

Curriculum Vitae
Talia Zajac

Education

- 2017: PhD, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, Canada. Thesis Title: “Women Between West and East: the Inter-Rite Marriages of the Kyivan Rus’ Dynasty, ca. 1000–1204.” Committee Members: Isabelle Cochelin (co-supervisor), Allan Smith (co-supervisor), Martin Dimnik, Mark Meyerson. Examination committee: Alison Smith, Christian Raffensperger. (Co-Winner of the Canadian Association of Ukrainian Studies’ Inaugural PhD Dissertation Prize, 2020)
- 2007: M. A., Medieval Studies, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, Canada.
- 2006: Honours B.A, Specialist Degree in Medieval Studies with High Distinction, Saint Michael’s College, University of Toronto, Canada.

Further Qualifications

- 10–15 September 2018: Completion of Workshop on Tools and Methods for the Study of Churches between East and West (“Atelier ‘Outils et méthodes pour l’histoire des Églises entre Orient et Occident’”), French School of Rome (L’École française de Rome), Italy.
- June–July 2013: Certificate for Successful Completion of the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute, with courses and a workshop in Practical Slavic Paleography and Readings in Church Slavonic Texts, Hilandar Research Library / Thompson Library, the Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.
- July 2011: Certificate from the Byzantine Greek Summer School for Successful Completion of Intermediate (Level 2) Byzantine Greek, Queen’s University, Belfast, UK.
- December 2011: Advanced University Teaching Preparation Certificate, Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation, University of Toronto.

Employment

- August 2023–present: Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Niagara University, NY, USA.
- May 2021–August 2023: Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, John Rylands Research Institute and Library, the University of Manchester, UK.
- September 2020–present: Licentiate in Mediaeval Studies Candidate / Visiting Scholar at the University of Toronto, Canada.
- September 2020–May 2021: Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto, Canada (Non-Stipendiary Research Fellow to 2023).

September 2019–July 2020: Lecturer in Medieval History (Teaching-Focused), University of Manchester, UK.

October 2018–June 2019: Teaching Affiliate, University of Nottingham, UK.

June 2018–September 2018; March 2019 – September 2019: Project Consultant on the *Teratourgema* by Afanasij Kal'nofojs'kyj, a seventeenth-century collection of miracle stories, forthcoming from the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute in the series Harvard Library of Early Ukrainian Literature.

February–May 2018: Harvard Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellow, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, MA, USA.

September–December 2017: Undergraduate Course Instructor, University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), Canada.

2008–2017: Teaching Assistant, University of Toronto, Canada.

Languages

Speak and write: Ukrainian, English, French.

Read: Latin, Old Church Slavonic, ancient Greek, German, Russian, Polish.

Teaching Interests

Medieval History including Byzantium and Eastern Europe.

Early Rus', ca. 900-1250.

Cross-Cultural Exchanges in the Middle Ages.

Women in European History.

Research Interests

Medieval Church History with a particular interest in Orthodox-Catholic Relations.

Queens and Female Rulers in Eastern and Western Europe.

Select Professional Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

2025 –2030: Non-stipendiary fellowship at the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, University of Saint Michael's College in the University of Toronto, Canada

- 2022: Non-stipendiary spring term visitorship, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, USA.
- 2020: British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics, Slavonic Studies Section, University of Cambridge (declined).
- 2020: Professor Thomas Frederick Tout Memorial Fund Grant, University of Manchester.
- 2020: Co-Winner of the Canadian Association of Ukrainian Studies' Inaugural PhD Dissertation Prize for 2017 doctoral dissertation.
- 2019: Winner of the Canadian Association of Ukrainian Studies Best Article Prize for the Year 2017–2018 for “The Social-Political Roles of the Princess in Kyivan Rus” in *A Companion to Global Queenship* (ARC Humanities Press /Amsterdam University Press, 2018).
- 2018: International Center of Medieval Art, Grant Co-Recipient for the volume *Moving Women, Moving Objects (400–1500)* (Brill, 2019).
- 2015: Polish History Museum Scholarship.
- 2014: Dmytro and Natalia Haluszka Family Scholarship in Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto.
- 2014: Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto Thirtieth Anniversary Fund.
- 2013: Helen Darcovich Memorial Doctoral Fellowship, University of Toronto.
- 2013: Frederic C. Lane Dissertation Grant, Medieval Academy of America.
- 2013: Professor Denton Fox Graduate Scholarship, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto.
- 2013, 2011: Massey College (Toronto) Travel Grant.
- 2012–2013: Hungarian Helicon Foundation (Ontario) Graduate Award.
- 2012: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement.
- 2011: Faculty of Arts and Science Study Elsewhere Scholarship for Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLS) for Research Purposes.
- 2009–2012: Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship, Doctoral Award, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
- 2006–2007: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Canada Graduate Scholarship.

Publications: Articles and Book Chapters

- 2025: “The Majesty Seal of the Rus-born Duchess Gremislava (Grzymislawa) of Kraków and Sandomierz (d. 1258) and the Representation of Female Political Authority: Preliminary Observations in a Comparative Context.” *Christian Rus in the Making*. Eds. Adrian Jusupović, Aleksander Paroń, and Alexandra Vukovich. Worlds of the Slavs, Vol. 1. Paderborn, Germany: Brill / Schönningh, 2025, 147–164, ISBN: 978-3-506-79480-2, <https://brill.com/display/book/9783657794805/BP000018.xml>
- 2023: “The World of the Early Capetian Court: 987–1180.” *Routledge Handbook of French History*. Ed. David Andress (London; New York: Routledge 2023), 53 –63, ISBN 9780367406820, and eBook ISBN9780367808471, <https://taylorfrancis.com/books/edit/10.4324/9780367808471/routledge-handbook-french-history-david-andress> and <https://routledge.com/The-Routledge-Handbook-of-French-History/Andress/p/book/9780367406820>
- 2020: “*Regina Binomia*: Re-Examining the Evidence for Re-Baptism and Renaming of Latin Christian Brides in Pre-Mongol Rus’.” *Byzantinoslavica: Revue internationale des études byzantines*. Vol. 77.1-2 (2019): 264–290. [Published April 2020]
- 2019: “Remembrance and Erasure of Objects Belonging to Rus’ Princesses in Medieval Western Sources: the Cases of Anastasia Iaroslavna’s ‘Saber of Charlemagne’ and Anna Iaroslavna’s Red Gem.” *Moving Women, Moving Objects (400 –1500)*. Eds. Tracy Chapman Hamilton and Mariah Proctor-Tiffany. *Maps, Spaces, Cultures* Vol. 2. Series Eds. Surekha Davies and Asa Simon Mittman. Leiden; Boston: Brill, 2019, 33–58. ISBN: 978-90-04-39967-9 <https://brill.com/view/title/36380?lang=en>
- Reviewed in: *De Medio Aevo*, 13.1 (2024): 241-242, <https://doi.org/10.5209/dmae.93076>; *Renaissance Quarterly*, 74.1 (2021): 273-275. doi:10.1017/rqx.2020.350; *The Medieval Review*, 9 November 2011, <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/33545/37097>
- 2018: “The Social-Political Roles of the Princess in Kyivan Rus’, ca. 945–1240.” *A Companion to Global Queenship*. Ed. Elena Woodacre. Series Ed. Dymphna Evans. Leeds: ARC Humanities Press / Amsterdam University Press, 2018, 125–146. ISBN: 9781942401469. <<https://arc-humanities.org/products/a-6532-105112-31-6914/>> (Winner of the Canadian Association of Ukrainian Studies Article Prize for 2017–2018).
- 2016: “Marriage Impediments in Canon Law and Practice: Consanguinity Regulations and the Case of Orthodox-Catholic Inter-marriage in Kyivan Rus, ca. 1000–1250.” *Proceedings of the Fourteenth International Congress of Medieval Canon Law, Toronto, 5–11 August 2012*. Eds. Joseph Goering, Stephan Dusil, and Andreas Thier. *Monumenta Iuris Canonici Series C: Subsidia*. Vol. 15. Città del Vaticano: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, 2016, 711–729.
- 2016: “*Gloriosa Regina* or ‘Alien Queen’? Some Reconsiderations on Anna Yaroslavna’s Queenship (r. 1050–1075).” *Royal Studies Journal*. Vol. 3.1 (2016): 28–70 <<http://www.rsj.winchester.ac.uk/index.php/rsj/article/view/88>>

Publications: Encyclopedia Articles

- 2022: “Gytha of Wessex [Gytha Haraldsdottir; Queen Gytha the Old] (b. in or before 1062, d. 1106/1107), princess and royal consort of Rus’.” *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. Gen. Ed. Professor Sir David Cannadine (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 8 Dec. 2022), accessed online 17 Dec. 2022, n.p., <https://doi.org/10.1093/odnb/9780198614128.013.90000380691>
- 2022: “Anna Yaroslavna” and “Gertruda of Poland.” *The New Historia*. Dr. Gina Luria Walker, Project Manager. New York, The New School, 2022, < <https://www.thenewhistoria.org/schema/anna-yaroslavna-anna-de-kiev/> > and < <https://www.thenewhistoria.org/schema/gertruda-of-poland/> >
- 2010: Revised, “Yevpraksiia Vsevolodivna” and “Anna Yaroslavna.” *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*. Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto, e-version: 2010, < <http://www.encyclopediaofukraine.com/>>

Publications: Book Reviews

- 2024: Review of *Radegund: the Trials and Triumphs of a Merovingian Queen*: by E.T. Dailey (2023) in *Social History*, 49.3 (2024): 420–423, doi:10.1080/03071022.2024.2352243
- 2023: Review of Grzegorz Pac, *Women in the Piast Dynasty: A Comparative Study of Piast Wives and Daughters (c. 965–c.1144)* (2022) in *Women East-West. Association for Women in Slavic Studies Newsletter*, 12.1 (Spring 2023), n.p. https://mcusercontent.com/f2f4173e59a1f1e3c68ba4ff4/files/cf00b8cd-ab2e-24e5-02d3-3445d6c1aff1/2023_Pac_review_by_Zajac.pdf [last access 27 June 2023]
- 2021: Review of Sean Griffin, *The Liturgical Past in Byzantium and Early Rus* (2019) in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*. Vol. 90.4 (December 2021): 930–932. Published online by Cambridge University Press on behalf of the American Society of Church History: 7 March 2022, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S000964072200021X>
- 2019: Review of Yulia Mikhailova, *Property, Power, and Authority in Rus and Latin Europe, ca. 1000–1236* in *The Medieval Review* (7 December 2019), n.p. <<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/tmr/article/view/28996>>
- 2014: Review of Guillaume Saint-Guillain and Dionysios Stathakopoulos, eds., *Liquid & Multiple: Individuals and Identities in the thirteenth-century Aegean* (Paris, 2012) in *Mediaevistik: International Journal of Interdisciplinary Medieval Research*. Vol. 27 (2014): 369–371.
- 2014: Review of Andrzej Pleszczyński, *The Birth of a Stereotype: Polish Rulers and their Country in German Writings c. 1000 A.D.* (Leiden, 2011) in *Austrian History Yearbook*. Vol. 45 (April 2014): 252–253.

Publications: Popular and Creative Work

- 2023: “When Traditions End: On the Changing Date of Christmas and Ukrainian Identity.” *Public Orthodoxy: Bridging the Ecclesial, the Academic, and the Political*, ed. Nathaniel Wood, Orthodox Christian Studies Center of Fordham University, 21 December, 2023, n.p.

<https://publicorthodoxy.org/2023/12/21/changing-date-of-christmas/> [last access 30 December 2023]. (Unsolicited Greek translation), “Όταν οι παραδόσεις χάνονται: Η αλλαγή της ημερομηνίας των Χριστουγέννων και η ουκρανική ταυτότητα,” *Public Orthodoxy: Bridging the Ecclesial, the Academic, and the Political*, ed. Nathaniel Wood, Orthodox Christian Studies Center of Fordham University, 21 December, 2023, n.p., <https://publicorthodoxy.org/el/2023/12/21/changing-date-of-christmas/> [last access 30 December 2023]

2016: *Golden Harvest / Золоті жнива / La moisson dorée*. Vocal Score for Soprano, Baritone, Mixed Chorus, and Orchestra. Composed by Larysa Kuzmenko. Libretto by Talia Zajac. Toronto: Counterpoint Music Library Services, 2016, ISMN: 979-0-706080-15-4.

Publications: Works in Progress

- “Making a King at the Boundaries of Latin Christendom and Eastern Orthodoxy: The Coronation of King Daniel Romanovich in 1253” (Section 4: Chapter 1 Ritual and Ceremonial) and “The Personal Prayerbook of Gertruda of Poland (d. c. 1108): A Window onto Royal Connections across Medieval East-Central Europe (Section 4: Chapter 4 Material Culture: Patronage, Gift-Giving Exchange)” in *Exploring Monarchy in Medieval Europe, 1000-1500*, eds. Elena Woodacre, Lucinda H.S. Dean, Simon Lambe and Patrik Pastrnak (London: Routledge, passed external review; forthcoming 2026).
- “Memories of Professor Robert Magocsi: an Appreciation.” *In So Many Words: Celebrating Paul Robert Magocsi*, ed. Nicholas Kyle Kupensky (Toronto: Chair of Ukrainian Studies, forthcoming 2026).
- Review of *Emperors and Imperial Dynasties of Byzantium: Translated Texts on Byzantine Civilization*, by Sviatoslav Dmitriev (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2025) for *English Historical Review* (forthcoming).
- “Anna Iaroslavna, Queen of France (r. 1051– 1075 / 1079), in the Ukrainian Imagination.” *Ukraine Matters*. Eds. , Tomasz Grusiecki, Alice Isabella Sullivan, and Maria Alessia Rossi, Extravagantes Series (Washington, DC: Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection) (under review).
- “Rus’ Consorts of Latin Christian rulers: “Exceptional” Royal Brides? An Examination of the Representation of Queen Anna Iaroslavna of France (d. between 1075 and 1079) in Medieval Western Narrative Sources.” *Beyond Exceptionalism II, c. 500 –c. 1500*. Eds. Lois Huneycutt, Heather Tanner, and Tiffany Ziegler (book proposal under review by Boydell and Brewer).
- “Agatha/Agafía.” *Women in Early Medieval England: A Florilegium*. Eds. Emily Butler, Irina Dumitrescu, and Hilary E. Fox. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, (accepted; forthcoming).
- “Purity and Danger in Early Rus’: Metropolitan Iōannēs II’s Censure of Orthodox-Latin Christian Marriage and Fears of Ritual Pollution in the Eleventh Century.” *Fruits of Devotion: Essays in Honor of Predrag Matejić*. *Ohio Slavic Papers* vol. 11. Eds. M.A. Johnson and Alice Isabelle Sullivan. Columbus, Ohio: Published by the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures with the assistance of the

Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, The Ohio State University (accepted; forthcoming).

- *Scythian Queens: Royal Brides from Early Rus' in Latin Christendom: Politics, Patronage, Transcultural Exchanges, ca. 1040–1250* (working book title; in progress).
- *The 'Codex Gertrudianus', the Personal Prayerbook of Princess Gertruda of Poland and Rus' (d. 1107/8?): A Translation and Commentary* (working book title; in progress)

Invited Presentations

- 12–13 May 2023: Invited Guest Speaker at the Conference “Regentinnen im spätmittelalterlichen östlichen Europa” [Female Regents in late medieval Eastern Europe], Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe, Marburg, Germany, and invited to participate in conference volume (declined).
- 1 December, 2022: Invited Guest Lecturer on “Anna Yaroslavna, Queen of France, in History and in Ukrainian Imagination” in the online lecture series, “From Kyivan Rus' to Modern Ukraine: Virtual Conversations on History, Art, and Cultural Heritage,” co-organised by Dumbarton Oaks (Washington, DC) in collaboration with the “North of Byzantium” and “Connected Central European Worlds, 1500–1700” research projects, as well as co-sponsored by the following additional American and British universities and academic associations: Princeton University, Boise State University, Tufts University College Art Association (CAA), Byzantine Studies Association of North America (BSANA), Society of Historians of Eastern European, Eurasian and Russian Art and Architecture (SHERA), Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies, University of Kent, Historians of German, Scandinavian, and Central European Art (HGSCEA), British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES), and the International Center of Medieval Art (ICMA), (on Zoom). Lecture accessible at :<
<https://www.doaks.org/events/byzantine-studies/public-lectures/anna-yaroslavna>>
 [last access 27 June 2023]
- 12 July 2022: Plenary Speaker. “Rus’ Consorts of Latin Christian Rulers: The Case of Queen Anna Yaroslavna of France (d. 1075/1079).” “Beyond Exceptionalism II, c. 500 – c. 1500” Conference, John Rylands Research Institute and Library, Manchester, UK (Invited with full expenses paid).
- 11 May 2022: Round Table Discussant. “Neglected Neighbors: How to Include Central and Eastern Europe in Your Syllabus (A Roundtable).” 57th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, USA (on Zoom).
- 11 June 2021: Round Table Discussant. “Mykhailo Hrushevsky, *History of Ukraine-Rus'*, Volume 2,” Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the University of Alberta, Canada (on Zoom).
- 17 March 2021: “The Patronage of the Rus'-born Duchess Gremislava (Grzymislawa) of Kraków and Sandomierz (d. 1258): A Re-Evaluation?” “Byzantine Worlds” Seminar

Series, Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities, University of Cambridge, UK (on Zoom).

10 May 2019: “Remembrance and Erasure of Objects Belonging to Rus’ Princesses in Medieval Western Sources: Two Eleventh-Century Case Studies.” “Medieval Encounters” Seminar Series, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK (Invited with full expenses paid).

24 November 2018: “Анна Ярославна протягом століть: найстарші джерела про Анну / Anne de Kyiv à travers les siècles: les sources les plus anciennes” (“Anna Yaroslavna over the Course of Centuries: The Oldest Sources”). Cathedral of Saint-Volodymyr-le-Grand, Paris, France (Invited with full expenses paid).

Conference and Seminar Presentations

27 May 2024: “Ego autem Anna, corde intelligens...”: The endowment of Saint-Vincent of Senlis by Queen Anna Yaroslavna of France (d. between 1075 and 1079).” Paper presented at the Royal Studies Network “Kings and Queens” Conference 13: “Gift-Giving and Communication Networks,” The American University of Paris, Paris, France.

27 April 2023: “Maria Rutenissa [...] fundatrix ecclesie?: Maria Sviatopolkovna (?) or Volodarovna (d. 1160s) Between Continuity and Change.” Paper presented at MECERN (Medieval Central Europe Research Network) Biennial Conference on the theme “Continuity and Change in Medieval Central Europe.” Faculty of Arts, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia.

7 February 2023: Book discussant of Grzegorz Pac, *Women in the Piast Dynasty: A Comparative Study of Piast Wives and Daughters (c. 965–c.1144)* (2022). Medieval Central Europe Research Network (MECERN) Book Corner (on Zoom).

29 June 2021: “*Fundatrix loci istius Zawichostensis*: The Patronage of Zawichost Monastery by Gremislava (Grzymislawa), Princess of Rus’ and Duchess of Kraków and Sandomierz (d. 1258).” Paper presented at the Royal Studies Network “Kings and Queens” Tenth Anniversary Conference: “Royal Patronage: Material Culture, Built Heritage and the Reach of the Crown.” Virtual Conference hosted by the Centre for History, University of the Highlands and Islands, Scotland (via Cisco Webex).

12 February 2020: “Gender and Authority in the Regency Charters of Duchess Gremislava Ingharovna of Kraków and Sandomierz (d. 1258).” Paper presented at the “M6” North West Universities Medieval History Seminar, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK.

1 February 2020: “Investigating the Royal Iconography on the Seal of the Rus’-born Duchess Gremislava Ingharovna of Kraków and Sandomierz (d. 1258).” Paper presented at “Christian Russia in the Making: in memory of Professor Andrzej Poppe (12 July 1928–31 January 2019)”; the first in a series of conferences on the theme: “The World of the Slavs: Forgotten Meeting Place of Different Cultures,” Co-Sponsored by the Polish Academy of Sciences, Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research, Institute of Central Europe (Lublin), and University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland.

- 25 September 2019: “Of Brides and Treasures.” Paper presented at the University of Manchester Department of History Lunchtime Seminar Series, Manchester, UK.
- 2 July 2019: “Individual Mobility and Social Identity on the Frontier Between Latin Christendom and Orthodoxy: The Networks of Duchess Gremislava Ingvarovna, 1207–1228.” Paper presented at the International Medieval Congress 2019, “Moving Byzantium III” Session. University of Leeds, Leeds, UK.
- 29 June 2019: “Between Rus’, Byzantium and Poland: Two Charters from the Regency of Duchess Gremislava Ingvarovna, 1227–1228.” Paper presented at the “Gender, Memory and Documentary Culture, 900–1200” Conference Co-Sponsored by the John Rylands Research Institute and the Haskins Society. Rylands Library, Manchester, UK.
- 23 February 2019: “Reims MS 15 and the Cults of the Holy Popes Clement and Julius: Examining the Narrative of King Henri I’s 1049 Marriage Embassy to early Rus’ in its Manuscript Context.” Paper presented at the Eighth Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture, Arizona State University, Tempe campus, AZ, USA (by Skype).
- 20 April 2018: “*Regina Binomia*: Re-Examining the Evidence for Re-Baptism and Renaming of Latin Christian Brides in Pre-Mongol Rus’.” Paper presented at the Early Slavic Seminar Series, Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA.
- 26 March 2018: “A Rus’ Princess in Thirteenth-Century Poland: Cultural and Political Connections Between the Courts of Krakow and Galicia-Volhynia during the Reign of Duchess Gremislava Ingvarovna, c. 1227–1258.” Paper presented at the Harvard Seminar in Ukrainian Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA.
- 12 May 2017: “Rus-born Brides of Polish Rulers and their Objects in the Twelfth and Thirteenth centuries: Three Case Studies of Cultural Transfer.” Paper presented at the 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies. Women and/as Objects: Foreign Brides and Cultural Transmission Session. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, USA.
- 12 July 2014: “Cultural Connections between Kyiv and Paris in the Eleventh Century: the Embassy of King Henri I and the Cult of St. Clement of Rome.” Paper presented at the Kings and Queens Conference Series III: Royal Entourage, Royal Studies Network. University of Winchester, Winchester, UK.
- 9 July 2014: “Intercede for the Peace and Unity of Holy Church’: The Prayer-Book of Gertrude of Poland, Wife of Iziaslav Yaroslavich, c. 1075–1086.” Paper presented at the International Medieval Congress 2014. University of Leeds, Leeds, UK.
- 7 August, 2012: “Marriage Impediments in Canon Law and Practise: the Case of Orthodox-Catholic intermarriage in Kyivan Rus’, ca. 1000–1241.” Paper presented at the

Fourteenth International Congress of Medieval Canon Law. Saint Michael's College, University of Toronto, Canada.

- 14 May 2011: "A Newly-Formed Kingdom: Thirteenth- Century Galicia-Volhynia's Foreign Relations with Béla IV of Hungary (1206–1270) and Pope Innocent IV (1195– 1254)." Paper presented at the 46th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Cultural Frontiers in the East and West Session. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, USA.
- 3 April 2011: "The Forgotten Queen of France: Anna Yaroslavna, Wife of Henri I." Paper presented at the Sixth Annual Symposium of the Friends of the Medieval Studies Society of the Royal Ontario Museum. Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- 13 May 2010: "*Cumque nullus rusticorum fugitivo obediret*: Exile, Gift-Giving, and Marriage Policy in Eleventh-Century Poland and Rus." Paper presented at the 45th International Congress on Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, USA.
- 13 November 2009: "A Comparative Perspective on Representations of Galicia-Volhynia in the Thirteenth Century." Paper presented at Writing the World: Representation of the Cultural, Political and Natural World in Medieval and Renaissance Europe, 38th Annual Medieval Studies Workshop, University of British Columbia. Vancouver, Green College, University of British Columbia, Canada.
- 17 October 2009: "*Fratres... ad Ruthenorum principem procedunt*: Exile, Hospitality, and Marital Diplomacy under Yaroslav the Wise." Paper presented at the "To Have and to Hold: Marriage in Pre-Modern Europe 1200-1700." University of Toronto, Centre for Renaissance and Reformation Studies, Canada.
- 1 March 2007: "An 11th Century Marriage: Anna Iaroslavna and Henri I." Paper presented at the Vagantes Graduate Conference. Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA.

Teaching Experience

(Teaching dossier available upon request).

2023 – present: *Sole professor, Niagara University*: "Introduction to Christianity" (100 level, general education class), "Saints, Relics, and Pilgrimage" (300 level, special topics class), "Honors: Saints, Relics, and Pilgrimage" (300 level, special topics class for academically advanced students), and "Creation of a Western Institution: The History of Marriage" (300 level, special topics class).

2019–2020: *Course Unit Director (CUD), Team-Teaching Lecturer (L) and Seminar Instructor (I) for graduate and undergraduate classes, MA dissertation first marker, MA dissertation supervisor, Schools Liaison Officer, University of Manchester, UK*: "Reading the Middle Ages" (MA class, L), "History in Practice: Damsels in Distress?: Women in Medieval Society, 500–1500" (undergraduate class; I), "Independent Research Seminar: Monarchy and Court Culture, c. 400–1600" (undergraduate class; I); "From Catastrophe To Crusade: Europe In The Aftermath Of The Vikings" (undergraduate class; CUD, I); "Public History: Historians and the Public Sphere" (MA class; I), "Perspectives in Medieval and Early Modern

Studies” (MA class, I); “Introduction to the Medieval World” (undergraduate class, L, I), “Wonders, Miracles, and Supernatural Landscapes in Medieval and Early Modern Europe” (CUD, MA class), “Reading the Middle Ages and the Renaissance: Palaeography, Codicology, and Source Analysis” (I, MA class).

2018–2019: *Undergraduate Teaching Affiliate, University of Nottingham, UK*

“From Tsarism to Communism: Introduction to Russian History and Culture” and “Nation, Myth, Identity: Introduction to Russian and Slavonic Studies.”

September 2017–December 2017: *Undergraduate Course Instructor, University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM)*. “The History of Women Pre-1800: ‘From Sappho to Wollstonecraft.’”

September 2008 – April 2017: *Undergraduate Teaching Assistant and Occasional Guest Lecturer, University of Toronto*: “History of Russia, 860–1991” (2016–2017), “The Shape of Medieval Society” (2011–2012; 2015–2016); “Early Modern Europe, 1648–1815” (January–May 2013); “The Development of European Civilization 1350–1945” (2008–2010).

MA Thesis Supervision

2019–2020: Supervision of Emi Tozawa, MA Thesis, “A Universal Experience of Christian Identity? A Comparative Study of the Role of Martyrdom in Identity Formation among the ‘Lollards’ of England and ‘Hidden’ Christians of Japan from the Fourteenth to Sixteenth Centuries.” University of Manchester, UK

Undergraduate Honours Thesis Committee Membership

2025 – present: member of the committee for Tricia Toth’s Undergraduate Honours Thesis, “Intrinsic Motivation in the Classroom Through Environment” (Primary Supervisor: Chandra Foote, College of Education). Niagara University, USA.

Digital Humanities/Research Assistantships

May 2021: Identification, compilation and select translation of Latin charters issued by Rus’ royal brides for the open-access database *Epistolae: Medieval Women’s Letters*, Gen. Ed. Joan Ferrante (Columbia University), <https://epistolae.ctl.columbia.edu/>

May–August 2016; May–August 2017: Research Assistant with the University of Toronto DEEDS (Documents of Early England Data Set) Project: <http://deeds.library.utoronto.ca/> Duties included the identification of Latin place-names in medieval English charters as well as their geographic coordinates using online resources.

2005 – 2008: Research Assistant at the University of Toronto for Drs. Amilcare Iannucci (University of Toronto; deceased),Carolynn Lund-Mead (independent scholar), and Maggie Kilgour (McGill University) on the project, “Dante and the Vulgate Bible,” tracing the use of Vulgate references in the *Divine Comedy* using online resources and resulting in the publication of Amilcare Iannucci and Carolynn Lund-Mead, *Dante and the Vulgate Bible* (Rome: Bulzoni, 2011).

Professional Service and Administration

2025 – present: member of the Niagara University Women’s Studies Committee

2025 – present: Coordinating Committee member of the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine, Centre for European and Eurasian Studies, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto, Canada

2024– present: Theta Alpha Kappa chapter representative at Niagara University (National Honor Society for Religious Studies and Theology, USA)

2024: 1 November 2024, invited moderator for conference panel on “Sheptytsky and the Arts,” at the International Conference Marking the 80th Anniversary of Andrey Sheptytsky’s Death. Organized by the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, University of St. Michael’s College in the University of Toronto, Canada.

2021– present: editorial board member, “East Central Europe 476–1795 and Beyond” Book Series, Brepols.

2019–2020: School Outreach and Widening Participation liaison officer, Department of History, University of Manchester, UK.

2015–2018: Early Slavic Studies Association (ESSA) newsletter editor.

2015– present: occasional peer reviewer, including for *Speculum*, *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*, *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, and *Byzantinoslavica*.

Public Engagement

5 October 2024: “Noble Ladies: Between East and West,” podcast interview, Central European University Medieval Studies and MECERN (Medieval Central Europe Research Network), <https://podcasts.ceu.edu/content/noble-ladies-between-east-and-west-1>

16 April 2021: Recording of Canto Eight of Dante’s *Inferno* in Ukrainian and interview for “Toronto Salutes Dante!” in celebration of the 700th anniversary of the death of Dante Alighieri with audiovisual readings from the *Divine Comedy*, organized by Drs. Elisa Brillì and Nicholas Terpstra, with Italian Studies visiting lecturer George Ferzoco, University of Toronto, <https://www.medieval.utoronto.ca/events/toronto-salutes-dante>

7 September 2016: *Royal Studies Journal* interview, <https://royalstudiesjournal.wordpress.com/2016/09/07/interview-with-talia-zajac/>

Membership in Academic Associations

Royal Historical Society, Medieval Academy of America, Canadian Society of Medievalists, Association For Women in Slavic Studies, Canadian Association of Slavists, Slavonic and East European Medieval Studies Group, Early Slavic Studies Association, the Royal Studies Network, Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship, Medieval Central Europe Research

Network, Mapping Eastern Europe; open access website:
<https://mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu>; Noblewomen Network, the “Bodies,
Emotions and Material Culture Collective” at the University of Manchester (UK), Society of
Historians of East European, Eurasian, and Russian Art and Architecture, Inc. (SHERA),
Reacting to the Past Consortium