

**KSANA BLANK**  
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## **EDUCATION**

**Columbia University**, NY – Ph.D. in Russian Literature, 1997

*Dissertation*: "The Endless Passage: The Making of a Plot in the Russian Novel"

**St. Petersburg (Leningrad) State University**, Russia – B.A. in French Philology, 1979

## **TEACHING**

**Princeton University**, 9/2000 - present time, Lecturer

### Undergraduate courses:

- Advanced Russian Reading and Conversation (3<sup>rd</sup> year Russian)
- Advanced Russian Reading, Composition, and Conversation (4<sup>th</sup> year Russian)
- Russian Literature and Spirituality (Freshman Seminar)
- The Russian Short Story
- Twentieth Century Russian Story (Reading Course)

### Graduate courses:

- 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novelists (Graduate Seminar on Tolstoy)
- Russian Stylistics

### Graduate courses team-taught with Caryl Emerson:

- 19<sup>th</sup> Century Novelists (Graduate Seminar on Tolstoy)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Russian Approaches to Literature: Russian Formalists, Bakhtin, Cultural Semiotics
- The Evolution of Russian Prose
- Proseworks From the List
- Topics in Russian Spiritual Philosophy

### Graduate course team-taught with Michael Wachtel

- Russian literature before 1800

### "Princeton-in-Petersburg" (Princeton Russian Summer School in St. Petersburg, Russia)

- Dostoevsky Module

**Hunter College, CUNY**, NY, 97–98 Adj. Assistant Professor, 1/93–5/97 Adj. Lecturer

- 19th Century Russian Literature
- Dostoevsky
- Russian Short Story
- Classical Russian Poetry
- Novel and Ideology
- Religion of the Russian People
- Modern Russian Literature (1900s–1940)
- Present Day Russian Literature (1960s–1990s)
- Practical Translation

**Columbia University**, NY, Fall 94 Adjunct Lecturer, 87–92 Teaching Assistant

- Introduction to 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Russian Literature [for Irina Reyfman's courses]
- 20th century Russian Literary Criticism (Reading Course for Graduate Students)
- First, Second, Third and Fourth year Russian

**Middlebury College, VT, Russian Summer School**, Language Instructor, Summers 88-93

- Second and Third year of Intensive Russian

## PUBLICATIONS

### Articles:

"*The Rabbit and the Duck: Antinomic Unity in Dostoevskij, the Russian Religious Tradition, and Mikhail Bakhtin.*" *Studies in East European Thought* (a thematic issue devoted to "Dostoevskij's Significance for Philosophy and Theology"), Forthcoming in 2007.

"*Ierotopiia Dostoevskogo i Tolstogo.*" *Ierotopiia: sozdanie sakral'nykh prostranstv*. Ed. Alexey Lidov. Moscow: Indrik. Forthcoming in 2007.

"'Putem zerna': motiv elevsinskikh misterii v romane 'Brat'a Karamazovy.'" *Word, Music, History: A Festschrift for Caryl Emerson*, eds. Lazar Fleishman, Gabriella Safran, and Michael Wachtel, Stanford Slavic Studies, Vols 29-30, Stanford, 2005, 416-432.

"The Invisible City of Kitezh As an Alternative 'New Jerusalem'." *Hierotopy: Studies in the Making of Sacred Spaces*, ed. by Alexei Lidov, Moscow, 2006.

"V poiskakh ikonichnosti: Tolstoi i Malevich." *Russkaia literatura*, St. Petersburg: Akademiia Nauk SSSR, Institut russkoi literatury, no 1, 2004, 33-42.

"Geometry of Irrational Behavior: The Pattern of Complexity in Dostoevsky." *Understanding/Misunderstanding. Contributions to the Study on the Hermeneutics of Signs*. Ed. by Eero Tarasti. Acta Semiotica Fennica XVI. Helsinki: International Semiotics Institute at Imatra, Finland 2003, 532-542.

"Myshkin i Oblomov." *Roman F.M. Dostoevskogo "Idiot": Sovremennoe sostoianie izucheniia*. Edited by T. Kasatkina. Moscow, 2000, 472-481.

"Bulgakov's *Master and Margarita* and the Music of Igor Stravinsky." *Slavonica*, UK, 2000, 6/2, 28-43.

"The Pen-and-ink Drawing of Utopia in Dostoevsky's 'Dream of a Ridiculous Man'." *Utopias*. Edited by N. Thomas. Durham Modern Languages Series, University of Durham, UK, 2000, 101-116.

"Peterburg, Krym i mif vechnogo vozvrashcheniia: *Mashen'ka i Evgenii Onegin*." *Pushkin i Nabokov: materialy mezhdunarodnoi nauchnoi konferentsii*. St. Petersburg: Dorn, 1999, 139-145.

"O nazvaniikh Dovlatovskikh knizhek." *Sergei Dovlatov: tvorchestvo, lichnost', sud'ba*. Ed. by A. Ar'ev. St. Petersburg, Russia, 1999, 285-290.

"Na rassvete *shestnadtsatogo* chisla vesennego mesiatsa nisana: apofatizm romana 'Master i Margarita.' *Mikhail Bulgakov na iskhode XX veka: materialy vos'mykh mezhdunarodnykh Bulgakovskikh chtenii v S.-Peterburge*. Biblioteka Sankt-Peterburgskogo Bulgakovskogo Obshchestva series. Vol. 2. Edited by A.A.

Ninov, A.A. Grubin, A.S. Burmistrov. St. Petersburg: Russian Institute of the History of Arts, 1999, 134-44.

"O Lolite Nabokova." *Nabokovskii Vestnik. Peterburgskie Chteniia*. Ed. by V. Stark. Sankt–Peterburgskii muzei V.V. Nabokova/"Dorn", Vyp. 1. 1998, 101–109.

"Lev Tolstoy's Suprematist Icon–Painting." *Elementa: Journal of Slavic Studies and Comparative Cultural Semiotics*. Vol. 2, no. 1, 1995, 67-81.

"Po zakoldovannym mestam Gogolia." *Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie* (Theory and History of Literature, Criticism, Bibliography), Moscow, Russia, no. 11, 1995, 177-180.

#### **Review articles and book-reviews:**

Review of Thomas Seifrid. *The Word Made Self: Russian Writings on Language, 1860-1930*. Canadian-American Slavic Studies, Forthcoming in 2007.

Book review of Sarah Hudspith. *Dostoevsky and the Idea of Russianness. A New Perspective on Unity and Brotherhood*. Forthcoming in *SEEJ* 49.4 (Winter, 2005).

"Listening to the Other: Bakhtin's Dialogues with Religion, Cultural Theory, and the Classics." Review article of *Bakhtin and Religion: A Feeling for Faith, Bakhtin and Cultural Theory, and Bakhtin and the Classics*". *SEEJ*, 47.2, (Summer, 2003) 283-91.

#### **Translations:**

Ellen Chances, "'Ekologiii' cheloveka v romane Bitova 'Oglashennye': ptitsy, granitsy, sviazi i pauzy." *Oktiabr'*, #4. Forthcoming in April 2007.

Caryl Emerson, "Ob odnoi postsovetsoi zhurnal'noi polemike (razmyshleniia storonnego nabliudatel'ia)." Authorized translation. *Voprosy literatury*, July-August 2005, 4-40.

#### **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

"Petersburg Myth, Petrograd Reality, and *City Dreams* in Dobuzhinsky's Graphic Art of the Early 1920s. Colloquium "The 'World of Art' and Russian Culture". February 17, 06.

"Underground and Sky: Hierotopy in Dostoevsky and Tolstoy." International Symposium "Hierotopy: Studies in the Making of Sacred Space." Center of the Eastern Orthodox Culture and State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, June 29 – July 2, 2004.

"Dialogue and Daoism." International Symposium on the Studies of Bakhtin held at Xiangtan University, Xiangtan, Hunan, China, June 18-21, 2004.

"Mandat Neba: Tolstoi i Konfutsii." International Conference on Tolstoy. Yasnaia Poliana – Tula – Moscow, September 2003.

"Nevidimyi grad Kitezkh kak prototip i antiteza mifologicheskogo obraza Peterburga." Symposium "The Petersburg Myth in Russian Culture." Middlebury College, VT, Summer Russian School, July 2003.

"The Language of Shapes and Colors: Tolstoy as a Modernist Artist." AATSEEL Conference, New York. Panel "North American Tolstoy Society", December 2002.

"Communicative Function of the Benediction Gesture In the Eastern Orthodox Church." 2001 International Conference "ORALity and GESTuality," Aix-en-Provence, France, June 2001.

"Komarovo (Kellomiaki) Akhmatovoi i Brodskogo." VI ICCEES World Congress at Tampere, Finland, July-August 2000.

"Restoring Harmony in the World: The Confucian Concept of Music in Tolstoy's *What is Art?*" Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference, Princeton University, March 2000.

"Philosophy of A Dot: Graphic Model of Underground and Crystal Palace (Dostoevsky's *Notes from the Underground*)." AAASS conference. St. Louis, November 1999.

"Geometry of Irrational Behavior: The Pattern of Complexity in Dostoevsky." International Institute for Semiotic and Structural Studies. 1999 Annual Congress. Imatra, Finland, June 1999.

"St. Petersburg, Crimea and Myth of the Eternal Return: Nabokov's *Mary* and Pushkin's *Eugene Onegin*." International Conference on Pushkin and Nabokov organized by The Institute of Russian Literature (Pushkinskii Dom) and Nabokov's Museum at St. Petersburg, Russia, April 1999.

"Stravinsky's Methods of Composition in Bulgakov's Prose: *L'Histoire du Soldat* and *The Master and Margarita*." 1999 BASEES Annual Convention, Cambridge University, UK, March 1999.

"*Conquest of the Irrational*: Reading Gogol Along With Salvador Dali." AATSEEL Conference, San Francisco, December 1998.

"The Model of the Creation and Destruction of Eden in Dostoevsky's 'Dream of the Ridiculous Man.'" Durham University, UK, September 1998.

"The Youngest Sons"—Prince Myshkin and Ilya Oblomov." Tenth Triennial Symposium of the International Dostoevsky Society, New York, July 1998.

"Title as a Point of View." First International Conference on Sergei Dovlatov and City Culture of St. Petersburg and New York organized by the literary magazine *Zvezda*, St. Petersburg, Russia, May 1998.

"The Wisdom of Stillness: Folk and Patristic Roots of Goncharov's *Oblomov*." Columbia University Seminar: Slavic History and Culture, New York, October 1997.

"The Antithesis of Saturday and Sunday in Bulgakov's *Master and Margarita*." 8th International Conference on Bulgakov ("Mikhail Bulgakov and 20 Century European Culture") organized by the Russian Institute of the History of Arts, St-Petersburg, Russia, May 1997.

"The Reward for the Abridged Version of the Gospel: Bulgakov's *The Maste and Margarita*." The Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference AAASS, New York, March 1995.

"Suprematist Icon-Painting of Lev Tolstoy." International Symposium on "Miracle-working Icon in Orthodox Culture." Center of the Eastern Orthodox Culture and State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, Russia, June 1994.

"The Fight Between *D'iavol* and *Chert* Over the Soul of Ivan Karamazov." The Mid-Atlantic Conference AAASS, Villanova, PA, March 1994.

"Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment* as a Fairy Tale." AATSEEL Conference, Toronto, Canada, December 1993.

"The Rite of Passage in Tolstoy's *Childhood, Boyhood, Youth*." AATSEEL Conference, New York, December 1992.

"The Russian Boy' as a Specific Type of Protagonist in the 19th Russian Literature." The Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference AAASS, New York, March 1992.

"Maiden on the Shore: Karamzin's *Poor Liza*, Pushkin's *Mermaid*, Nabokov's *Lolita*." AATSEEL Conference, San Francisco, December 1991.

"*The Brothers Karamazov*: The Figure of the Public Prosecutor as a Parody of the Critic of the Time." AATSEEL Conference, Chicago, December 1990

"Non-standard Speech Etiquette." AATSEEL Conference, Washington, DC, December 1989.

"The Roots of Captain Lebyadkin's Poetry (Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*)." Third Annual Ivy League Graduate Student Conference in Slavic and Soviet Studies. Harvard University, Boston, April 1988.

## **INVITED LECTURES**

- Guest lecture on Dostoevsky's *Brothers Karamazov* for Princeton course "HUM 218-219: Approaches to Western Culture, From the Renaissance to the Modern Period" taught by Profs. Anthony Grafton, Benjamin Kafka, François Rigolot, and Maurizio Viroli. April 27, 2005.
- "Tolstoy and Confucius." Institute of Foreign Literature at The Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, June 17, 2004.

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

*Dostoevsky's Dialectics* (book-length project).