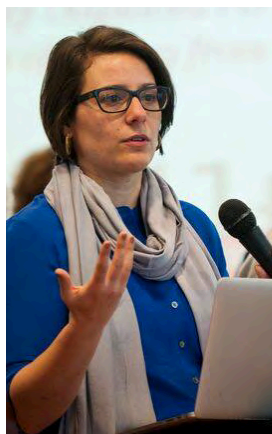




Ukrainian Studies at the University of Washington: 2015-2016 Highlights

During the two years since our last newsletter, many exciting Ukrainian Studies events have taken place at the University of Washington, including talks, classes, concerts, conferences, and film screenings. This flyer presents some highlights.

Graduate Degrees in Ukrainian Studies completed at UW



♦ **Dr. Jennifer Carroll** received her PhD in Anthropology in summer 2015, with a thesis titled “Choosing Methadone: Managing Addiction and the Body Politic in Ukraine.” Her research was based on interviews and participant observation with public health advocates, medical professionals, and people seeking treatment in preventative opiate substitution programs in Ukraine. She explored the tensions that exist between practitioners and patients in their understandings of addiction and health, and how this relates to the broader social constructs of citizenship and morality. Dr. Carroll’s fieldwork period (March 2013-March 2014) coincided with the EuroMaidan, and her observation and documentation of the protests fueled her further interest in the study of social upheaval and visual anthropology. She is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Miriam Hospital, a teaching affiliate of the Alpert Medical School at Brown University, Rhode Island.

♦ **Christi Anne Hofland** received her Master’s degree in International Studies in December 2015, with a thesis titled: “Institutions of Activism: Museums and Ukraine’s Revolution of Dignity.” Ms. Hofland is now the director of America House in Kyiv, the United States’ premier venue for cultural programs and outreach events in Ukraine. There she coordinates a wide variety of activities, including discussions on pressing policy issues, speaker series, workshops, movie nights, discussion clubs, art exhibits, and concerts. Ms. Hofland has been featured as a cultural ambassador in various public events as well as on the Ukrainian television program “Snidanok z 1+1.”



UW undergraduate club **Ukrainian Students United (USU)** held “**Ukrainian Film Days**” in 2015-16. The monthly showing of films in the Allen Library Auditorium featured the classics *Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors* (1965) and *Wedding in Malynovka* (1967), and recent films *Taras Bulba* (2009) and the Turkish-Ukrainian film *Love me/ Люби мене/ Sev beni* (2013).

In February 2016 USU represented Ukraine at the FIUTS CulturalFest International Expo with a richly decorated and informative booth.

The UW Slavic Department and the Ellison Center regularly hold Ukrainian studies-related conferences and presentations. Select Ellison Center presentations are available as **podcasts**, including the following panels and talks:

◆ Dr. Oleksandr Fisun, Professor of Political Science at Kharkiv National University, was a Carnegie Fellow at UW in 2014-15. On Apr. 15, 2015, he took part in a panel on “Ukraine and Russia: Is There Any Way Out?,” along with Derek Norberg, Executive Director, Russian American Pacific Partnership, Council for U.S.-Russia Relations; Jennifer Carroll, PhD Candidate in Anthropology at UW; and Scott Radnitz, Associate Professor in the Jackson School and Director of the Ellison Center.

◆ Dr. Svitlana Khutka, sociologist from the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, presented a talk on Nov. 5, 2015 on “How Ukraine is Seen in Russia: Public Opinion Dynamics.” Dr. Khutka was previously a Carnegie Fellow at UW in 2012-13.

◆ Dr. Mykola Riabchuk, senior research fellow at the Institute of Political and Nationalities Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, presented “Examined by War: New Bonds and Old Cleavages in Post-Maidan Ukrainian Society” on Oct. 11, 2016. He analyzed sociological data to show how political views and geopolitical orientations of many Ukrainians have changed, shaping a new Ukrainian identity that supersedes ethnic, linguistic and other divides.



❖ You can listen to these presentations at <https://jsis.washington.edu/ellisoncenter/podcasts/>
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Charity Concert & Discussion with Anastasia Prykhodko

The University of Washington collaborates with the Ukrainian Association of Washington State to host community events, such as the concert on Saturday, March 21, 2015 by Ukrainian singer Anastasia Prykhodko, as part of her North American Charity Tour "Songs for Peace."



Prykhodko’s history as a performer reflects the complex relationship between Ukraine and Russia. In 2009, she was chosen to represent Russia in the 2009 Eurovision competition, with the song “Mamo,” which she sang in a combination of Russian and Ukrainian lyrics. In 2014, she spoke out publicly against Russian-backed aggression in Ukraine and gave concerts in the war-torn eastern Ukrainian regions, which led the Russian media to label her an enemy. She is among many other performers who have spoken out against Russia’s involvement in the war have consequently been vilified in Russia.

Between songs, Prykhodko invited questions from the audience, responding with her candid views on everything from popular culture to current political issues. The event drew close to 400 people, raising \$8470 in charity funds, divided between humanitarian aid for victims of Ukraine’s proxy war with Russia, and support for the making of a film about historical justice called “True Rus’.”

The UW continues this tradition with the December 17, 2016 concert by **Bria Blessing** in Kane Hall.

❖❖ **Show your support with a donation to Ukrainian Studies at UW!** ❖❖

There are two funds for **tax-deductible contributions** to Ukrainian Studies at UW: the “**Endowed Fund for Ukrainian Studies**” to endow a professorship, and the “**Friends of Ukrainian Studies Fund**” to support current Ukrainian Studies events. You can find links to donate online at: <https://slavic.washington.edu/fields/ukrainian>