

Kimberly St. Julian-Varnon

Curriculum Vitae

Email: ksvarnon@sas.upenn.edu | Website: <https://www.kstjulianvarnon.com/>

Education

University of Pennsylvania

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in History: 2020-2027

Field: Modern Europe (Russia, Soviet Union, Eurasia)

Advisors: Dr. Benjamin Nathans, Dr. Peter Holquist

Awards and Honors

- Fontaine Fellowship
- Benjamin Franklin Fellowship
- Pomfret Graduate Fellow (2020-2021)
- Arizona State University, Title VIII Language Fellowship (Ukrainian) Summer 2021 (Awarded, Turned Down)

Harvard Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

Master's Degree: May 2014

Regional Studies: Russia, Eastern Europe & Central Asia

Focus: History

Master's Thesis: "Stalinism in the Countryside: Collectivization and the Famine in Soviet Ukraine as Formative Experiences"

Committee: Dr. Terry Martin (advisor), Dr. Serhii Plokhyy

GPA: 3.83/4.0

Awards and Honors

- Harvard Graduate Prize Fellowship (2012-2014)
- Foreign Language and Areas Studies Fellowship, Russian, (Summer 2012)
- Peter and Mary Novak Ukrainian Fellowship Fund Research Travel Grant, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (Summer 2013)
- Maurice Lazarus Graduate Research Travel Award, Harvard Davis Center for Russian & Eurasian Studies (Summer 2013)
- Contextualizing the Holodomor Conference Travel Grant Recipient, Holodomor Research and Education Center (Fall 2013)
- Holodomor Graduate Student Workshop, Paper Presenter and Participant, HREC (Summer 2014)

Swarthmore College

Bachelor's Degree: May 2012

Major: History

Undergraduate Thesis: "Baba, Proletarka and the Kolkhoznitsa: Soviet Depictions of Women in Anti-Religious Posters"

Advisor: Dr. Robert Weinberg

Published on the website *Museum Studies Abroad*, <https://museumstudiesabroad.org/baba-proletarka-and-the-kolkhoznitsa-soviet-depictions-of-women-in-anti-religious-posters/>

GPA: 3.6/4.0

Awards and Honors

- Richard Rubin Scholar Program, Swarthmore College (Spring 2009-May 2012)
- Swarthmore Foundation Grant Recipient (2011-2012 Academic Year)
- Robert C. Byrd National Scholarship Recipient (Fall 2008-Fall 2011)
- J. Roland Pennock Fellowship in Public Affairs (Summer 2011)
- Kathryn Davis Projects for Peace Scholar (Spring and Summer 2009)

Other Coursework

Adams State University (Fall 2016-Summer 2017) (January 2019-July 2019)

Graduate Courses in US History for community college teaching credential

GPA: 4.0

Language Acquisition

Russian: Advanced Working Proficiency (Reading, Writing, Translating, Speaking)

Old Church Slavonic: Reading (liturgical language)

French: Intermediate Working Proficiency (Reading, Writing, Translating, Speaking)

Employment

History Instructor (Full-time)

August 2019-August 2020

San Jacinto College-Central Campus, Pasadena, TX

- United States History Survey Courses (5/7 load)
 - History 1301/02 (online, dual credit, and traditional)
- Dual Credit Pathways Committee Member
- Adjunct Instructor: August 2018-May 2019

History Instructor (Full-time)

Lee College, Baytown, TX

August 2018-July 2019

- Letter of Appointment Position (5/6 load)
- United States History Survey Courses (online, dual credit, and traditional)
 - History 1301/02
- Lee College Pathways Committee Department Coordinator (Social and Behavioral Sciences)
- Adjunct instructor: August 2016-July 2018

A.P. and Dual Credit United States and World History Teacher

Dayton High School, Dayton, TX

July 2015-June 2018

- TEA Certified in History (7-12)
- UIL Social Studies Coach

Advanced Placement United States History Teacher

Crosby High School, Crosby, TX

August 2014-June 2015

Conferences, Academic Publications, Invited Talks, Public Writing

East-West Journal of Ukrainian Studies, Vol 4, no 2 (2017)

- Book Review, *Jewish City or Inferno of Russian Israel? A History of the Jews in Kiev before February 1917* by Victoria Khiterer (September 2017)

East-West Journal of Ukrainian Studies, Vol 6, no 1 (2019)

- Book Review, *Total Wars and the Making Modern Ukraine, 1914-1954* by George O. Liber (March 2019)

Red Migrations: Marxism and Transnational Mobility after 1917, eds. Bradley Gorski and Philip Gleissner (forthcoming, Spring 2022, University of Toronto Press)

- Chapter: “Blackness in the Red Land: African Americans and Identity in the “colorless” Soviet Union”

Conference Presentations

Ohio State University, Midwest Slavic Conference, April 7-8, 2017

- Panel: *Voices from Below: Personal and Social Formative Experiences during the Holodomor*
- Paper: "Stalinism in the Countryside: Collectivization and the Famine in Soviet Ukraine as Formative Experiences"

San Jacinto College-Central, College Faculty Symposium, March 6-7, 2019

- Paper Presentation: The American Negro in the Soviet Union: African American Experiences and Identity in Stalin's USSR

New York University, Northeast Slavic Conference, March 31, 2019

- Panel: *The Ukrainian Holodomor in Experience and Remembrance*
- Paper: “The Holodomor as Subjectivizing Process”

Howard University, Conference on Minorities in Slavic Studies, October 23-25, 2019

- Keynote Talk: “Making Space: Being a Minority Scholar in Slavic Studies”

Association of Slavic, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies National Conference, November 23-26, 2019

- Panel: *Seeing and Believing: African American Experiences in the Soviet and Post-Soviet Space and Soviet Understandings of Blackness”*
 - Paper: “The American Negro in Stalin's Soviet Union: African Americans and Identity in the “colorless” Soviet Union”
- Roundtable member: “Engaging Approaches to Teaching Central-Eastern Europe and Russia II”

Association of Slavic, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies National Conference, November 5-8, 14-15, 2020 (virtual)

- Panel: Continuities and Discontinuities of Starvation the 1921-22, 1932-33, and 1946-47 Famines in Soviet Ukraine

- Paper: “That was the past. This is different: Peasant Experiences with and Understandings of State Power”

Invited Talks

Swarthmore College, Living the Liberal Arts, December 2017

- Living the Liberal Arts Keynote Speech: <https://www.swarthmore.edu/living-liberal-arts/kimberly-st-julian-varnon-12>

Howard University, April 23, 2019

- “Blackness in the Red Land: The American Negro in Stalin’s Soviet Union” (guest lecture)

University of Missouri, guest lecture, March 2, 2020

- "The American Negro in Stalin's Soviet Union", (seminar lecture)

Association for the Study of Nationalities, July 23, 2020

- Panel for Virtual ASN, “Racism and Nationalism”

Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, August 11, 2020

- “The Time is Now: Connecting Euromaidan and Black Lives Matter”

University of Kansas Center for Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies, September 3, 2020

- “Black Lives in Red Russia”

PONARS Eurasia, September 4, 2020

- “Do Black Lives Matter in Russia?”

Pushkin House, London, United Kingdom, October 12, 2020

- “Black Skin in the Red Land: African American Experiences in the USSR”

University of Pittsburgh, Race in Focus Series, October 16, 2020

- Emerging Scholars of Color Abroad (panel)

University of Pittsburgh, Race in Focus Series, October 23, 2020

- Moving Beyond Exclusionary Practices in SEES (panel)

Indiana University Russian Studies Workshop, September 18, 2020

- “Do Black Lives Matter in Russia” (panel)

Indiana University Russian Studies Workshop, September 25, 2020

- “Russian Media and Black Lives Matter” (panel)

Harvard Davis Center for Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies, (seminar lecture), October 26, 2020

University of Manitoba, December 4, 2020

- “Blackness in Ukraine and the Connections between Euromaidan and BLM” (seminar lecture)

Howard University, January 26, 2021

- “Black Russia and Being a Black Russianist” (seminar lecture)

Swarthmore College, February 9, 2021

- “Race and Racism in the Post-Soviet Space” (Tri-college Russian Group)

Kennan Institute, Wilson Center, February 23, 2021

- Race, Racism, and Diversity in Slavic and Eurasian Studies (panel)

Arizona State University, February 26, 2021

- “African Americans in Stalin’s Soviet Union”

Hillwood Estates, Washington D.C., March 10, 2021

- “Black Skin in the Red Land: African American Experiences in Stalin’s Soviet Union”
Metropolitan State University, Denver, CO, March 22, 2021
- “Black Russia and Ukraine” (seminar lecture)
Brandeis University, Russian Studies Group, April 9, 2021
- Race in Russia (panel)

Public Writing

- “Black Skin in the Red Land: African Americans and the Soviet Experiment,” The Kennan Institute *Russia File*. February 28, 2020.
- “In Search of Black Europe,” *Contingent Magazine*. June 10, 2020.
- “George Floyd, Brat 2, and Russian Depictions of African Americans,” *The Moscow Times*. June 17, 2020.
- “Джордж Флойд, «Брат 2» и представления об афроамериканцах в России,” *The Moscow Times* (Russian edition). June 24, 2020.
- “The Ties that Bind: Black Lives Matter, Ukraine’s Euromaidan, and the Realities of European ‘Integration’,” *Krytyka* (Ukraine), June 2020.
- “The Curious Case of Russian Lives Matter,” *Foreign Policy*. July 11, 2020.
- *Що нас єднає: рух «Black Lives Matter», український Євромайдан та реалії європейської «інтеграції»*, *Krytyka* (Ukrainian Edition), August 2020.
- “A Voice from the Slavic Studies Edge: On Being a Black Woman in the Field,” *ASEEES NewsNet* Vol. 60, no.4. August 2020: 1-4.
- “Russia as a Mirror of American Racism,” *The Conversationalist*. September 17, 2020.
- “Yelena Khanga, Belonging, and Blackness in Russia” *NYU Jordan Russia Center Blog*. November 06, 2020.
- “Andrea Lee’s *Russian Journal: A Tapestry of the Late Soviet Era*,” The Kennan Institute *Russia File*. February 19, 2021.

Professional Organizations and Service

Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies

November 2011-Present

- Member of ASEEES
- Communications Advisory Committee member (2020-2022)
- Participating in the American Council of Learned Societies Intention Foundry (nominated by ASEEES) (2021)

H-Net Ukraine

August 2019-Present

- Book Review Editor
- H-Ukraine is an H-Net (Humanities and Social Sciences Online) network

New Books Network

November 2017-Present

- Review and interview authors of new books in the field of Russian and Eurasian Studies

Association for Women in Slavic Studies

August 2020-Present

- Board Member, Graduate Student Representative (2021-2023)
- ASEES Diversity Liaison

Harvard University Davis Center

September 2020-Present

- Member of Davis Center's Diversity Working Group