

OLGA AKSAKALOVA

Education

Ph.D. Candidate in English, The Graduate School and University Center, CUNY (2002-Present)
M.Phil. in English, The Graduate School and University Center, CUNY (2007)
Certificate Program in Film Studies, The Graduate School and University Center, CUNY
B.A. in English and Sociology, Queens College, CUNY. Magna Cum Laude

Fields of Interest

20th Century American and European Literature
Autobiography
Film
Writing and Communication Pedagogy

Professional Memberships

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Honors and Awards

Phi Beta Kappa
Golden Key National Honor Society
Slavic Honor Society, *Dobro Slovo*
University Tuition Awards
CUNY Writing Fellowship

Teaching and Related Experience

Fall 2007-
Present

Baruch College, CUNY, New York, NY
CUNY Writing Fellow and Communication Fellow (WAC/WID) Bernard L. Schwartz Communication Institute

- Conduct workshops and tutorials for students undertaking writing and communication projects in Great Works of Literature and Management courses
- Develop and facilitate faculty development roundtables
- Conduct in-class workshops that illustrate effective strategies to teach communication in a content-driven course
- Help to design assessment program for the Great Works of Literature curriculum
- Contribute posts to the web blog Conversations in Communication Across the Curriculum (www.cac.ophony.org)
- Participate in the Institute's annual Symposium on communication in academic and business environments
- Attended WAC/WID seminars and developed workshops for CUNY WAC/WID faculty and Fellows (2007-2009)

Spring 2004-
Summer 2007
Fall 2010-Present

Baruch College, CUNY, New York, NY
Consultant, Writing Center

- Conduct consulting sessions for undergraduate and graduate students across disciplines
- Provide online consultations (E-tutoring and online chat)
- Write session reports for students and their professors after each consultation
- Complete and respond to peer consultants' session observations
- Introduce students to online resources
- Lead workshops
- Develop and lead staff development meetings
- Provided in-class tutorials in ESL sections of College Composition and Introduction to Literature courses (2006-2007)
- Led training sessions and professional development meetings for peer tutors (2004-2006)
- Developed resources for faculty, students, and fellow consultants (2007)
- Collaborated with consultants and Director to assess the Writing Center's role in the development of undergraduate studies (2007)
- Helped to compile Writing Center Handbook (2007)

Fall 2008-
Spring 2010

Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ
Adjunct Lecturer, College of Arts and Letters

- Taught Basic English Skills: an intensive written and oral communication course for international students (Fall 2008)

Writing and Communication Specialist, Writing and Communication Center

- Assisted undergraduate and graduate students in writing humanities essays, engineering reports, articles for publication, Masters/Ph.D. theses, personal statements for graduate and professional programs, resumes, and cover letters
- Prepared students for oral presentations and interviews
- Engaged ESL students in conversation practice
- Developed and ran a weekly series aiming to foster creativity and develop close reading techniques through appreciation of literature
- Designed and led workshops on writing and communication topics
- Selected Writing Center literature
- Developed supplemental materials and web content

Summer 2007

Baruch College, CUNY, New York, NY
Adjunct Lecturer, Student Academic Consulting Center

- Taught basic writing courses with emphasis on ESL in the Summer Immersion Program
- Participated in weekly professional development meetings

**Spring 2006-
Fall 2006**

The Graduate School and University Center, CUNY, New York, NY
Adjunct Lecturer, Interdisciplinary Studies

- Taught Effective Academic Writing course to Masters and Ph.D. students (ESL and native speakers) in various disciplines

**Fall 2002 –
Fall 2005**

Queens College, CUNY, Flushing, NY
Adjunct Lecturer, Academic Support Center
Adjunct Lecturer, English Department

- Taught basic writing in the Summer Immersion Program, freshman composition, and introduction to literature
- Participated in and led faculty development meetings
- Developed interdisciplinary assignments with faculty teaching social sciences in the same freshman learning community

Fall 2003

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY, New York, NY
Adjunct Lecturer, English Department

- Taught freshman composition courses
- Completed Teaching Practicum

**Fall 2000 –
Spring 2002**

Queens College, CUNY, Flushing, NY
Peer Tutor, Writing Center

- Conducted one-on-one tutoring sessions on steady basis
- Prepared students for writing skills examinations
- Assisted instructors in Writing Immersion classes

Experience in Advisement and Administration

Spring 2004

Hunter College, CUNY, New York, NY
Counseling Assistant, "Search for Education, Elevation, and Knowledge" (SEEK) Department

- Devised and executed a project aiming to disclose correlation between academic performance and English proficiency
- Created and completed databases that recorded all findings
- Collaborated with ESL and English faculty to enhance support services for the College's ESL population

Spring --
Summer 2002

Queens College, CUNY, Flushing, NY
*Advisement Coordinator, Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies
and Retention*

- Coordinated *The Prelude to Success* Program for conditionally admitted students
- Identified and monitored progress of “at-risk” and ESL students
- Assisted the Dean of Undergraduate Studies in devising and completing longitudinal studies concerning the academic progress of continuing students

Publishing Experience

Spring 2004-
Fall 2005

Accents and Voices, Online Literary Magazine
Managing Editor

- Selected and edited manuscripts
- Assisted in designing the website

Fall 2001

Zoetrope: All Story Literary Magazine, New York, NY
Intern

- Assisted in editing
- Participated in editorial and circulation meetings
- Handled subscriptions and renewals

Summer 2000

Lukeman Literary Management, Ltd. New York
Intern

- Read and evaluated fiction and non-fiction queries and manuscripts
- Performed general office work

Service to Graduate Program

English Student Association Conference Committee. Spring 2003
Course Evaluation Committee. Fall 2003

Professional Conferences

“Absolute Breakdown of Private Communications’: Alfred Kazin’s Route from Private Journal to Published Autobiography, *A Walker in the City*.” Writings of Intimacy in the 20th and 21st Centuries. Loughborough University, UK. September 2010.

“Supporting a Communication-Intensive Curriculum in Great Works of Literature Courses.” Biennial CUNY WAC/WID Conference. New York, 2009.

“Multiple Acts of Translation: The Treatment of Personal and Collective Memories in Andrey Tarkovsky’s *Mirror*.” 6th Biennial Conference of the International Autobiography and Biography Association. Honolulu, June 2008.

“Bridging Walter Pater’s Aestheticism and Willa Cather’s Modernism.” American Literature Association, Annual Conference. Boston, May 2005.

“Jerzy Kosinski’s *The Painted Bird*: Reenactment of Personal Trauma as a Cure for Collective Amnesia.” American Comparative Literature Association, Annual Meeting. PennState University. March 2005.

“Gertrude Stein’s *Q.E.D.*: The Ty/o/pography of Silence as a Venue for Direct Interaction between the Reader and the Text.” International Conference on Silence and Laughter in Literature and the Visual Arts. State University of West Georgia. Atlanta, October 2003.

Publications Under Submission

“With the ‘Hand Fastidious and Bold’: Bridging Walter Pater’s Aestheticism and Willa Cather’s Modernism.” Submitted to the essay collection *Willa Cather and Aestheticism*. Fairleigh Dickinson University Press (US).

Language Ability

Fluent in Russian
Reading knowledge of French