

## Skills

**Languages:** advanced proficiency in reading and speaking Kazakh proficiency; reading knowledge of Azeri, Uzbek, Turkmen and Persian; reading knowledge of Russian with basic speaking proficiency.

## Education

**Indiana University**, Bloomington, Indiana  
Ph.D. in Central Asia, with a minor field in Russian History, expected completion, 2014  
Coursework and Comprehensive Examinations Completed, 2009  
M.A. in Central Eurasian studies, 2006

**University of Toronto**, Toronto, Canada  
ABD in European Intellectual History, with minor fields in Cultural Theory and Contemporary European History, 1999

**University of Toronto**, Toronto, Canada  
M.A. in European History, 1993

**University of California at Davis**, Davis, California  
B.A. in European History (*magna cum laude*), 1992

## Professional Appointments

**Assistant Professor**, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, August 2013-present

**Research Coordinator**, Central Asian Studies Institute, American University of Central Asia, August 2013-present:

## Honors and Awards

Summer Research Lab Fellowship, University of Illinois, 2012  
AAS/SSRC Dissertation Workshop Fellowship, 2012  
Nazarbayev University grant for Kazakh-English dictionary, 2012  
U.S. Embassy grant for Kazakh-English dictionary, 2011  
Fulbright Hays Dissertation Award for dissertation research in Kazakhstan, 2010  
IREX Individual Advanced Research Opportunities Grant for dissertation research in Kazakhstan, 2007-2008  
Title VI FLAS for Azeri, summer 2007  
Title VI FLAS for Advanced Directed Language Study in Kazakh, 2006-2007  
SSRC Grant for Azeri, summer 2006  
IIE Fulbright Fellowship for study in Kazakhstan, 2004-2005  
Title VI FLAS for Kazakh, 2004-2005 (declined)

Title VI FLAS for Kazakh, summer 2004  
Title VI FLAS for Kazakh, 2003-2004  
Title VI FLAS for Turkmen, summer 2003  
Title VI FLAS for Uzbek, 2002-2003  
SSRC Grant for Turkmen, summer 2002

### **Area Studies Coursework**

Post-Soviet Central Asia  
Nations and Nationalism in Central Eurasia  
Islam and Modernity in Central Eurasia  
Empire and Ethnicity in the Russian Empire and Soviet Union  
Central Asian History from the 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Centuries  
Central Asia from the Islamic Invasion to the Mongol Empire  
Gender and Family in Central Asia and the Middle East  
Russia's Orient  
Yasavi Sufism  
Rus', Khazars and Bulgars  
Soviet Nationalities Policy (reading course)  
Post-Colonialism and Literature in Modern Iran (reading course)  
Soviet History  
Jews in the Russian Empire and Soviet Union

### **Teaching and Professional Experience**

**Assistant Professor**, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, August 2013-present

Duties include: designing curriculum for and teaching courses in Central Asian history; leading a team tasked with creating the University's new "Thinking Historically" course, a class meant to introduce students to the variety of approaches to studying the past.

**Research Coordinator**, Central Asian Studies Institute, American University of Central Asia, August 2013-present:

Duties include: helping to organize and build the Center's new graduate program in Central Asian studies; assisting the Center director in organizing events, conferences, and research; designing curriculum for Center sponsored summer programs in Central Asian studies.

**Committee Member**, Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Selection Committee, U.S. Consulate, Almaty, July 2013

Duties included: interviewing applicants for a Kazakh language teaching assistant position at Indiana University; assisting in the selection and ranking of applicants; providing insight to other committee members on Kazakh instruction and responsibilities of language teaching assistants at Indiana.

**Committee Member**, Fulbright Visiting Scholar Selection Committee, U.S. Consulate, Almaty, December 2012

Duties included: interviewing and evaluating applicants; assessing the significance and viability of their proposed research projects in the United States; assisting in the selection and ranking of applicants for the fellowship.

**Committee Member**, Fulbright Junior Scholar Development Program Selection Committee, U.S. Consulate, Almaty, September 2012

Duties included: interviewing and evaluating applicants; assessing the significance and viability of their proposed research projects in the United States; assisting in the selection and ranking of applicants for the fellowship.

**Instructor**, Soviet Nationality Problems and Policies, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University, Fall 2011

Duties included: devising syllabus for combined graduate and undergraduate course on the formation of Soviet nationality policy; selecting and organizing relevant readings; conducting weekly lectures and discussions; grading graduate and undergraduate papers.

**Curriculum Development**, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University, Fall 2011

Duties included: devising syllabus for introductory course on the “Imagination of the Steppe” to be included in the undergraduate curriculum of the Department of Central Eurasian Studies; selecting and organizing relevant readings.

**Committee Member**, Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Selection Committee, U.S. Consulate, Almaty, August 2011

Duties included: interviewing applicants for a Kazakh language teaching assistant position at Indiana University; assisting in the selection and ranking of applicants; providing insight to other committee members on Kazakh instruction and responsibilities of language teaching assistants at Indiana.

**Senior Editor**, Kazakh-English Dictionary, Central Asian Institute of Economic Strategies, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2010-present

Accomplishments: Supervised the compilation and translation of Kazakh entries totaling over 600 pages of a projected 1000 page work; assisting in securing a total of \$65,000 in grants from the US Embassy and Nazarbayev University in support of the project.

Duties include: Supervising translation and editing of both local and American scholars working on the project; writing grant proposals and preparing samples of text for outside evaluation; locating and hiring staff; assisting in devising formatting and editing rules for the dictionary; securing support from American institutes and scholars for the project.

**Editor**, Central Asian Institute of Economic Strategies, Almaty, Kazakhstan, February 2011

Accomplishments: supervised the English translation of Kanat Il'ich Nurov's dissertation abstract, *The Legal and Economic Modernization of the Traditional Structure of Kazakhstan (19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries)*.

Duties included: identifying and hiring the American translator for the project; proofreading the translation for accuracy with special attention to the rendering of Kazakh and Turkic words.

**Committee Member**, Fulbright Visiting Scholar Selection Committee, U.S. Consulate, Almaty, December 2010

Duties included: interviewing and evaluating applicants; assessing the significance and viability of their proposed research projects in the United States; assisting in the selection and ranking of applicants for the fellowship.

**English Language Editor**, Central Asian Institute of Economic Strategies, Almaty, Kazakhstan, September-December 2010

Accomplishments: supervised the work of local translators for a work on the history and modern reality of Almaty, *Almaty Today*.

Duties included: identifying and hiring local translators for the project; editing the work of local translators to ensure accuracy and fluency of English translations; reviewing work at publication stage to check for errors in formatting and style.

**Translator, English Language Editor**, the Academy of Sciences in cooperation with Poligrafkombinat, Almaty, Kazakhstan, August-October 2010.

Duties included: translating sections and editing existing English translations of a revised and expanded edition of Ashirbek Muminov's *The Mausoleum of Khozha Akhmed Yasawi*; consulting with the author and publisher on issues of translation and of the transliteration of Russian and Kazakh names.

**Committee Member**, Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Selection Committee, U.S. Consulate, Almaty, August 2010

Duties included: interviewing applicants for a Kazakh language teaching assistant position at Indiana University; assisting in the selection and ranking of applicants; providing insight to other committee members on Kazakh instruction and responsibilities of language teaching assistants at Indiana.

**Senior Teacher**, London at Home English Summer School, Tamos Education, June-July 2009/2010

Duties included: developing curricula for Beginning, Elementary, Pre-Intermediate and Intermediate courses; supervising English instruction for 75 children aged 7-13; assisting in the identification and hiring of local and native language faculty; consulting with parents; supervising local and native language teachers.

**Instructor**, Kazakh-German University, Almaty Kazakhstan, 2008-2009.

Duties included: conducting two discussion sections on politics and current affairs for an advanced English course; evaluating and grading student projects and papers; determining final grades in consultation with the local instructor.

**Research/Teaching Assistant**, Professor William Fierman, Indiana University, Bloomington, 2002-2004, 2006-2008

Accomplishments: gathered materials on Central Asia for inclusion in a high school reader produced by the American Forum for Global Education.

Duties included: collecting relevant literature for courses covering contemporary Central Asia and the nationalities of the former USSR; assisting Professor Fierman in his various research activities and in evaluating graduate papers.

**Graduate Assistant**, Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center (IAUNRC), Indiana University, Bloomington, 2001-2003

Accomplishments: created first draft of introduction for successful IAUNRC proposal to National Security Education Program; assisted in preparation and editing of successful IAUNRC proposal to Department of Education for Title VI funding.

Duties included: Compiling and editing Center newsletter; drafting Center correspondence to other resource centers; outreach activities.

**Teaching Assistant**, Contemporary Europe, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 1998-2000

**Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to History, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 1999-2000

### **Conferences and Invited Lectures**

Panelist, "At play in the Soviet Library: Kazakh belles-lettres in the late Soviet era," Central Asian Studies Institute Conference, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, 2013.

Panelist, "Ethnic bricolage: Kazakh belles-lettres in the late Soviet era," Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS) Conference, Bloomington, Indiana, 2012.

Panel Organizer, "Negotiating Culture, Class, and Identity in Soviet and Post-Soviet Kazakhstan," Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS) Conference, Bloomington, Indiana, 2012.

Dissertation Workshop participant, University of Illinois Summer Research Lab, "Building Lives in Soviet Central Asia," 2012.

"Kazakh-English Dictionary: methods and progress to date," US Embassy: American Corner Presentation and Press Conference, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2012.

AAS/SSRC Dissertation Workshop participant, "Rewriting History: Nationalism, Identity, and the Politics of the Past in Asia," 2012.

"Ethnicity and Identity in the Ancient Kazakh Steppe," Peace Corp Meeting Lecture, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2011.

"The Ethnic Politics of Olzhas Suleimenov's *Аз уя*," American Crossroads Presentation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2011.

“The Politics of the Ethnic Past: Kazakh belles-lettres in the late Soviet era,” Central Eurasian Studies Conference Presentation, Bloomington, Indiana, 2007.

“Research and Living Conditions in Kazakhstan,” Fulbright IIE Orientation Lecture, Washington, D.C., 2005.

“Ethnicity and National Identity in Contemporary Kazakh Historiography,” Boren Fellowship Conference Presentation, Washington, D.C., 2005.

“The Evolution of Western Marxism,” Contemporary European History Course Guest Lecture, Toronto, Canada, 1999.

## **Publications**

[Supervising editor of] *Kazakh-English Dictionary*. (c. April 2014. Vox Populi: Almaty, Kazakhstan).

[Eng. language editor of] Nurat, Kanat. *Pravovaia èkonomicheskaia modernizatsiia tradiutsionnoi struktury Kazakhstana (xix-xx vv.)* [*The Legal and Economic Modernization of the Traditional Structure of Kazakhstan (19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries)*]. (c. April 2011. Brooke Swafford, trans. Vox Populi: Almaty, Kazakhstan).

[Eng. language editor of] *Almaty Today*. (2010. Vox Populi: Almaty, Kazakhstan).

[Eng. language editor, translator of] Muminov, Ashirbek. *Mavzoleï Khodzha Akhmeta Iasavi* [The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi], 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. (2010. Poligrafkombinat: Almaty Kazakhstan).

*Unsettling the Imperial Imagination: Olzhas Suleimenov's Az I Ya*. (2006. Indiana University: M.A. Thesis).

## **Fields of Specialization and Interest**

Soviet Central Asian literature  
The imagination of the steppe in Eurasian literature  
Nation-building in Soviet and post-Soviet Central Asia  
The Russian imagination of “Asia” and the “Orient”  
Turkic intellectual and cultural history in the Soviet era  
Ethnic identity in the ancient Central Asian past