

AGNES KEFELI

Clinical Professor, Religious Studies and History Faculty
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., History Department, Arizona State University, 2001.

Dissertation: "Kräshen Apostasy: Popular Religion, Education, and the Contest over Tatar Identity (1854-1917)."

Fields: Russian and Eurasian history, 1700 to present; Ottoman and Turkish history, 1299 to present; Russian and Eurasian literature, 1800 to present. Advisors: Dr. Stephen Batalden (ASU) and Dr. Uli Schamiloglu (University of Wisconsin).

Arizona Community College Certification in French, Russian, and History, 1997.

D.E.A. (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies), Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, 1985.

Thesis: "Education et Dzhadidisme." Advisors: Alexandre Bennigsen and Chantal Lemerrier-Quelquejay, Professors of History

Second Year Turkish at Institut National des Langues Orientales, 1985.

Maîtrise (A.M.) in Russian, University of Paris IV–Sorbonne, 1982.

Thesis: "La Russie sous le `Joug Tatare', essai d'historiographie." ("Russia Under the `Tatar Yoke': A Historiographical Essay") Advisor: Basile Kerblay, Professor of History.

Mention Très-Bien (with the highest honors).

Licence d'Enseignement du Russe (A.B. in Russian), University of Paris IV–Sorbonne, 1981.

Classe préparatoire à l'École Normale Supérieure (Khâgne), Lycée Fénelon, Paris, 1978-1980

Classe préparatoire à l'École Normale Supérieure (Hypokhâgne), Lycée Henri IV, Paris, 1977-1978

WORK AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Clinical Full Professor, Religious Studies and History Faculty, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, summer 2019-present.

Principal Lecturer, Religious Studies and History Faculty, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, fall 2016-spring 2019.

Principal Lecturer, Multi-Year, Religious Studies and History Faculty, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, 2015-spring 2016

Senior Lecturer, Multi-Year, Religious Studies Faculty, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, 2012-2015

Lecturer, Religious, Multi-Year, Studies Faculty, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, 2004-2012

Graduate Faculty, History, 2011-present

Graduate Faculty, Religious Studies, 2004-present

Honors Disciplinary Faculty, 2004-present

Faculty Associate, History and Religious Studies, Arizona State University, 2001-2004

Tatar language instructor, Summer Critical Languages Institute, Arizona State University, 1995-2002

Faculty Associate, Mesa Community College, French, 1996-1999.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Becoming Muslim in Imperial Russia: Conversion, Apostasy, and Literacy (Cornell University Press, 2014), 312 pages. (Winner of the 2015 Reginald Zelnik Book Prize of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.)

[My book has been positively reviewed in *Slavic Review*, *Journal of Religion*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, *Russian Review*, *Central Asian Survey* and *Nationalities Paper*, by Eileen Kane, Adeeb Khalid, Mustafa Tuna, Eren Tasar, Madina Goldberg, Rozaliya Garipova, and James Meyer, in 2015-2016; in *Istoriia i Arkheologiia*, by O. V. Bol'shakova (in Russian), in 2016; *The American Historical Review*, *Journal of Semitic Studies*, *Kritika*, *Hnet*, *Conversion/Pouvoir et religion (hypotheses.org)*, by Vladimir Bobrovnikov, Jeff Sahadeo, Norihiro Naganawa, Franziska Davies (in German), and Isabelle Poutrin (in French) in 2017.]

My book traces the influence of religious literacy on the development of ethnic identity among the Tatars, the largest Muslim minority in Europe, before the Bolshevik revolution of 1917. It examines the production and reception of Islamic textbooks, from popular medieval Sufi books to the writings of modernist Muslims. By analyzing Russian and Tatar ethnographic and missionary sources, it shows how traditional education with its Sufi mystical components helped to Islamize Finno-Ugric and Turkic peoples in the countryside and set the stage for the successful development of modernist Islam among the Tatars of the Middle Volga in the mid-nineteenth century. Currently Tatar intellectuals and some "official" mullahs of the Spiritual Directorate of Kazan seek to revive both Sufi and modernist traditions to counteract Saudi Arabia influence, which they link with terrorism, and promote a purely Tatar Islam aware of its specificity in a predominantly Christian and secular environment.

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

“New-Age Islam in Russia: Enchantment and Alternative Healing among the Volga Tatars.”

Geistes-, sozial- und kulturwissenschaftlicher Anzeiger 157/158 (2022/ 2023): 137-168.

“In the Land of Giants: Eco-Mythology and Islamic Authority in the Post-Soviet Tatar

Imagination.” *Slavic Review* 82, no. 1 (Spring 2023): 137-158.

“Varieties of Tatar Esotericism in Post-Soviet Russia.” *The Russian Review* 81 (October 2022): 724-46.

- “A Baptized Sufi on the Volga River: Sufi Networks among Eastern Orthodox Tatars in the Nineteenth Century.” *Kriashenskoe Istoricheskoe Obozrenie* (Kryashen Historical Review), Kazan, vol. 1, 2015: 64-82.
- “Noah’s Ark Landed in the Ural Mountains: Ethnic and Ecological Apocalypse in Tatarstan.” *The Russian Review* 73, no. 4 (October 2014): 596-612.
- "The Tale of Joseph and Zulaykha on the Volga Frontier: The Struggle for Gender, Religious, and National Identity in Imperial and Post-Revolutionary Russia." *Slavic Review* 70, no. 2 (Summer 2011): 373-398. (This article won the Berkshire Conference Article Prize for the best article published in any field of history in 2011 and the 2012 Heldt Prize from the Association for Women in Slavic Studies.)
- "L'Islam populaire chez les Tatars chrétiens orthodoxes au XIXe siècle." *Cahiers du monde russe et soviétique* 37, no. 4 (Oct-Dec 1996): 409-28. [Russian translation: “Narodnyi islam u kreshchenykh pravoslavnykh tatar v XIX veke.” In Aleksei Miller, Petr Kabytov and Paul Werth, eds., *Rossiiskaia imperiia v sovremennoi zarubezhnoi literature* (The Russian Empire in Contemporary Foreign Literature) (Moscow, 2005)]
- "La supplique des prêtres de Nižnij-Novgorod en l'an 1636." *Cahiers du monde russe et soviétique* 31, no. 1 (Jan-Mar 1990): 77-94.

Invited Chapters in Books

- “The Return of Jinn and Angels: Repairing Prophetic Authority in Tatarstan.” In *Muslim Religious Authority in Central Eurasia*. Edited by Ron Sela, Paolo Sartori, and Devin DeWeese. Leiden: Brill, 2023, pp. 71-98.
- “Nikolai II’minskii and His Role among the Natives of the Middle Volga: a Historiographical Essay.” *The Turks*. Edited by Yusuf Halacoğlu. Vol. 5 (2002): 753-759. Also translated in Turkish as “Nikolay II’minskiy: Orta Volga Müslüman ve Türk Halkları üzerindeki Siyaseti.” *Türkler*. Vol. 18 (2002): 451-459.
- "The Role of Tatar and Kriashen Women in the Transmission of Islamic Knowledge (1800-1870)." In *Of Religion and Empire: Missions, Conversion, and Tolerance in Tsarist Russia*. Edited by Michael Khodarkovsky and Robert Geraci. New York: Cornell University Press, 2001, pp. 250-273.
- "Constructing an Islamic Identity: The Case of Elyshevo Village in the Nineteenth Century." In *Russia's Orient: Imperial Borderlands and Peoples, 1700-1917*. Edited Daniel Brower and Edward Lazzarini. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1997, pp. 271-91.
- "Une note sur le rôle des femmes tatares converties au christianisme dans la réislamisation de la Moyenne-Volga au milieu du XIXe siècle." In *L'Islam de Russie: Conscience communautaire et autonomie politique chez les Tatars de la Volga et de l'Oural, depuis le XVIIIe siècle*. Edited by Stéphane Dudoignon, Dämir Is'haqov et Răfyq Möhämätshin. Paris: Maisonneuve et Larose, 1997, pp. 65-71.

Encyclopedia Articles

- "Söyembikä." *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History*. 4 vols. New York: Oxford U. Press, 2008. 2 p.

"Baptized Tatars." *The Supplement to the Modern Encyclopedia of Russian, Soviet, and Eurasian History (SMERSH)*. Edited by Edward J. Lazzerini. Vol. 3 (2001): 199-204.

Blogposts

"Tatar Giants: Pre-Islamic colossi or Islamizers?" in Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Austrian Academy of Sciences), Study of Islam in Central Eurasia (SICE Blog), Feb. 2023, <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/sice/sice-blog/tatar-giants-pre-islamic-colossi-or-islamizers>

"Tatar," American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages, 2022, <https://www.aatturkic.org/tatar>

"Folklore and Religion: Is the Shurale Just a Comic Character of Tatar Fairy Tales?" in Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Austrian Academy of Sciences), Study of Islam in Central Eurasia (SICE Blog), 13 June 2022, <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/sice/sice-blog/folklore-and-religion-is-the-shurale-just-a-comic-character-of-tatar-fairy-tales>

"Tatar New Age in a Muslim Shop", in *New Age in Russia—Ideologies, Networks, Discourses: New religious Cultures in Late and Post-Soviet Russia*, 30/04/2022, <https://newageru.hypotheses.org/?p=6421>

Reports and Popular Articles

"Islamic Education, Religious Revival, and the Contest over Tatar identity, 1800 to the Present." Report for Individual Advanced Research Opportunity Program, 2008.

"Tatar: The Language of Russia's Largest Ethnic Minority." American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages, 2006. <https://aatturkic.org/aatt/article/123623>.

"Report on the Teaching of Intensive Tatar at Arizona State University, Summer 1996," *American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages Bulletin*, no. 20 (Fall 1996): 22-24.

"Report on the Teaching of Intensive Tatar at Arizona State University, Summer 1995," *American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages Bulletin*, no. 18-19 (Spring 1996): 45-47.

"Keräshen qizi Islam yaqi." (Kriashen Women on the Side of Islam) *Söyembikä* no. 3 (March 1995): 16-7.

Reviews

Review of Paolo Sartori and Danielle Ross, eds. *Sharia in the Russian Empire: The Reach and Limits of Islamic Law in Central Eurasia, 1500-1900* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2020) in *The Russian Review* 81, no. 2 (April 2022): 372-373.

Review of Danielle Ross, *Tatar Empire: Kazan's Muslims and the Making of Imperial Russia* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2020) on H-Russia (March 2021)

Review of Charles Steinwedel, *Threads of Empire: Loyalty and Tsarist Authority in Bashkiria, 1552-1917* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2016) in *American Historical Review* 122, no. 4 (1 Oct. 2017): 1345-1346.

Review of *Les mutations religieuses en Russie: Conversions et sécularisation* by Françoise Lesourd (Paris: Slavica Occitania, 2015, 492 pp.) in *The Russian Review* 75, no. 4 (2016): 727-728.

- Review of *L'invention de l'Asie centrale: Histoire du concept de la Tartarie à l'Eurasie* by Svetlana Gorshenina (Geneva: Librairie Droz, 2014) in *The Russian Review* 74, no. 4 (2015): 707-708
- Review of *La Religion de l'Autre: Réactions et interactions entre religions dans le monde russe*, by Danny Savelli ed. (Toulouse: Slavica Occitania, 2009, 526 pp.) in *Slavic Review* 71, no. 1 (Spring 2012): 184-185.
- Five article reviews for the *Central Eurasian Reader* (Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 2008), 156, 163-164, 165-166, 183, 191-192.
- Review of *La sédentarisation des Kazakhs dans l'URSS de Staline: Collectivisation et changement social (1928-1945)*, by Isabelle Ohayon (Paris: Maisonneuve et Larose, 2006) in *Slavic Review* 67, no. 2 (Summer 2008): 508-510.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Re-Enchanting the Eurasian Steppe. Monograph. This work explores the development and significance of new eschatologies, provoked in part by ecological crises of the twentieth century. In the post-Soviet period, as Islam has recovered from a series of vicious Communist antireligious campaigns, post-Soviet intellectuals have sought to map out responses to the ethnic and ecological challenges of their day. In their works, they have outlined sharply divergent views concerning ecological sustainability, multiculturalism, democracy, the exploitation of nature, and the future of their community in the Russian Federation. Drawing on their historical and religious traditions, some have embraced a highly secularized vision of their society; others turn to esotericism and seek to recover the religion and folkways of their ancestors; still others ally themselves with resurgent global Islam. Each of these approaches to the future implies a particular eschatological denouement.

A Graded Chrestomathy of Tatar Texts in Arabic and Cyrillic Alphabets.

HONORS

- Reginald Zelnik Book Prize, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 2015, for *Becoming Muslim in Imperial Russia: Conversion, Apostasy, and Literacy* (Cornell University Press, 2014).
- Berkshire Conference Article Prize for the best article published in any field of history, 2012, for "The Tale of Joseph and Zulaykha on the Volga Frontier: The Struggle for Gender, Religious, and National Identity in Imperial and Postrevolutionary Russia" in *Slavic Review*, vol. 70, no. 2 (Summer 2011): 373-398.
- Heldt Prize from the Association for Women in Slavic Studies for the same article.
- Michael Steiner Memorial Award for the Best Dissertation, Department of History, Arizona State University, 2001.
- Arizona State University Faculty Women's Association Achievement Award, 2001.
- Certificate of Completion, Preparing Future Faculty Program, 2001.
- Preparing Future Faculty's second-year scholarship, 1999, \$2,188.
- Wallace E. Adams Memorial Award for Excellence in European History, Department of History, Arizona State University, 1997.

EXTERNAL GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

National Humanities Center Fellowship (Benjamin N. Duke Fellowship of the Research Triangle Foundation), North Carolina, 2019-2020, “Enchanting the Eurasian Steppe: Eco-Nationalism and Eschatology in Tatar Literature (1960-present).” \$64,000

Research Associate of the Slavic and Eastern European Center of the University of Illinois in Urbana Champaign, 2019, \$3000.

John W. Kluge Fellowship, Library of Congress, Washington D.C., “The Contest over Education and Civic Identity: Islam, Christianity, and Secularism in Post-Soviet Tatarstan,” 2008-9, \$36,000.

Twelve-Month American Fellowship of the American Association of University Women, “Islamic Education, Religious Revival, and the Contest over Tatar identity, 1800 to the Present,” 2007-2008, \$40,000.

International Research and Exchanges Board Individual Advanced Research Opportunity, "Islamic Education, Religious Revival, and the Contest over Tatar Identity, 1800 to the Present," 2007-8, \$16,000.

Spencer Dissertation Fellowship for Research Related to Education, 1999-2001, \$20,000.

International Research and Exchanges Board Grant for five months of research related to dissertation in Kazan, Tatarstan. 1999-2000, \$9,500.

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 1999. (\$15,000, declined)

American Association of University Women Educational Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 1999, \$15,000, declined.

International Research and Exchanges Board Grant for three months of research in Kazan, Tatarstan for "Compilation of Tatar Textbooks for English-Speaking Students," 1995-96 (\$8,000)

University of Wisconsin travel award to attend the Workshop on the Proficiency-Based Teaching of Central Asian Languages, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Friday, May 12, 1995 through Sunday, May 14, 1995.

National Council for Soviet and East European Research grant to present paper at Borderlands Conference, University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, 1994.

Research Associate of the Slavic and Eastern European Center of the University of Illinois—Urbana, 2013, 1991, 1988, 1987.

Awarded grant to study Tatar as a visiting scholar in the Center for Uralic and Altaic Studies of Indiana University in Bloomington, IN, 1989, \$1,000.

French Ministry of Foreign Affairs fellowship to study Russian language for six months at Leningrad State University, 1983-84.

French Ministry of Foreign Affairs fellowship to study Serbo-Croatian at the University of Zadar, Yugoslavia, 1983.

Russian language fellowship, Lenin Institute, Moscow, 1981.

INTERNAL GRANTS

Institute for Humanities Research Publication Development Grant at Arizona State University, 2022-2023, \$5000

SHPRS Summer 2019 Research Support, \$1000.

Arizona State University Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict Research Grant Award,

- “Globalization, Religious Revival, and Ecological Apocalypse in the Russian Federation,” Summer 2018, \$5,000.
- Melikian Center Research Awards, ASU, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, May 2016, May 2017, May 2018, \$1,000-\$1,500 each.
- Director’s Seed Grant, ASU, Spring 2015, \$5,000
- Institute for Humanities Research Seed Grant, Arizona State University, “From the Volga to the Salt River: Christian and Muslim folk Poetry from Russia,” (with Eugene Clay), 2008, \$12,000.
- Arizona State University Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict Seed Grant, "Christianity, Islam, and the Secular State in the Russian Federation" (\$15,000). With Eugene Clay (Associate Professor, Religious Studies, ASU) and Laurie Manchester (Assistant Professor, History, ASU), 2006.
- Institute for Humanities Research Seed Grant, Arizona State University, “Current Transformations of Islamic Education in Global and Comparative Perspectives” (\$10,000). With M. Sani Umar (Associate Professor, Religious Studies, ASU), Mark Woodward (Associate Professor, Religious Studies, ASU), Mirna Lattouf (Senior Lecturer, Women's Studies, ASU), and Souad Ali (Assistant Professor, Languages and Literatures, ASU), 2005.
- ASU Russian and East European Studies Consortium travel award to attend the Technology Workshop in Teaching the Cultures and Languages of Central Asia, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison October 9-12, 1997.
- ASU Russian and East European Studies Consortium travel award to attend the Workshop on Central Asian Studies, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison October 3-6, 1996.

BOOK INTERVIEW

- Oct. 8, 2017 on Ta’seel Commons [Contextualizing Islam(s)]
<https://www.taseelcommons.com/recommended-books/a-conversation-with-agnes-kefeli-on-becoming-muslim-in-imperial-russia-conversion-apostasy-and-literacy>

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- “Shurale, the Guardian of Nature,” North American Tatar Summit, Duke University, 17 December 2023.
- “In the Land of Shurale: Folklore, Religion, and Eco-Mythology in Post-Soviet Tatar Discourse,” Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Austrian Academy of Sciences), 28 September 2022.
- “New Age Enchantment and Alternative Healing in Tatar Islamic Context (1960s-2010s).” Invited Presentation to the Symposia “Soviet and Post-Soviet Islam: State of the Field and New Directions,” organized by Paolo Sartori, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Austrian Academy of Sciences), 15 December 2021.
- “Giants and Eco-Nationalism in Tatar Literature.” Humanities Lecture Series, Fall 2021, Arizona State University, 22 September 2021.
- “The Return of Jinn and Angels: Repairing Prophetic Authority in Tatarstan.” Invited Presentation to the Workshop “Authority in Islam,” Islamic Studies Program, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 23 March 2017.

- "The Prophet Noah in Tatar Eschatology: Past and Present." Invited lecture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, 4 Oct. 2013.
- "Tatar Spiritual Songs and Death Rituals in Elyshevo Village in 1866." Invited lecture at the Center of Russian, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, 5 November 2009.
- "The Tale of Joseph and Zulaykha and Tatar National Identity." Kluge Center, Library of Congress, Washington DC, 22 October 2009. <https://www.loc.gov/item/webcast-4786>.
- "From Death to the Eschaton: Tatar Eschatological Manuals and Their Readership in Imperial and Contemporary Russia." Invited lecture in the "Rediscovering Imperial Russia" series at the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, 15 May 2007.
- "Renewal of Islam in Tatarstan." Invited lecture at the Butler University series on "Religion and the Future of Europe." Indianapolis, IN, 18 February 1997.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- "Re-Enchantment as Resistance in Post-Soviet Tatar Literature (1980s-2010s)." Paper presented to AAR Western Region Annual Conference, Arizona State University, 3 March 2019.
- "From Kriashen to Baptist: The Case of Nikolai Krysov." Paper (in collaboration with Nikolai Petrov) presented to the Seventh Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture, Miami University, Oxford, OH, 9-11 March 2017.
- "Was Islam Really in Decline in Imperial Russia?" Religious Studies Forum, Tempe, ASU, 23 March 2016.
- "In Memoriam of Waliulla Yaqupov: Competing Eschatologies in Tatarstan Today." Paper presented to AAR Western Region Annual Conference, Arizona State University, 11 March 2013.
- "Noah's Ark Landed in the Ural Mountains: Fevziye Beyremova's Reshaping of Islamic Eschatology in Tatarstan." Paper presented to "Post-Atheism: Religion and Society in Post-Communist Eastern Europe and Eurasia (An International Symposium)," Arizona State University, 8 February 2013.
- "Baptized Sufis on the Volga." Paper presented to "The Turks and Islam: An International Conference." Indiana University, Bloomington, 12 Sept. 2010.
- "The Life of a Baptized Sufi: Egor Fedorov, Alias `Abdul `Alim Samighulov (1826-after 1906?)." Paper presented to the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Boston, MA, 14 November 2009.
- "The *Munajat* and Death Rituals in the Creation of a Muslim Community on the Volga." Paper presented to "What's in a Name? Eschatology and the Name of God in History, Philosophy, and Science." Conference Sponsored by the Institute for Humanities Research and the Department of Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 10 April 2009.
- "Gendered Religious Encounters in Turkic *Tales of the Prophets*: Christian and Muslim Polemics on the Volga Frontier in the Nineteenth Century." Paper presented to "Religious Encounters at the Intersection of Colonialism and Modernity, 1500 to Present," a conference sponsored by the Institute for Humanities Research and the Department of Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 24 February

- 2007.
- "Current Transformations of Islamic Education in Tatarstan and Former Soviet Republics." Paper presented to the Fortieth Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Boston, MA, 19 November 2006.
- "The Passion of Zuleykha: Ideal Women in Al-Rabghuzi's *Tales of the Prophets* and Other Turkic Literature." Paper presented to the 2006 Annual Conference of the Central Eurasian Studies Society, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, 30 September 2006.
- "Making Tatars into Muslims: Four Models of Religious Education in Contemporary Tatarstan." Paper presented to the Department of Religious Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 3 February 2006.
- "The Revival of Islamic Education among Tatars of the Middle Volga." Paper presented to the 2005 Western Commission for the Study of Religion Conference (American Academy of Religion, Western Region), Arizona State University, Tempe, 14 March 2005.
- "Traditional Islamic Education and Conversion to Islam in the Middle Volga, 1800-1880." Paper presented to the 2004 Central Eurasian Studies Society Conference (Fifth Annual Conference), Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 16 October 2004.
- "Language and Religious Education in Kazan and Ufa Provinces (1905-1914): Was a Russo-Jadid Alliance Possible at the Zemstvo Level?" Paper presented to the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Pittsburgh, PA, 24 November 2002.
- "Islam and Contemporary Eurasia: An Open Forum in the Aftermath of September 11." Panelist, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 11 October 2001.
- "Naberezhnye Chelny (Chally): A Center of Eastern Orthodox and Islamic Revival." Paper presented to the Russian and East European Studies Colloquium, Arizona State University, 20 July 2001.
- "Elementary Tatar Sufi Textbooks and Their Critics on the Middle Volga, 1870-1917." Paper presented to the conference "Rediscovering Religious Identity: Christianity and Islam in Modern Eurasia," Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 9 March 2001.
- "The Revival of Nineteenth-Century Religious Textbooks in Tatarstan." Paper presented at the Russian and East European Center of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. Urbana, IL, 26 June 1999.
- "Islam in Kazan: Before and After *Perestroika*." Slide presentation for the Russian and East European Studies Consortium at Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 24 September 1996.
- "Women in Russia." Lecture presented as the part of the series "Reemerging Russia: Search for Identity. A Humanities Program on the History, Culture and Current Dilemmas of the Russian People." Tempe, AZ, 15 October 1995.
- "Popular Islamic Texts Among Nineteenth-Century Volga Tatars." Paper presented to the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Philadelphia, PA, 19 November 1994.
- "Роль крещеных татарок в распространении ислама в середине XIX-ого века [The Role of Tatar Christian Women in the Spread of Islam in the Nineteenth Century]." Paper presented at the First International Turcological Conference, Kazan, Tatarstan, Russian Federation, 12 June 1992.

- "Méthodes de russification et modes de résistance chez les Tatars de la Volga, 1552-1917." Paper presented at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France, 10 January 1992.
- "Popular Islam and Modernism." Paper presented to the Workshop on Islamic Folk Traditions in Central Asia at the 1991 Summer Research Laboratory of the Slavic and Eastern European Center of the University of Illinois--Urbana, 23 July 1991.
- "Islamic Revival among the Christian Tatars in the 1860s." Paper presented to the History Workshop, Department of History, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, IL, 5 April 1991.
- "Popular Islam among the Orthodox Christian Tatars of the Nineteenth Century." Paper presented to the Fourth International Conference on Central Asia: Language, Nationality, and Social Order in Central Asia, 1100-1990, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, 28 September 1990.

PEDAGOGICAL PRESENTATIONS

- "Report on the Turkic Languages Program at the Critical Languages Institute of ASU." Invited Presentation to American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages 7th Conference, 30 October 2022.
- "My National Humanities Center Proposal with a Focus on Islam in Soviet Tatar Village Literature." Invited Presentation to Islamic Studies Research Alliance at Arizona State University, 12 April 2019.
- "Central Asian View of the Egyptian Uprising." Paper presented to "The Arab Street Speaks: Teach-In on the Egyptian Uprising," Islamic Studies Research Alliance, Arizona State University, Tempe, 10 Feb. 2011.
- "Using Clickers in Large Lecture Classes." Pedagogical presentation in REL 603 Seminar (Teaching World Religions), Arizona State University, Tempe, 15 November 2010.
- "Studying Abroad in Kazan." Presentation to "Studying Abroad in Eastern Europe and Eurasia," Critical Language Institute, Arizona State University, Tempe, September 28, 2000.
- "Report on the Arizona State University Teaching of Intensive Tatar." (History of the Tatar Language Program at ASU, Description of the Language and a Mini-Lesson). Presented at the Arizona Language Association, Tempe, AZ, 18 September 1999.

COMMUNITY TALKS

- "High-School and University Teaching Methods in America," Särdäk High School, Kukmor region, Tatarstan, Russian Federation, 14 May 2008, delivered in Tatar.
- "Islam and Religious Tolerance in Europe and America," Möhämmädiyä Qur'anic school, Kazan, Tatarstan, Russian Federation, 28 April 2008, delivered in Tatar.
- "University Education and Teaching Methods at ASU," Tatar State Pedagogical University (Tatar Däülät Pedagogik Universiteti), Kazan, Tatarstan, Russian Federation, 8 April 2008, delivered in English for students majoring in English.
- "Tatar-Language Program at ASU: Past and Future," Tatar State Pedagogical University (Tatar Däülät Pedagogik Universiteti), 8 April 2008, Kazan, Tatarstan, Russian Federation, in Tatar for students majoring in Tatar language.

“A Trip to the World of Islam.” Slide presentation on Islamic culture and religion to grade school students at All Saints’ Episcopal Day School, Phoenix, AZ, 6 January 2004.

TEACHING AWARDS

Professor of Impact Award, 2023.

Nominated for College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Outstanding Lecturer Award, 2023.

Nominated for College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Outstanding Lecturer Award, 2022.

Nominated for College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Outstanding Lecturer Award, 2016.

Distinguished Member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars Chapter at Arizona State University for Commitment to the Ideals of Scholarship, Leadership, and Service, 2012.

Sun Devils’ Advocates Apple Polisher Recognition for Teachers Who Have Made a Difference, Arizona State University, 2011.

Honors Disciplinary Faculty, Barrett, the Honors College, Arizona State University for "outstanding performance and contributions to the honors students of the university," 2005-6.

First place in a state competition of French teachers desiring teaching positions in the USSR, 1984.

TEACHING WORKBOOKS

From Lucy to Columbus (Kendall Hunt, 2016, 391 p.)

Islamic Civilization (Kendall Hunt, 2014, 189 p.)

Religions of the World: Past and Present (Kendall Hunt Publications, 2013, revised in 2016, 489 p.)

Religions of the World (Kendall Hunt Publications, 2012, 453 p.)

These workbooks comprise learning aids and study guides for students in my survey courses in history and religious studies. They includes power points, blank maps, crosswords, matching games, timelines, questions on short documentary films, short essay assignments, pictures of religious art works, and anthologies of primary documents, newspaper and scholarly articles with discussion questions. Their main goal is to help students develop a general understanding of the roles religion has played over time in individual and collective life in various geographical, historical, and cultural contexts.

Ph.D. THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER

- John Romero, history (Prospectus defense, May 2015; Dissertation defense, 2019): “Socialist in Form, National in Content: Soviet Culture in the Tatar Autonomous Republic, 1934-1968.”
- Mehmet Volkan Kasikci, history (Prospectus defense, Dec. 2016; Dissertation defense, 2020): “Growing up Soviet in the Periphery: Imagining, Experiencing and Remembering Childhood in Kazakhstan, 1928-1953.”

MASTERS THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER

- Tatiana Rasic, History, 2020-2022.
- Shabnam Rezai, “Afghani Women's Resistance: Their Struggle for Autonomy under Soviet Occupation and Taliban Rule,” May 2017.

BARRETT, THE HONORS COLLEGE, THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER

Saadh Monawar, “The Islamic State: A Historical, Ideological, and Methodological Analysis of the Organization and its Rhetoric,” 2016.

Christina Hull, “The Role American Missionaries Played in American Perceptions of the Armenian Genocide,” 2015.

Evan Tieslink, “Islam and President Karimov in Uzbekistan,” 2012.

Ian Kushner, “International Assistance Programs and Legal Education Program in Uzbekistan: Implications for the Development of Civil Society,” 2005.

Danielle Ross, “The Role of Bilingual and Second-Language Education Programs in the Preservation, Revival, and Reconstruction of Language and Cultural Identity Among the Ecuadorian Quechuas and the Kazan Tatars,” 2003.

CLASSES TAUGHT

HST 100 Global History (up to 1500)

HST 100 Western Civilization (Eighteenth century until present)

REL 100 Religions of the World

REL 205 Life, Sex, and Death

REL 310 Western Religious Traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam)

REL 365 Islamic Civilization

REL 366 Islam in the Modern World

REL 394 Islam in Eurasia and Central Asia

REL 603 Teaching World Religions

Tatar language (all levels)

French (all levels)

Russian (all levels)

AREAS OF EXPERTISE FOR TEACHING

Approaches to Religion

Global Islam

Islam in Turkey and Central Asia

Islam in the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey

Islam in France, Past and Present

Islam in Europe, Past and Present

Sufism, Past and Present

Women in Islam, Past and Present

Women in Religion

World/Global History

Minorities in Europe

Nomads and Religion

Religion in Eurasia and Central Asia

Religion on the Silk Road

Russian and Soviet History and Literature

SERVICE***Service to the Profession***

Member of the Presiding Committee of the Commission on the Study of Islam in Central Eurasia of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/sice/members>, 2021-

National Endowment for the Humanities Reviewer (Preservation and Access. Humanities Collections and Reference Resources. World Studies), 2021.

National Humanities Center Fellowship Competition Reviewer, 2020-present

Editorial Board of *Slavic Review*, 2015-present

Editorial Board of *Kriashenskoe Istoricheskoe Obozrenie*, Kazan, Tatarstan, Russian Federation, 2015-present

Reviewed manuscripts or book proposals for *Slavic Review*, *Russian Review*, *Journal of Women's History*, *Nationalities Papers*, *Islam and Islam-Christian Relations*, Routledge, and *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*.

Member of the Editorial Board of the Central Eurasian Reader, published by Centre National de Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (MSH), and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Member of the CESS (Central Eurasian Studies Society) Annual Conference Committee

University Service

Chair, Career-Track Personnel Committee Advisory Committee, 2023-

Member, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Senate Career-Track Advisory Committee, 2023-

Member, Melikian Center's Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Awards Committee, 2023-2024

Member, Melikian Center's Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Awards Committee, 2023

Member, Melikian Center Associate Director Search Committee, 2023

Member, Melikian Center Faculty Advisory Board, 2021-

Member, Professional Development Teaching Release for SHPRS Instructional Faculty Committee, 2021-

Theta Alpha Kappa Representative for the RS National Honor Society, 2021-2022

Board Member of the Council for Arabic and Islamic Studies, 2018-present

Islamic Studies Certificate Coordinator, ASU, 2010-present

Member, Committee of Undergraduate Education, ASU, Religious Studies, 2016-present

Representative of Contract Faculty on SHPRS Executive Committee, ASU, 2017-present

Member, Professional Religious Studies MA Online Program Committee, 2020-2021

Member, Melikian Center Associate Director Search Committee, 2019

Member, Religious Studies Lecturer Search Committee, 2018

Co-chair, Melikian Center Curriculum Committee, 2017

Advisory Committee for Grossman Lectures, 2013-2016

Faculty Advisor for the Syrian Student Association, ASU, 2012-present

Student Support Focus Group, ASU Academic Success Program, 2013-2014

Faculty Advisor for the Kazakhstan Student Association, ASU, 2007-2015

Member, Advisory Board, Critical Languages Institute, Melikian Center, ASU

Member, Committee of Undergraduate Education, ASU, Religious Studies, 2004-2014
 Member, Library Committee for the Center for Asian Research, ASU, 2012-2013
 Liaison for the Arizona State University Tatar Program at Kazan State University, Tatarstan
 Participated annually in writing grant applications to the Social Science Research Council for funds to support the Teaching of Tatar Language at ASU Critical Languages Institute, 1994-2001.
 Arranged a Study-Abroad Program between Arizona State University and Kazan State University (Tatarstan, Russian Federation). Prepared an orientation handbook for program participants, 2000.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Islamic Studies Research Alliance at Arizona State University
 Center for Asian Research at Arizona State University
 Melikian Center at Arizona State University
 Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict at Arizona State University
 American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages
 Association for Slavic and East European and Eurasian Studies
 Central Eurasian Studies Society

LANGUAGES

French (native), Russian (near-native fluency), Volga Tatar (fluent in speaking, reading, writing), Ottoman and Modern Turkish (reading), Crimean Tatar and Bashkir (reading), Uzbek (reading), Serbo-Croatian-Bosniak (reading), Latin (reading).