

David C. Fisher

Department of History
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
One West University Boulevard · Brownsville, TX 78520
(956) 882-8836 · David.Fisher@utrgv.edu

Education

Ph.D. in Russian History, 2003: Indiana University, Bloomington.

Dissertation: Exhibiting Russia at the World's Fairs, 1851-1900.

M.A. in Slavic Languages and Literatures, 1991: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Thesis: Literature and the World of Art.

B.A. in Russian Language, 1985: Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.

Teaching and Professional Experience

Associate Professor,

- College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, 2015-present.
- College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Brownsville, 2011-2015.

Associate Dean, Honors College, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, 2015-2018.

- Recruited and advised Honors students.
- Mentored students writing Honors theses.
- Advised Dean on best practices in Honors education.
- Consulted with faculty on Honors pedagogy.

Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Brownsville, 2014-2015.

- Conducted annual review of tenure-track faculty.
- Designed and coordinated CLA Honors Program.
- Managed CLA scholarship budget of \$50,000.

Assistant Professor, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Brownsville, 2006-2011.

Visiting Assistant Professor, College of Liberal Arts, Texas Tech University, 2004-2006.

Publications

The Big History of the Lower Rio Grande (manuscript in progress).

"Kremlin on the Trocadero: The Unexpected Claim to Modernity in Russian Architecture at the World's Fairs." In *A History of Russian Exposition and Festival Architecture: 1700-2014*, edited by Alla Aronova and Alexander Ortenberg, 97-112. London: Routledge, 2018.

"World History in State Standards: A Research Assignment for College Juniors and Seniors." *World History Bulletin* 28, no. 2 (Fall 2012): 71-74. (Awarded World History Association Teaching Prize, Honorable Mention.)

- "A Missed Opportunity for World History in Texas." In *Politics and the History Curriculum: The Struggle over Standards in Texas and the Nation*, edited by Keith Erekson, 170-193. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.
- "What's Wrong (and Right) with World History in Texas." *World History Bulletin* 26, no. 2 (Fall 2010): 29-33.
- "Russia and the Crystal Palace in 1851." In *Great Britain, the Empire and the World at the Great Exhibition, 1851*, edited by Jeffery Auerbach and Peter Hoffenberg, 123-145. Aldershot, UK: Ashgate Publishing, 2008.
- "The Rise of a Radical Opposition, 1861-1881." In *Events that Changed Russia since 1855*, edited by Frank Thackeray, 29-43. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing, 2007.
- Translation from Russian to English of Konstanin Shneider. "Was There an 'Early Russian Liberalism'? Perspectives from Russian and Anglo-American Historiography." *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 7, no. 4 (Fall 2006): 825-841.
- "Westliche Hegemonie und Russische Ambivalenz: Das Zarenreich auf der Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia 1876 [Western Hegemony and Russian Ambivalence: The Tsarist Empire at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia]." *Comparativ* 9, no. 5-6 (1999): 44-60.

Selected Conference Papers

- "River of Wealth and Poverty: A Little Big History of the Lower Rio Grande," International Big History Association Conference, July 2018.
- "Big History in the RGV: An Interdisciplinary Journey into the Past and Future," Nexus: The UTRGV College of Liberal Arts' Research, Teaching, and Service Symposium, April 2018.
- "Nation X in World History: Oxymoron or Viable Formula? The Case of Russia," World History Association of Texas Conference, March 2017.
- "Big History: The Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts course for the 21st Century," National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, October 2016.
- "Turning Points in the Big History of the Lower Rio Grande Valley," World History Association of Texas Conference, March 2016.
- "World History Standards in U.S. Schools: The Devil is in the Details," Roundtable Organizer and Presenter, World History Association Annual Conference, June 2012.
- "Our Nation and Our World: A Critical View of World History Studies in the TEKS," Texas Council for the Social Studies Conference, October 2011.
- "What's Wrong (and Right) with World History in Texas? Evaluating and Teaching the TEKS," World History Association of Texas Conference, February 2011.
- "Global Stereotypes and Public Relations: The Case of Modern Russia," World History Association of Texas Conference, February 2010.
- "In Defense of Russianness: Theorizing Nineteenth-Century Responses to Denigrating Stereotypes," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2008.

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- “Kremlin on the Trocadero: The Unintended Consequences of a Medieval Russian Town at the Exposition Universelle de Paris, 1900,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, 2008.
- “Mikhail Aseev’s Amazing Ride from Ukraine to Paris: Sport and Memory in the Centennial Year of the French Revolution,” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2006.
- “Museums and Exhibitions in Imperial Russia,” Roundtable Participant, American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2006.
- “Architecture in the *Style Russe* at the World’s Fairs,” Association for Museum History Annual Conference, 2005.
- “Fistfights, Defaced Portraits, and Stolen Art: The Russian Fiasco at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition,” Nineteenth Century Studies Association Conference, 2004.
- “Russia’s Image Problem in Europe and America and the World’s Fairs, 1851-1900,” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2002.
- “Exposition, Performance, Tourism: Constructing Russian/Soviet Identities for the West from Nicholas I to Stalin,” Roundtable Organizer and Participant, American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2002.
- “Russian Civil Society at the Paris Exposition of 1889,” Panel Organizer: “Exhibitions and Identity in Late Imperial Russia,” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2001.
- “Especially, Peculiarly Russian: The English Roots of the ‘Russian Idea’ at the 1862 London International Exhibition,” Mid-America Conference on History, 2000.
- “‘Opening a Sealed Book’: Imperial Russian Cultural Diplomacy at the World’s Columbian Exposition,” Russia/US: Reflecting Cross-Culturally 2nd Annual Conference, 1999.
- “‘And Here is a Genuine Surprise’: The Russian Empire and the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia,” Popular Culture Association Annual Conference, 1998.
- “Priests of the Marxist Parish? Americanists and American Studies in the Former Soviet Union, 1953-1996,” The Great Lakes American Studies Association Annual Conference, 1997.

Awards and Honors

- Faculty Excellence Award Nomination, UTRGV, 2016.
- Recommended for Exceptional Merit, UTB College of Liberal Arts, 2014.
- Teaching Prize: Honorable Mention, World History Association, 2012.
- NISOD Excellence Award, National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development, 2011.
- Faculty Exceptional Merit, UTB/TSC, 2009.
- Outstanding Faculty Member, Texas Tech University, Graduating Seniors Survey, 2005-2007.
- Dissertation Fellowship, Indiana University Department of History, 1999, 2002.
- Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, United States Department of Education, 1999-2000.

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- Associate, Summer Research Laboratory on Russia and Eastern Europe, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1999.
- Daniel Armstrong Memorial Essay Competition: First Place, Russian and East European Institute of Indiana University, 1996.

UTRGV Service

History Department

- Faculty Evaluation Committee, 2017-2018.
- Scholarship Committee, 2015-2016.
- Undergraduate Program Committee, 2015-2016 and 2017-2018.
- Faculty Search Committees: Borderlands History; World History; U.S. History; 2015-2017.
- UTB/UTPA History Department Consolidation Committee, 2014-2015.

College of Liberal Arts

- Representative, University Scholarship Committee, 2016-present.
- Representative, University Graduate Curriculum Committee, 2016-2018.

University

- Advisory Committee, International Center for Sustainability Across the Curriculum, April 2018-present.
- Faculty Mentor, Mentors Support Program, 2016-2017.
- Proposal Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipends, August 2016.
- Search Committee, Dean of Students/Associate Vice President for Student Life, 2016.
- Project South Texas, Humanities and Liberal Arts Academic Working Group (Co-chair); and Academic Administration Working Group, 2013-2014.

UTB Service (2006-2015)

History Department

- Graduate Program Coordinator, 2009-2015.
- Website Coordinator, 2007-2015.
- Curriculum Committee, 2006-2015.
- Chair, Personnel Committee, 2013-2014.
- Assessment Liaison, 2013-2014.
- Panel Chair and Commentator, Rio Grande Valley Historical Conference, hosted by Phi Alpha Theta, Alpha Alpha Mu Chapter, 2010, 2011.
- Faculty Advisor, Scorpion Historical Society, 2009-2011.
- Faculty Search Committee, 2008-2009.
- Speaker, UTB/TSC Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, 2007.

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College of Liberal Arts

- Chair, Personnel Committee, 2013-2014.
- College of Liberal Arts Research Day: Speaker, "Remember the Alamo? Undergraduate Research Projects on Teaching History in Texas," 2014.
- Graduate Studies Curriculum Committee, 2009-2015.
- Strategic Planning Steering Committee, 2009-2012.
- Secretary, Assessment Committee, 2008.
- Chair, Scholarship Committee, 2006-2008.

University

- International Education Week: Panel Organizer and Speaker, "War and Peace: A Global Tour of Conflict from 1939 to Today in Four Vignettes," 2014.
- Reviewer, Departmental Peer Program Review, Fall 2013.
- Senator, Academic Senate, 2011-2012.
- Co-Coordinator, Assigning and Assessing Paragraph Writing Workshop, Center for Teaching and Learning Certification Program, 2009-2012.
- Honors Program Proposal Committee, 2010.
- Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Feasibility Study, 2009-2010.
- Judge, Distinguished Lecture Series Student Essay Competition, 2008, 2010, 2011.
- Advisor, School of Education, Analysis of College Readiness Standards from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, 2008.

Professional Service

Book / Textbook Reviewer

- *Big History: Examines Our Past, Explains Our Present, Imagines Our Future*, foreword by David Christian, *World History Connected* 15, no. 1 (2018).
- Book Proposal for *Marxist Historiography: A Global Perspective* by Q. Edward Wang and Georg G. Iggers, Routledge, 2012.
- Valerie Hansen and Kenneth R. Curtis, *Voyages in World History*, Aplia on-line course supplement, Cengage Learning, 2012.
- Alan Brinkley, *American History: A Survey*, 12th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2007.
- Craig A. Lockard, *Societies, Networks, and Transitions: A Global History*, Cengage Learning, 2006.
- Robert Strayer and Kevin Reilly, *The Human Journey*, Rowman and Littlefield, 2006.

Grant Reviewer / Interviewer

- Davis Graduate Student Travel Grant, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 2016-present.
- National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Competition, 2016.
- Fulbright Faculty Development Program, Fulbright Ukraine, 2013.
- Carnegie Research Fellowship Program, National Council for Eurasian and East

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European Research (NCEEER), 2013.

- Fulbright Graduate Student Program, Fulbright Ukraine, 2012.

External Reviewer

- Stephen F. Austin State University, Department of History, Academic Program Review, 2013.

Reader / Consultant

- AP Reader in World History, 2010.
- AP World History Standard Setting Panel, 2017.
- Texas Education Agency, Social Studies Streamlining Work Group, 2018.

Conference Panel Chair / Discussant

- Chair, "Constructing Ukrainian National Identity in the Nineteenth Century and Early Soviet Period." American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2008.
- Discussant, "The Soviet Pavilion at the Exposition Internationale, Paris 1937," Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2007.
- Discussant, Graduate Student Symposium on Nationalism, Texas Tech University, 2005.
- Discussant, "Exposing Russia: Exhibits of Progress in Imperial and Soviet Russia," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, 2001.

Community Service

Guest Speaker

- "Lessons in Leadership: President Kennedy and the Cuban Missile Crisis," McAllen South Rotary Club, October 2017.
- "Binary Crisis in Ukraine: Maidan and Russian Intervention," Nationalism and Empire: A Panel Discussion with a Specific Focus on the Current Crisis in Ukraine; History Club and History Department, University of Texas Pan American, 2014.
- "Making a Historical Argument," United Way Partners for Post-Secondary Success, Brownsville, TX, 2013.
- "What's So Funny? The Serious Humor in U.S. Political Cartoons," Lecture Series, Mykhailo Ostrohradskyi National University, Kremenchuk, Ukraine, 2013. Funded by a U.S. Department of State Federal Assistance Award.
- "The Cuban Missile Crisis, October 16-28, 1962 in a Cold War Context, 1947-1991," Youth Diplomatic Initiative, U.S. Embassy, Kyiv, Ukraine, 2012.
- "Applying to Graduate School," Education USA Advising Center (Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State), Kyiv, Ukraine, 2012.
- South Padre Island Lecture Series, "Russia in the World Today: Resurgent Empire or New Cold War," 2008.

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Commentator, KURV 710 Talk Radio, McAllen, TX

- Russian Poisoning of “Spies” in Great Britain, March 16, 2018.
- Worsening Russia/U.S. Relations, July 7, 2017.
- Russian Hacking and the U.S. Election, December 13, 2016.
- Trump, Putin, Syria and U.S. Foreign Policy, August 16, 2016.
- Russia/U.S. Relations, January 22, 2016.
- Russian/Georgian Conflict, August 27 and 28, 2008.

Moderator, “Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle,” National Endowment for the Humanities Film Series, University of Texas at Brownsville Library, 2014.

Secondary School Volunteer

- Preparing for the AP Exam, Harmony Science Academy, Brownsville, TX, 2011-2012.
- Essay Writing, Episcopal Day School, Brownsville, TX, 2016.
- Debate, Foreign Leaders Exchange Program, St. Petersburg, Russia, 2000.

Coordinator, Future Teacher Award Competition, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Alpha Mu Chapter, Brownsville, TX, 2008-2012.

Judge, Brownsville Independent School District, National History Day, 2008 – 2019.

Member, City of Brownsville Charter Review Committee, Brownsville, TX, 2008.

Community Radio Volunteer, KCUR, Kansas City, MO, 1999-2001.

Selected Professional Development

- International Center for Sustainability across the Curriculum Seminar, 2017, 2018.
- Archer Fellowship Coordinator Conference, 2017.
- College Board AP Symposium on History, 2016.
- Independently Applying the QM Rubric (Online Course Evaluation), 2016.
- National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference, 2015, 2016.
- 7th Annual Institute on Best Practices in Institutional Effectiveness, 2014.
- University Leadership Education and Development (ULEAD) Program, 2011-2012.
- Critical Thinking Assessment Test (CAT) Train-the-Trainer Workshop, 2011; Scoring Workshops, 2010-2015.
- Faculty/Staff Spanish Class, UTB, 2006-2010.
- Annual Assessment Conference, Texas A&M University, 2008.
- Intensive Spanish Program, Universidad Internacional, Cuernavaca, Mexico, 2008.