exchange programs: Rutgers for linguists, Columbia for literature students. This can be done at no cost beyond transportation, but it requires advanced planning and a little legwork.

Though the Slavic Department offers enough courses each semester to fill any graduate schedule, students still have the opportunity to look outside the department. There might be compelling reasons for literature concentrators to take a seminar from German or Romance languages, history or philosophy. The literature faculty encourages comparative and interdisciplinary approaches, though not at the expense of fundamental knowledge of Russian literary history and theory.

The faculty does everything possible to offer graduate seminars that are truly useful. For this reason, student input is greatly appreciated. The sequence of courses can often be

adjusted to accommodate students' needs. At times entirely new courses have been introduced after students requested them. Such wishes should be made known (as early as possible) to the DGS, who will investigate their feasibility.

- **Writing:**

In addition to introducing material and encouraging independent thought, graduate seminars are designed to provide training in conceiving and writing articles such as would be published in academic journals. It is essential that students write a minimum of one lengthy research paper (and a maximum of two) each semester. Such papers are routinely assigned in some seminars, while other seminars lend themselves more readily to exams or short essays (take-home or in-class). In some courses, students have a choice. In their meeting with the DGS at the beginning of the semester, students should indicate the course(s) for which they plan to write research papers. They should also make this clear to the professor in charge of the seminar, who will concentrate on helping them find an appropriate topic early on.

In evaluating the papers, the faculty member suggests the types of changes that would be necessary were the paper to be prepared for submission to a journal (or for more extensive development in the form of a dissertation).

All written work must be completed by the end of the semester. The department does not allow students to get grades of "incomplete," as this only impedes future progress.

- **Facilities:**

Firestone Library has an excellent collection of Russian materials, with reasonably good holdings in other Slavic languages and literatures. We also participate in an inter-library loan exchange which will get you any circulating material from Cornell, Dartmouth, Yale, and University of Pennsylvania within four days. This means that almost any source you need is easily accessible. For dissertation research, however, it is sometimes necessary to travel abroad, both for more extensive (and obscure) library holdings or for archival material.

Thanks to the generosity of emeritus professor Charles E. Townsend, the department boasts a superlative library, which contains many long out-of-print dictionaries, grammars, etc. essential to the field. The books from the Townsend collection are housed in the Slavic

Conference Room (a.k.a. lounge), so that they can be used at all hours of the day (or night). They do not circulate except in special circumstances. PLEASE do not remove them without permission of the departmental manager. If books start to disappear and we cannot account for them, the entire collection will be moved to a less accessible location. The Department also has a substantial collection of Russian and Czech videos, which are kept in the office. These circulate, but you must sign them out with the department manager.

- **Enrichment:**

To supplement the course offerings, approximately 6-8 outside lecturers are invited to speak each year. Students are encouraged to attend these lectures to get a sense of the variety of approaches in the field at large. If a group of students would be particularly interested in having a particular scholar speak, they should make this request to the chair or DGS, who will investigate the possibility.

Graduate students are often so busy with their studies that they forget to look at the variety of speakers who are invited by other departments. The Humanities Council circulates a list of such events each month, many of which feature the most prominent figures in the humanities today. It is well worth perusing this list and attending an occasional event outside of the department.

To get a better sense of their future profession, students should join the scholarly societies AATSEEL (American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages) and AAASS (American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies). Both offer an inexpensive student membership that includes a subscription to the major Slavic journals published in the United States (*Slavic Review* and *Slavic and East European Journal*). They should attend the AATSEEL national conference (preferably to give a paper) at least once before going on the job market.

This year's national conference is in Washington, DC, close enough to make it easy to visit, if only to get a sense of what it is like. Student membership in AATSEEL costs \$40 for the year, and the Department will split that cost with you.

VI. Reenrollment

Reenrollment, the annual review of every graduate student's academic progress, normally takes place in March or April. This process is conducted by each department, whose recommendations are then reviewed by the Graduate School Office before formal reenrollment contracts are mailed to students in May. The Graduate School's letter is a binding contract, subject to the conditions and contingencies stated therein.

During the reenrollment period, the department has four recommendation options:

1. Readmit: student is making progress at or above departmental expectations.
2. Contingent Readmit: student must fulfill one or more specific requirements by a specific time in order to continue: e.g., language requirements.
3. Defer: department wants to wait for further evidence from remainder of Spring Term, e.g., course grades, General Examination results, etc., before making decision. A deferral letter is sent by the Graduate School Office. Deferrals are resolved by early June.
4. Not Readmit: student's performance has failed to meet departments and/or Graduate School's requirements for satisfactory progress. A letter of termination is sent to the student and degree candidacy terminates.

Reenrollment is expected, but not automatic.

VII. Funding Opportunities

Princeton University offers all graduate students in Slavic five years of full funding, including summer funding awarded by application, (do NOT forget to apply; bitter experience has shown that the graduate school will not fund summer study unless the relevant paperwork is completed on time!) assuming that the student remains in good standing (see section on reenrollment). While five years is relatively brief, the generous stipend obviates the need for outside work, allowing all energies to be directed to course work and then the dissertation.

Nonetheless, for a variety of reasons, five years sometimes turns out to be insufficient. If students realize relatively early on that they will need more time, they should consider applying for outside fellowships which fund a year of study abroad (*In Absentia* –

see Chapter XIV). A list of such fellowships is on file in the Graduate School office. Our students are always very strong contenders for Fulbright awards for Eastern Europe and SSRC Russia. Those who know German should consider Fulbright and DAAD stipends for study in Germany (which has a number of excellent Slavic programs). Applications for these fellowships are due in early October, and interested students should begin investigating possibilities several months prior to the deadline.

For additional fellowship opportunities, refer to the Graduate School home page:

<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/GraduateSchool/AcademicAffairs/HomePage/index.htm>

Since priority is given to enrolled students, teaching within the department becomes very difficult after the fifth year. However, the Writing Program sometimes offers positions to unenrolled students, and a course-load of one writing course per term pays approximately the same as a graduate stipend. While these writing courses are very time-intensive, they offer excellent experience, as most colleges in this country are happy to find candidates who have this type of training. Still, it should be emphasized that the Writing Program positions are available on a competitive basis, and there is never any guarantee that a student will be offered a position.

In a word: you cannot assume that you will be funded beyond the fifth year.

VIII. Advising

At the beginning of each semester, all pre-generals students meet individually with the DGS to discuss their schedules. Before meeting with the DGS, linguists should discuss their schedules with the Director of Linguistics (Professor Babby in 2005-2006). The meeting should cover not only the present semester, but also — insofar as this is possible — future plans.

After generals, the dissertation adviser approves the schedule (which often consists solely of research and writing). At this point, the advising should focus on the dissertation itself.

IX. Requirements

The Graduate School at Princeton University does not insist upon course requirements for its Ph.D. programs. The Slavic Department does not require that students take any specific courses. We do, however, strongly recommend some, but see page 8 above, and if students are confident that they can master the material independently, they always have that option.

Russian language:

Since Russian is the basis of most of the work done in this department, students are asked to demonstrate proficiency each pre-generals year on a diagnostic test. The test is usually given on the day of registration (or shortly before), and results are used to make course recommendations and to determine whether the knowledge is sufficient to qualify the student as a teacher of Russian. The exam consists primarily of translations (without dictionary) from Russian to English, with a shorter section of translations from English to Russian. There is also an oral component conducted by native speakers in the department.

Other languages:

In addition to English and Russian, students must demonstrate proficiency in two modern languages. Linguists need two other Slavic languages, while literature students have the option of substituting French and/or German for one and/or both of them. One year of Princeton instruction in a second Slavic language satisfies this requirement. In the case of French and German, students should consult the DGS before taking steps to satisfy the requirement.

Many students find that they wish to continue study of second Slavic languages beyond the required first year (indeed, two years of study is strongly recommended if the language is to become a genuine tool of research and source of aesthetic and intellectual pleasure). The summer between the first and second years is often spent in Central Europe, where students develop fluency in the language that they began in September.

The requirements should be satisfied before Generals. In the case of linguistics graduate students, however, the second non-Russian Slavic language can be taken in the year following Generals.

X. Teaching Experience

The Graduate School at Princeton University does not require graduate students to teach as part of their stipend. However, students who wish to continue in the field should be aware that teaching experience is an essential part of their training. Virtually all Slavic graduate students teach language. In addition, literature students are advised to precept a literature course for at least a semester. Linguists are encouraged to teach in the general linguistics program.

Russian language teaching is supervised by the language coordinator, who provides an orientation on methodology at the beginning of the semester and visits the course on at least one occasion during the semester. (This visit is always arranged in advance with the graduate assistant.) The degree of supervision in literature and linguistics courses depends on the professor. If students feel insufficiently supervised, they should speak with the instructor. If this does not solve the problem, the student should contact the DGS, who will attempt to find a way to remedy the situation.

Teaching schedules vary depending on student availability and faculty needs, but a logical time to begin would be the sixth semester, with the bulk of the teaching occupying the fourth year. There is little reason to begin teaching before generals have been completed, as this time can be put to better use reading for courses, writing papers, and preparing for generals. Nor is there much financial incentive, since the graduate stipend increases only slightly for pre-generals students who teach. Nonetheless, the opportunity occasionally arises, and certain students are eager to take it. This is ultimately an individual decision, and the faculty respects the students' choices.

XI. M.A. Degree

The M.A. requirements for the Dept. of Slavic Languages and Literatures are as follows:

- 1) Courses: successful completion of 10 approved courses (eight of which must be graduate courses)
- 2) Languages:
 - a) For linguists: Russian and reading knowledge of one other Slavic language
 - b) For literature students: Russian and reading knowledge of two of the following: French, German, a second Slavic language

Note: In lieu of these requirements, a student may receive an M.A. by passing the General Examinations.

The M.A. degree is free of charge, but you are required to submit an application:
<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/GraduateSchool/AcademicAffairs/HomePage/degapproc.htm>

It is recommended that this be done promptly, as this degree can prove very useful (particularly abroad, where it helps with archival access, raises Fulbright awards, etc.).

XII. General Examination

According to the Graduate School of Princeton University, general exams should be taken *before* the fifth semester begins. However, the realities of graduate study in Slavic lead many students to take generals in the fifth semester. This still leaves time to do research and write an excellent dissertation by the conclusion of the fifth year, but it does not leave much time for dallying. For those who fear this may not be sufficient, see the section on "Funding" (Chapter VI).

The general examination consists of written and oral portions. It is designed to ascertain the student's general knowledge of the subject, acquaintance with scholarly methods of research, and ability to organize and present material. The examination is comprehensive and is not restricted to the content of graduate courses. It is based on course

work and the graduate reading lists. The satisfactory completion of the written examination is a condition for admission to the oral examination.

The generals differ considerably for students in the literature and linguistics programs. In both cases, the written exams are based on a reading list of essential materials. Literature generals consist of two days of written exams (one day on 19th-century literature, the other on 20th-century literature; some overlap is possible). Students write three essays each day (there will be a choice) for a total of five hours (three one-hour essays, two hours to outline and edit). Dictionaries are permitted. A brief oral exam takes place on a third day. It lasts about 45 minutes and focuses only on portions of the writings that need further explanation. Literature from before 1800 is *not* be part of the general exam, but it is covered in a special graduate seminar. Exams are typically written on Monday and Wednesday, with the oral portion on Friday. In addition to this (streamlined) exam, literature students do an oral presentation approximately six weeks later. If the exams are done in January, this next section will be done the week after spring break. This is NOT part of the general exams, but rather, a workshop presentation on the dissertation topic. To prepare for this, students must submit a set of basic questions and a bibliography consisting of primary literature and about 12 pertinent items of secondary literature (a combination of essays and books, both broadly theoretical and specialized). Some of these works will be familiar from seminars; others should be new, drawn on consultations with faculty and independent research. Students speak for about 15 minutes (from notes, NOT reading a written text) about why this subject interests them, what their study might accomplish, what theoretical approaches will be most relevant and what specific studies already exist in the area. The next 30-45 minutes will be devoted to a discussion of the subject, with faculty posing questions and making suggestions. The more prepared the student is, the more productive the discussion will be. This exercise will not be graded, but it is a non-negotiable part of the passage to PhD candidacy. The prospectus, which should draw heavily on this colloquy, is due at the end of that semester, though in many cases it should be possible to write it within a week of the workshop.

The written exam for linguists covers synchronic and diachronic Slavic linguistics. The oral exam tests understanding of linguistic theory and is based in part on written work. The linguistic oral examination should typically be taken within one semester after the written examination is passed.

To assist student preparation, copies of earlier exams are kept on file and accessible in the Department Manager's office. Ph.D. general examinations are administered three times throughout the academic year: October, January, and May.

If a student fails the general examination, he or she may stand for reexamination within a year. If unsuccessful the second time, the student may not take the examination again, and degree candidacy automatically terminates.

XIII. Dissertation

- **Choosing a topic:**

Ideally, but not always, a dissertation topic emerges from work done in a seminar. It is by no means a disastrous scenario if the student finishes generals without knowing what the dissertation subject will be. It simply means that the next few months must be spent devising a topic and reading sufficiently to write a convincing proposal.

- **The prospectus:**

The dissertation prospectus should be about ten pages long, with an additional several pages of provisional bibliography. Samples of past dissertation proposals are on file with the Department Manager. It should be emphasized that the prospectus is not necessarily a road map. Sometimes the best dissertations diverge widely from the prospectus that preceded them. Still, the prospectus should give a good sense of the basic issues, what research already exists on the subject, and the general methodology that you plan to use. It should also contain a preliminary overview of the whole, giving a sense of what will be covered in each chapter. The prospectus is submitted to the dissertation adviser. When it is accepted by the adviser, a copy should be given to Department Manager as well. The dissertation prospectus should be submitted no later than a semester after the completion of general exams.

At Princeton, all dissertations must be written in English, but beyond that, specifics depend on the adviser. As a rule, literature dissertations are 150-200 pages long. Citations from foreign languages are usually accompanied by an English translation.

- **Choosing an adviser:**

There are two essential questions that students should consider before selecting an adviser:

- 1) Who best understands the material I wish to work with?
- 2) Has this faculty member given me constructive feedback on earlier work?

If you feel that your relationship with a faculty member is - for whatever reason - poor and unlikely to improve, you should not choose him/her as an adviser. Keep in mind that, at Princeton, the second reader does nothing more than read the finished product and write a brief report on it. It is therefore paramount that you have a good working relationship with your primary adviser.

- **The adviser's duties:**

Students often overestimate the adviser's role. His/her function is not to rewrite your work according to his/her greater wisdom, but simply to help you organize your arguments, to point out illogical thinking, glaring errors and omissions. While it is fine to come to your adviser to "bounce ideas around," keep in mind that all advisers find it much easier (and more efficient) to comment on written work than on ideas presented orally. Most students wait too long before beginning to write. There is often a sense in dissertations that you don't know enough to begin. However, if you really wait until you know enough, it's probably too late. Learning takes place as you write. It is best just to begin - even if it means starting in the middle of the third chapter and working your way backwards.

Advisers are busy, but they make special efforts to return dissertation chapters as quickly as possible. Students who have not received feedback within a month of handing something in should not hesitate to ask when they should expect comments. If the comments are not forthcoming within a week of this query, the student should speak with the DGS, who will make further inquiries.

Any regular faculty member at Princeton University can serve as a dissertation adviser. It is rare to select an adviser from outside of the department, though it is not impossible.

- **Dissertation colloquium:**

All post-generals literature students who are in residence participate in a dissertation colloquium. The purpose of the colloquium is essentially one of support. The dissertation process can be a lonely one, and it is important that students have the opportunity to share their work with others. In this spirit, all students present written work and get input from peers. Attendance is mandatory (also for those students with DCC status) and readmission is contingent on participation.

- **Rules on dissertation format:**

The Graduate School and Seeley G. Mudd Library (where dissertations are retained) have specific rules and guidelines regarding format, type of paper, binding, delivery, etc. **It is imperative that you refer to their web sites regarding these requirements early in your dissertation writing stage:**

<http://www.princeton.edu/~mudd/thesis/index.shtml>

<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/GraduateSchool/AcademicAffairs/HomePage/index.htm>

As the dissertation nears completion, it is the student's task to line up 2 official readers (one being your advisor) and 2 examiners. All four professors need as much notice as possible to agree to read the dissertation AND to agree on a date for the dissertation defense. Once the date has been established, the student should meet with the Department Manager to arrange submission (a minimum of two weeks in advance of the defense date) of the following materials:

- _____ Degree application
 - _____ Two unbound copies of dissertation
 - _____ Four photocopies of abstract (not to exceed 250 words)
 - _____ Four photocopies of the title page
 - _____ University microfilm agreement form
 - _____ Doctoral Dissertation Agreement
 - _____ Check payable to: Princeton University Library for \$120.00 (or \$80 without copyright fee)
-

XIV. Final Public Oral Examination

In the final public oral examination, the candidate defends the dissertation in the presence of departmental faculty, graduate students, and other informed or interested persons and is expected to demonstrate mastery of the subject and effectiveness in oral discourse. Before the final public oral can be scheduled, the Department must receive authorization from the Graduate School to hold the Final Public Oral examination. Once approved, the Department is required to prominently display the date, time, and location of the exam for a *minimum* of three business days between the authorization and the defense date. There must be at least THREE principal examiners, normally members of the Princeton faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor or above, at least two of whom have *not* been principal readers of the dissertation.

XV. Professional Preparation and the Job Market

Since the excitement of the Gorbachev years and the end of the cold war, the Slavic field has been undergoing a certain degree of compression. Considering these factors and the less than ideal situation in the humanities in general, Princeton graduate students in Slavic have fared reasonably well. Since the graduate program was reinstated (after a thirty-year hiatus) in 1991, our students have gone on to faculty positions at Bucknell University, New School University, Pomona College, Stanford University, University of Missouri at Columbia, University of Texas at Austin, University of Washington at Seattle, and Wellesley College.

Most universities and colleges seeking to fill openings in Slavic conduct interviews at the AATSEEL conference, which takes place annually between Christmas and New Year. Prospective candidates are asked to submit a dossier (a cover letter, transcript, letters of recommendation, a writing sample) in October or early November. On the basis of these

materials, interviews are scheduled, and a few finalists are then invited to a campus interview, which generally consists of numerous meetings with faculty and a job talk.

The Princeton faculty prepares students for all aspects of the job search by reading cover letters, writing individualized recommendations (i.e. if necessary, several different letters for the same candidate), holding practice interviews, listening to job talks. However, there is only so much the faculty can do. Much depends on the dissertation itself. In addition, certain elements will make a job application stronger, for example:

- a) extensive experience in Russia
- b) genuine fluency in a second Slavic language (and literature)
- c) a published paper (preferably unrelated to the dissertation)
- d) broad scholarly interests (literature students should be prepared to teach film and contemporary culture)
- e) a teaching profile beyond the Slavic Department (e.g. experience in the writing center)
- f) papers read at national or regional conferences

None of these factors guarantees success, but students should keep them in mind while devising their academic programs.

Graduate students who intend to go on the job market in a given academic year should make this clear as early as possible (no later than the beginning of fall semester and preferably in early summer) to their recommenders (usually three letters are required) and to the DGS. Most advertisements ask that the Ph.D. be completed within eight months of application (by June), and it is usually pointless to apply unless this is a very real possibility.

XVI. Alternative Careers

The faculty of the Slavic Department is committed to preparing students optimally for careers in academia. However, for one reason or another, students may decide that this is not the direction they ultimately wish to take. In cooperation with Princeton's Program for Teacher Preparation and the State of New Jersey, the Graduate School has recently initiated a program of teacher certification for New Jersey public schools. This involves two audit courses on educational practice (which can be done during the Ph.D. program) and a practicum experience (usually done after enrollment at Princeton) totaling thirty hours in

local schools. While this is not part of the standard Ph.D. trajectory, it offers students an alternative career that would call upon many of the skills and resources developed in graduate school. It also allows students to remain in the New York/Philadelphia area (which cannot be said about most university jobs). For further information, contact John Webb at jwebb@princeton.edu or 258-4527.

XVII. Residency, Change of Status

- **Residency:**

There is a graduate school residency requirement of a minimum of one full academic year in residence in or near Princeton before generals. In fact, almost all students reside in Princeton at least through generals and many beyond that. After generals, it is far less significant where students live, provided they have good access to the materials they need for the dissertation.

- **In Absentia Status**

Students may be recommended for reenrollment with in absentia status if they need to use educational resources that are not available in Princeton. In absentia status is normally granted for only one year to students who have passed the general examination. Students are encouraged to seek financial aid outside the University for the time spent in absentia. Students enrolled in absentia are not required to pay tuition. All appropriate University benefits, with the exception of housing, are continued. If the student has been supported on a University fellowship or other University award, the fee for the student health plan is included in the benefits. If the student is supported on an outside grant during the in absentia period which covers the health fee, the grant will be charged.

- **Leave of Absence Policy**

Continuous enrollment between admission and the completion of degree work is considered the norm. Circumstances, however, may force students to interrupt their studies

temporarily. Up to a year's leave of absence for personal reasons may therefore be granted by the Graduate School to students in good standing on the recommendation of the department. An extension may be requested and granted for only one additional year. Students on a leave of absence are not engaged in full-time Princeton degree work.

Students seeking a leave of absence must discuss their request with both their DGS and the associate dean for academic affairs in 201 Nassau Hall.

Leaves should be timed, whenever possible, to come at the end of the term, preferably at the end of a full academic year. Reenrollment after leave does not depend on ranking among new applicants, but is subject only to confirmation of continued professional suitability and a written request for reenrollment. Requests must be received by December 15 for return the following spring term, and by March 15 for return the following fall term.

Financial support cannot be guaranteed to students returning from leave, but in practice is nearly always renewed at prior levels.

- **Termination**

When graduate students come to the end of their regular period of enrollment and support in their degree program (five years), they are required to terminate their enrollment. Normally, these students finish their degree work in the next year. This status is called "enrollment terminated, degree candidacy continues." (DCC)

The Graduate School may also terminate a student's degree candidacy when, upon recommendation of the department, the student has not made satisfactory academic progress or when a student on leave has not requested reenrollment. In the case of Ph. D. students in particular, degree candidacy terminates automatically after a second failure of the general examination or after five years from the date of the student's having passed the general examination if the student has not maintained regular contact with the department and dissertation adviser.

- **Health Insurance:**

Health insurance is included as part of the graduate stipend. However, once students begin to teach, they have the alternative of participating in the faculty health insurance program. This is not worth doing for single students, but those with a partner (or family)

may find this an attractive alternative. Be advised, however, that once you switch away from the student policy, you cannot ever go back to it. Before doing so, therefore, be certain to speak to the Graduate School and ascertain that it is the best long-term choice for you.

XVIII. General Departmental Information

Department Lounge

The Slavic Department Conference Room (lounge) is essentially a place for graduate students to socialize, relax, and study. The door to this room is to remain locked at all times. This will discourage interlopers (the hallway will be full of students with no connection to our Department) and ensure the safety of students' belongings (and the departmental library). Students should feel free to eat here as long as they make certain that all library books are off the tables. Unless the department has specifically approved it, no alcohol can be consumed in this room. Because of an unfortunate incident in spring of 2003, the department is under careful scrutiny by the dean of the college, and any infractions in this area will result in severe disciplinary action over which the department has no control. If you want to consume alcohol, do it elsewhere.

Bulletin boards

There are bulletin boards outside of the department lounge. Please check these boards regularly for official notices regarding deadlines, fellowships, research opportunities, and miscellaneous postings. There is also a board with Linguistics information on the lower floor of East Pyne.

Job Postings

The Department often receives announcements of positions in Russian literature and Slavic linguistics as they become available at other academic institutions. These announcements are kept in the front counter in the Department office in a black binder titled Job Postings. Since there is only one copy, please review the postings in the department.

MLA, AAASS, AATSEEL

The department receives these three newsletters, which are available to students for review. These, too, need to stay in the Departmental office for everyone's access. Employment opportunities and conference information can be found in these newsletters.

SEELANGS: This is a list-serve for people in the Slavic profession. If you don't mind getting bombarded with messages, it's a good way to find out news in the field.

Keys

Access to East Pyne outside of business hours is available with your ID card. There are scanners on all exterior doors. Keys are given to all students to access the lounge, and should be returned at the end of your Ph.D. degree candidacy.

Stipend Checks

Paychecks are distributed to your mailbox on the last weekday of each month.

Housing

On-Campus: The Graduate School has a very good web site available at: <http://webware.princeton.edu/GSO/housing.htm> with helpful information.

Off-campus: Notices regarding off-campus housing are kept in a red binder titled Housing Opportunities. Check the red folder in the main office. There are also an excellent listing on the following web site: <http://www.princeton.edu/usg/salesline/>

Conferences

The Department has a small fund available to help defray the costs of traveling to no more than one scholarly conference a year where a paper is being presented. You need to submit in writing to the DGS a letter with the name of the conference, a budget and list of other sources from which you have or will have requested monies.

The Graduate School also offers support from the Dean's Fund for Scholarly Travel during the academic year, September through May, and from the Association of Princeton graduate Alumni (APGA) during the summer, June through August. Requests are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. The application, which should be submitted prior to the conference, consists of a letter describing the event to which you have been invited, a brief budget statement of the costs of the proposed trip, a copy of the letter of invitation to present a paper or a copy of the program showing your paper scheduled, a letter of support from the DGS, and, in the case of post-Generals students, a letter of support from your advisor. These latter two documents should specify whether you can expect to receive any support from the Department or a source other than the Graduate School, and if so, how much. The maximum grant amount will be \$500, and you can receive only one grant per academic year. For more information, please refer to:

<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/GraduateSchool/AcademicAffairs/HomePage/deansfund.htm>

XIX. Important Dates for 2005-2006

Fall Term 2005

September 2	Beginning of Graduate Student Registration to be completed by September 14th
September 13	First-Year Graduate Student Orientation
September 15	Fall Term Classes Begin
October 10	General Examinations for the Ph.D. begin
October 14	Deadline for November Degree Applications
October 30	General Examinations for the Ph.D. end
October 29	Fall Recess Begins
November 7	Classes Resume
November 23	Thanksgiving Recess Begins After Last Class
November 28	Classes Resume
December 10	Deadline for fall term course changes
December 18	Winter Recess Begins After Last Class
December 23	Deadline for January Degree Applications
January 9	Reading Period Begins
January 9	General Examinations for the Ph.D. Begin
January 17	Reading Period Ends
January 18	Fall Term Examinations Begin
January 28	General Examinations for the Ph.D. End
January 28	Last Day of Fall Term Examinations

Spring Term 2005

February 6	Spring Term Classes Begin
March 18	Spring Recess Begins
March 27	Classes Resume
April 24	General Examinations for the Ph.D. begin
May 5	Deadline for May Degree Applications
May 5	Deadline for spring term course changes
May 8	Reading Period Begins
May 16	Reading Period Ends
May 17	Spring Term Examinations Begin
May 27	Spring Term Examinations End
May 26	General Examinations for the Ph.D. End
June 4	Baccalaureate
June 6	Commencement Day
