

## Jesse Brown O'Dell Curriculum Vitae

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### Education

June 2019	<u>Ph.D.: Slavic, East European and Eurasian Languages and Cultures</u> University of California Los Angeles
May 2013	<u>M.A.: Slavic Languages and Literatures</u> University of California Los Angeles
May 2010	<u>B.A.: Russian Studies</u> New College of Florida

### Academic Interests

Contemporary Russian literature and cinema  
Post-Soviet identity in Eastern Europe  
Soviet and post-Soviet science fiction and fantasy  
Russian postmodernism  
Gender theory and feminist studies  
Language pedagogy and proficiency assessment  
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### Recent Conference Presentations

“The Brothers Strugatskii in the Post-Soviet Context,” presented at the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) Conference, San Diego, CA, April 24-27, 2019, and at the California Slavic Colloquium, University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, April 9, 2019

“Russian Blockbuster Cinema: The Post-Soviet Worldview in Russian Film,” presented at the International Association for Humanities (MAG) Convention, Ukrainian Catholic University, L’viv, Ukraine, June 27-29, 2018

“Stagnant Stereotypes: *Roadside Picnic* and the Dissident Intelligentsia,” presented at the Russian, Eastern European and Central Asian Studies Northwest (REECAS NW) Conference, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, April 28, 2018, and at the California Slavic Colloquium, University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA, April 14, 2018

“Searching for Identity: The Russian Idea in Post-Soviet Science-Fiction Film Adaptations,” presented at the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Convention, Chicago, IL, November 9-12, 2017, and at the California Slavic Colloquium, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, April 8, 2017

## Teaching Experience at UCLA

I have served as a Teaching Assistant on at least two occasions for each of the following courses: Russian Civilization in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Christianities East and West, The Great Russian Novel, Elementary Russian 1-3, Intensive Elementary Russian, and Introduction to Russian Civilization. My crowning pedagogical achievement is “Russian Science Fiction,” a course that I designed and taught under the guidance of Emeritus Professor Viacheslav Vsevolodovich Ivanov.

Fall 2017	Russian Civilization in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century, Professor Vladimir Paperny
Spring 2017	Introduction to Russian Civilization, Professor Olga Kagan
Winter 2017	Christianities East and West, Professor Ronald Vroon
Winter 2017	Russian Science Fiction, co-taught with Professor Viacheslav Ivanov
Fall 2016	Russian Civilization in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century, Professor Vadim Shneyder
Spring 2016	Introduction to Russian Civilization, Professor Olga Kagan
Winter 2016	The Great Russian Novel, Professor Gail Lenhoff
Fall 2015	Russian Civilization in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century, Professor Vadim Shneyder
Summer 2015	Intensive Elementary Russian, Professor Anna Kudyma
Spring 2015	Elementary Russian 3, Professor Anna Kudyma
Winter 2015	Elementary Russian 2, Professor Anna Kudyma
Fall 2014	Elementary Russian 1, Professor Anna Kudyma
Summer 2014	Intensive Elementary Russian, Professor Anna Kudyma
Spring 2014	Elementary Russian 3, Professor Anna Kudyma
Winter 2014	Elementary Russian 2, Professor Anna Kudyma
Fall 2013	Elementary Russian 1, Professor Anna Kudyma
Spring 2013	Russian Civilization in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century, Professor Vladimir Paperny
Winter 2013	The Great Russian Novel, Professor Ronald Vroon
Fall 2012	Christianities East and West, Professor Ronald Vroon
Fall 2011	Christianities East and West, Professor Ronald Vroon

## Relevant Work and Research Experience

Test of Oral Proficiency: UCLA Office of Instructional Development (June 2011 – March 2018)  
I worked for the Test of Oral Proficiency (TOP) program for over six years and was employed as program coordinator from May 2013 to August 2015. The TOP was developed by the UCLA Office of Instructional Development to test the English language abilities of prospective Teaching Assistants and screen out those who cannot adequately communicate. It involves video-recorded in-person English oral examinations with raters and undergraduate questioners, and is a requirement for all foreign nationals applying to TA at UCLA. As coordinator, I was responsible for hiring, training, and organizing the schedules of raters, questioners, and other staff. In addition to announcing, organizing, and administering exams, my duties also included developing new testing strategies, updating program materials, and providing ESL counseling.

Dissertation Research in Russian Archives (June – September 2017 and June – October 2018)

I performed dissertation research in several archives in Moscow, including the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art, the State Fond of Motion Pictures, and the Russian State Library. I also conducted interviews with major figures in the contemporary Russian film industry and worked as a translator for the Vodorod Film Studio and CGI company Main Road Post.

Research and Language Study in Ukraine (June 2013 – August 2013)

I studied Russian and Ukrainian language and culture at the NovaMova Language School in Kiev, Ukraine. I also had the opportunity to travel to several cities on the Crimean Peninsula.

ShowTime Productions Ukraine (June 2013 – August 2013)

I worked as a translator and interpreter for a film crew in Kiev, Ukraine. My primary duties involved translating correspondences to and from Russian, English, and Ukrainian. I also worked as an interpreter for academics from Russia, Poland, Ukraine, and England.

Graduate Research Mentorship (September 2011 – September 2012)

Under the guidance of Professor David MacFadyen, I performed research on contemporary Russian fiction and film, ultimately developing a conference paper on the role of sex and violence in post-Soviet Russian culture.

Undergraduate Semester Abroad in Russia (February 2008 – June 2008)

I studied Russian language, literature, and culture at Moscow State University and designed a research project focused on the subject of my undergraduate thesis: post-Soviet writer Viktor Pelevin. I also personally designed excursions to St. Petersburg and Nizhny Novgorod.

**Fellowships, Grants and Honors**

Spring 2019	ASEEES Convention Travel Grant (UCLA)
Summer 2018	International Institute Fieldwork Fellowship (UCLA)
Spring 2018	CERS Dissertation Research Fellowship (UCLA)
Winter 2016	Mellon Foundation Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (UCLA)
Summer 2013	Title VIII Graduate Fellowship (Arizona State University)
Summer 2012	Foreign Language and Areas Studies Summer Grant (UCLA)
Summer 2012	Kathryn Davis Fellows for Peace Fellowship (Middlebury College)
2011–2012	Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship (UCLA)
Fall 2010	UCLA Foundation Doctoral Scholar Fellowship (UCLA)
Spring 2008	New College Research and Travel Grant (New College of Florida)
2005–2009	New College Academic Scholarship (New College of Florida)
2005–2009	Florida Bright Futures Scholarship (New College of Florida)

**Language Knowledge**

English: Native

Russian: Near-native

Ukrainian, German, Spanish, Portuguese: Fluent

Polish, French, Old Church Slavonic, Hebrew, Ancient Greek: Reading Knowledge