

Anya Bernstein

Professor of Anthropology
Harvard University

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Speculative Futures; Science and Technology; Religion and Secularism; Death and Immortality; The Body; Time and Temporality; Human-Animal Relations; Environment and Climate Change; Visual Ethnography; Russia, Inner Asia, Siberia, the Arctic.

EDUCATION

- 2010 Ph.D., Anthropology, New York University
- 2001 M.A., Visual Anthropology, University of Manchester
- 1999 B.S., Linguistics, Georgetown University, *summa cum laude*
- 1995-1997 Undergraduate study in Linguistics, Moscow State University

APPOINTMENTS

- 2020- Professor, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University
- 2017-2020 John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of Anthropology and Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, Harvard University
- 2012-2017 Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Social Studies, Harvard University
- 2010-2012 Postdoctoral Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows, and Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Asian Languages and Cultures, University of Michigan

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

External

2026	Guggenheim Fellowship
2026	The Berlin Prize, American Academy in Berlin
2025	Edwin C. and Elizabeth A. Whitehead Member, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J.
2022	National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship
2022	Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Book Grant, “Public Understanding of Science, Technology and Economics” program
2021-2024	The Research Council of Norway research grant (with Annelin Eriksen)
2022	Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton(declined)
2017-2018	Luce/ACLS Fellowship in Religion, Journalism, and International Affairs held at the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life, Columbia University
2017-2018	Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford (declined)
2017-2018	School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico (declined)
2017-2018	The Berlin Prize, American Academy in Berlin (declined)
2017-2018	Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University (declined)
2014-2016	National Science Foundation (NSF) Senior Research Award
2012-2013	Social Science Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship for Transregional Research
2010-2012	Michigan Society of Fellows Postdoctoral Fellowship
2010-2011	Mellon/ACLS Recent Doctoral Recipients Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined)
2010-2013	Max Planck Institute of Social Anthropology Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined)
2009-2010	Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2009-2010	Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (declined)
2007-2008	Fulbright IIE Fellowship for Field Research
2007-2008	Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant
2006	Social Science Research Council Eurasia Dissertation Development Workshop Fellowship
2006	Summer FLAS Title VI Fellowship for Tibetan Language Study
2004	Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Eurasia Pre-Dissertation Fellowship
1999	Phi Beta Kappa

Internal

2021	Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship (Pleistocene Park)
2020	Research Incubation Fund, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs
2019-2020	Climate Change Solutions Fund, Harvard University
2017	Tenure-track Manuscript Workshop Grants, FAS and Weatherhead Center
2016	Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship (Future of Immortality)
2016	The Harvard Academy Junior Faculty Development Grant
2014	John F. Cogan Junior Faculty Leave Program, Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies
2014-2015	Medium Faculty Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs
2013	The Harvard Academy Junior Faculty Development Grant
2009	Humanities Initiative Research Fellowship, New York University (declined)
1999	Francis P. Dinneen Award for Distinction in Linguistics, Georgetown University

BOOKS

- 2027 *Pleistocene Park: Extinction and Eternity in the Russian Arctic*. Forthcoming with Princeton University Press.
- 2019 *The Future of Immortality: Remaking Life and Death in Contemporary Russia*. Princeton University Press.
- ❖ Winner of the 2020 William A. Douglass Prize in Europeanist Anthropology, Society for the Anthropology of Europe, American Anthropological Association
 - ❖ Reviewed in *The Times Literary Supplement*, *FAZ (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)*, *The Nation*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Isis: A Journal of the History of Science Society*, *Public Books*, *Slavic Review*, *Russian Review*, *The Cambridge Anthropology Journal*, *Sibirskie istoricheskie issledovaniia*
- 2013 *Religious Bodies Politic: Rituals of Sovereignty in Buryat Buddhism*. University of Chicago Press.
- ❖ Winner of the Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion: Analytical-Descriptive Category, American Academy of Religion.
 - ❖ Honorable Mention for the Davis Center Book Prize in Political and Social Studies, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.
 - ❖ Reviewed in *American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Russian Review*, *Slavic Review*, *JRAI (Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute)*. Interview: *Religious Studies News*, American Academy of Religion.

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- In progress “Frozen Archives of Kinship: Time, Memory, and the Cryonic Bond Across Species.”
- 2026 “Mammoth 2.0: Recombinant Time from Tundra to Biotech.” *HAAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*. Forthcoming Fall 2026.
- 2026 “To Give Birth to Parents: Kinship and the End of Orphanhood.” Forthcoming in *Social Analysis*.
- 2026 (With Annelin Eriksen). “Kinship at the End of Death. Rethinking Relatedness in the Contexts of Technoscientific Immortality.” Introduction to the special guest-edited issue of *Social Analysis*. Forthcoming.
- 2024 “Pleistocene Park: Engineering Wilderness in a More-Than-Human World.” *Critical Inquiry*: 50 (3): 452-471.
- 2019 “Life, Unlimited: Russian Archives of the Digital and the Human.” *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 25 (4): 1-22.

- 2016 “Love and Resurrection: Remaking Life and Death in Contemporary Russia.” *American Anthropologist* 118 (1): 12-23.
- 2015 “Freeze, Die, Come to Life: The Many Paths to Immortality in Post-Soviet Russia.” *American Ethnologist* 42 (4): 766-781.
- ❖ Reprinted in: “Enchanted Utopia” Collection, “Moral Utopias, Secular Landscapes,” *American Ethnologist*, November 25, 2019.
- 2014a “The Post-Soviet Art Wars: Iconoclasm, Secularism, and Ways of Seeing in Contemporary Russia.” *Public Culture* 26 (3): 419-448.
- 2014b “The Impossible Object: Relics, Property, and the Secular in Post-Soviet Russia.” *Anthropology Today* 30 (2): 7-11.
- 2013a “An Inadvertent Sacrifice: Body Politics and Sovereign Power in the Pussy Riot Affair.” *Critical Inquiry* 40: 220-241.
- ❖ Reprinted in: Alireza Korangy and Leyla Rouhi (eds). 2019. *The ‘Other’ Martyrs: Women and the Poetics of Sexuality, Sacrifice, and Death in World Literatures*. Pp. 5-23. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
 - ❖ Abridged version reprinted in: Christian C. Hammons (ed). 2016. *Exploring Gender and Culture Through Film*. Pp. 233-239. San Diego, CA: Cognella.
- 2013b “L'Asie du nord au sud: genre, pouvoir et position sociale dans la topographie bouddhique post-soviétique.” *Slavica occitania* 36: 257-285.
- 2012a “On Body-Crossing: Interbody Movement in Eurasian Buddhism.” *Ab Imperio* 2/2012: 168-195.
- ❖ Reprinted as: “Buddhist Body Politics: Life, Death, and Reincarnation in Transnational Eurasia,” *Revue d'Etudes Tibétaines*, 38: 157-182 (2017).
 - ❖ Translated into Russian as “‘Mezhtelesnoe’ dvizhenie v buddizme vnutrennei Azii,” [Inter-body Movement in Inner Asian Buddhism], in I. P. Garri (ed) *Buddizm v istorii i kul'ture buriat* [Buddhism in Buryat Culture and History], 272-300. Ulan-Ude: Buriad-Mongol Nom and Institute of Mongolian, Buddhist, and Tibetan Studies, Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences (2014).
- 2012b “More Alive Than All the Living: Sovereign Bodies and Cosmic Politics in Buddhist Siberia.” *Cultural Anthropology* 27 (2): 261-285.
- ❖ Reprinted in Cultural Anthropology’s Curated Collections: Sovereignty (2018)
 - ❖ Interview and Questions for Classroom Discussion by Cultural Anthropology (2012)
<https://web.archive.org/web/20181213213949/https://culanth.org/articles/25-more-alive-than-all-the-living-sovereign-bodies>

- 2011 “The Post-Soviet Treasure Hunt: Time, Space, and Necropolitics in Siberian Buddhism.” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 53 (3): 623-653.
- ❖ Translated into Russian as: “Postsovetskaia okhota za sokrovishchami: novye sakral’nye istorii i geografii.” In *Buddiz̄m i natsionaliz̄m vo Vnutrennei Az̄ii* [Buddhism and Nationalism in Inner Asia], pp. 213-247. I.P. Garri, ed. Ulan-Ude: Buriad-Mongol Nom, 2021
- 2009 “Pilgrims, Fieldworkers, and Secret Agents: Buryat Buddhologists and the History of a Eurasian Imaginary.” *Inner Asia* 11 (1): 23-45.
- 2008 “Remapping Sacred Landscapes: Shamanic Tourism and Cultural Production on Olkhon Island.” *Sibirica: Journal of Siberian Studies* 7 (2): 23–46.
- 2002 “Buddhist Revival in Buryatia: Recent Perspectives.” *Mongolian Studies* 25: 1-11.

BOOK CHAPTERS, REVIEWS, AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 “Atoms, Star Dust, and Fungi: Death and Secular Eschatologies.” Afterword for the edited volume *The New Death: Mortality and Death Care in the 21st Century*, pp. 299-310. Santa Fe: School of Advanced Research/University of New Mexico Press.
- 2017a “Sacred Necropolitics. A Dialogue on Alexei Yurchak’s Essay ‘The Canon and the Mushroom: Lenin, Sacredness, and the Soviet Collapse.’” *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 7 (2): 199-216. (with Alexei Yurchak).
- 2017b “Buddhist Body Politics: Life, Death, and Reincarnation in Transnational Eurasia.” *Revue d’Etudes Tibétaines* 38: 157-182.
- 2016a “Galsan Legden: A Sovereign Body Beyond the Nation State.” In Jeffrey Samuels, Justin McDaniel, and Mark Rowe (eds), *Figures of Buddhist Modernity in Asia*, 181-183. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- 2016b Review of Caroline Humphrey’s and Hurelbaatar Ujeed’s *The Monastery in Time: The Making of Mongolian Buddhism*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 58 (1): 273-75.
- 2014a “Cyborgs, Weak Cosmists, and a Russian Planet.” *All the Russias’ Blog*, NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, December 16, 2014. <http://jordanrussiacenter.org/news/cyborgs-weak-cosmists-russian-planet/#.VJM1OieN3W5>
- 2014b “Mezhtelesnoe’ dvizhenie v buddizme vnutrennei Azii,” [Inter-body Movement in Inner Asian Buddhism], in I. P. Garri (ed) *Buddiz̄m v istorii i kul’ture buriat* [Buddhism in Buryat Culture and History], 272-300. Ulan-Ude: Buriad-Mongol Nom and

Institute of Mongolian, Buddhist, and Tibetan Studies, Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences [Russian translation of 2012b].

- 2014c “Forgiveness as a Sovereign Exception: Pussy Riot, Winter Olympics, and the New Russian Biopolitics.” *Critical Inquiry* blog, January 6, 2014.
<http://critinq.wordpress.com/2014/01/06/forgiveness-as-a-sovereign-exception-pussy-riot-winter-olympics-and-the-new-russian-biopolitics/>.
- 2013a “Post-Soviet Body Politics: Crime and Punishment in the Pussy Riot Affair.” *Somatosphere: Science, Medicine, and Anthropology*, September 16, 2013.
<http://somatosphere.net/2013/09/post-soviet-body-politics-crime-and-punishment-in-the-pussy-riot-affair.html>.
- 2013b Review of Douglas Rogers’ *The Old Faith and the Russian Land: A Historical Ethnography of Ethics in the Urals*. *Canadian American Slavic Studies* 47: 82-83.
- 2012 Review of Morten Axel Pedersen’s *Not Quite Shamans: Spirit Worlds and Political Lives in Northern Mongolia*. *Religious Studies Review* 38 (3): 196. September 2012.
- 2009 “Antropologiiia media: osnovnye napravleniia” [“Anthropology of Media: Main Directions”], *Vestnik laboratorii mediakul’tury i kommunikatsii* [Journal of the New Media and Communication Lab], Department of Journalism, Moscow State University,
<http://medialab.journ.msu.ru/antropology/380.html> (in Russian).
- 2008 “Po tu storonu realizma: k probleme raskrytiia religioznogo opyta v etnograficheskom kino” [“Beyond Realism: Representation of Religious Experience in Ethnographic Film”] in E. D. Andreeva, Iu. B. Vinichenko, and I. V. Kondakov (eds.) *Audiovizual’naia antropologiiia: istoriia s prodolzheniem* [Audiovisual Anthropology: The Story Continues], 153-161. Moscow: Institut naslediia (in Russian).

VISUAL ETHNOGRAPHIES / DOCUMENTARY FILMS

- 2006 *In Pursuit of the Siberian Shaman* (75 min). A feature-length ethnographic documentary on contemporary Buryat shamanism based on field research on Russia’s Olkhon Island. [Distributed by Documentary Educational Resources, www.der.org].
The Shaman Show (2008, 40 min) - short classroom version.
- ❖ Second Prize of the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Eyes and Lenses IV, Poland, 2007
 - ❖ Audience Award, Eyes and Lenses IV, Poland, 2007
 - ❖ Reviewed in *Visual Anthropology*, *Educational Media Reviews Online*, *Sacred Hoop Magazine*
- 2002 *Join Me in Shambhala* (30 min). A film on Tibetan diaspora’s role in the Buddhist revival in Buryatia [Distributed by Documentary Educational Resources, www.der.org].
- ❖ Award for Outstanding Ethnographic Documentation, XVI Pärnu International Documentary and Anthropology Film Festival, 2002

- ❖ Review essay by Hubert Decler: “Soundings into the History of the Buddha's Teaching in the Deep North.”

2001 *Dharma Kid* (20 min). An ethnographic study of Tibetan identity in India.

INVITED LECTURES

- 2025 History of Science Colloquium, Department of History, Princeton University.
- 2025 Department of Anthropology, Dartmouth College.
- 2024 Department of Anthropology, New School for Social Research.
- 2024 Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale University.
- 2024 University Seminar on Ecology and Culture, Columbia University.
- 2023 Brown University, Providence, RI.
- 2023 “Russia in the Arctic” series, University of Washington, Seattle.
- 2023 Manhattan College, Riverdale, NY.
- 2022 Pomona College, Claremont, CA.
- 2022 Department of Anthropology, Stanford University.
- 2022 New Technologies and the Future of the Human PhD course, Centre Universitaire de Norvège, Paris.
- 2022 Russian/Soviet History Workshop and the Science and Technology Studies Workshop, University of Michigan.
- 2021 Fedorov Museum-Library, Moscow.
- 2021 Terraforming Institute, Moscow, Russia.
- 2021 Anthropology Circle, Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia
- 2021 Global Book Talk, HPS.CESEE: History and Philosophy of Science in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe and CHORUS: Colloquium for the History Of Russian Science.
- 2020 “A CEERES of Voices” Event Series, Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies, University of Chicago and the Seminary Co-op Bookstore.
- 2020 Ethnography and Social Theory Colloquium, Anthropology and Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale University.
- 2019 Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen, Norway.
- 2019 “Death and After” Series, Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life, Columbia University.
- 2019 Public Lecture, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University.
- 2019 Annual Hindus Lecture, Russian and Eurasian Studies, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY.
- 2018 Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Smith College, Northampton, MA.
- 2018 Center for Russian Culture, Amherst College, Amherst, MA.
- 2018 Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, New York University.
- 2018 The Embassy Network, San Francisco, CA.
- 2017 Boas Seminar, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University.
- 2017 Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley.
- 2016 Science, Religion, and Culture Program, Harvard Divinity School.
- 2016 Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2016 Department of Anthropology, University of Aarhus, Denmark.

- 2015 Bioethics Group, Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow.
- 2015 Laboratory of Anthropology of Contemporary Worlds, Institute of Sociology, Free University of Brussels, Belgium.
- 2015 Medical Anthropology Group, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow.
- 2015 Center for the Anthropology of Religion, Department of Anthropology, European University, St. Petersburg.
- 2015 Russian and Eurasian Studies Center, St. Anthony's College, University of Oxford.
- 2015 Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany.
- 2015 Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany.
- 2014 Theology Department, Georgetown University.
- 2014 Numata Lecture, Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto.
- 2014 Numata Reading Group, Department of Religious Studies, McMaster University.
- 2012 Annual New Directions in Buddhist Studies Lecture, Smith College.
- 2012 Anthropology and History Workshop, University of Michigan.
- 2012 Department of Anthropology, Scripps College.
- 2011 Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University.
- 2010 Michigan Society of Fellows, University of Michigan.
- 2010 Center for Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies, University of Michigan.
- 2009 The Rubin Foundation Scholars Seminar, New York.
- 2008 Department of Oriental Studies, St. Petersburg State University, Russia.
- 2008 Department of Sociology, St. Petersburg State University, Russia.
- 2008 Center for Social Anthropology, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow, Russia.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- 2024 Invited workshop. "Planetary Ethics," University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 2023 "Pleistocene Park: Engineering Wilderness in a More-Than-Human World," "Ecosocial and Scientific Futures amidst Cryosphere Loss" panel, Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Annual Meeting, Honolulu.
- 2023 Invited workshop. "Domesticating, Rewilding, Sacralizing: Modes of Engaging Nature in Everyday Life." The Working Group on Lived Religion in Eastern Europe and Eurasia, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.
- 2023 Invited workshop. "To Give Birth to Parents: Kinship and Resurrection in Nikolai Fedorov's Philosophy" for the "Dying and Kinning at the Age of Technoscience" workshop, University of Bergen, Norway.
- 2023 "Climate in the Curriculum: Faculty Retreat on Environmental Justice," Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.
- 2023 Panel Organizer, "Pleistocene Park" documentary screening and panel (dir. Luke Griswold-Tergis), Harvard Film Archive, Harvard University.
- 2023 Discussant, "Pleistocene Park" documentary screening and panel (dir. Luke Griswold-Tergis), Princeton University.
- 2021 "Imagining Russian Hackers Symposium," Yale University.
- 2019 "Energy Aesthetics Symposium," New York University.
- 2019 NY Posthuman Research Group Spring 2019 Summit, New York University.

- 2018 “Managing the Undead: Technologies of Immortality in Contemporary Russia,” for the panel “Imagining the Dead and Managing Death Across the Soviet and Post-Soviet Periods,” Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Annual Meeting, Boston.
- 2018 Discussant, “21st-Century Death Culture,” School for Advanced Research Seminar, Santa Fe.
- 2018 Invited workshop. “Imagining the Immortal Body: Transhumanism and Cosmism Between Science and Religion in Contemporary Russia.” “Beyond Disenchantment: Science, Technology, and New Religious Movements,” Oakley Center for Humanities and Social Sciences, Williams College.
- 2018 Invited workshop. “Thinking about Science, Religion, and Secularism,” Center for the Study of Religion, University of California, Berkeley.
- 2017 “The Future of Immortality: Remaking of Life and Death in Contemporary Russia,” Manuscript workshop, Princeton University.
- 2016 “Freeze, Die, Come to Life: The Future of Immortality in Contemporary Russia.” “Signs of Life” panel, American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis.
- 2016 Invited workshop. “Matters of Life and Death: Politics of the Future in Contemporary Russia.” “Russian Politics Beyond the Kremlin” conference, Yale University.
- 2016 “The Gates of Immortality: Life Extension and Space Exploration in the Soviet Science and Fiction (1950s-1960s).” Conference “Scientific Utopias in the Soviet Union: Fiction, Science, and Power (1917-1991),” CNRS, Paris.
- 2015 “Freeze, Die, Come to Life: The Many Paths to Immortality in Post-Soviet Russia,” Beyond Humanism Conference Series: From Humanism to Post- and Transhumanism, Ehwa Women’s University, Seoul, Korea.
- 2014 “The Invisible Object: Relics, Property, and the Secular in Post-Soviet Russia” for the panel “Theorizing the Invisible,” American Ethnological Society Annual Meeting, Boston.
- 2014 “Post-Soviet Body Politics: Crime and Punishment in the Pussy Riot Affair,” at “Sexing Sound: A Symposium on Music Cultures, Audio Practices, and Contemporary Art” symposium, The Graduate Center, CUNY.
- 2013 “Spirituality, Secularism, and Sovereignty: Forging New Religious Publics in Asia.” Roundtable Presenter and Discussant. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago.
- 2013 “Caution, Religion!: Iconoclasm, Secularism, and Ways of Seeing in Post-Soviet Art Wars,” Global Secularisms Conference, New York University.
- 2013 “Trials and Triangulations: Blasphemy and Moral Injury in the Russian Art Wars.” Conference: “Complaints: Cultures of Grievance in Eastern Europe and Eurasia,” Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University.
- 2013 “Mobility, Authority, and Buddhist Learning in Postsocialist Eurasia,” SSRC Inter-Asia Fellows Workshop, San Diego.
- 2013 “Cosmopolitanism Re-incarnate: Crossing Bodies in Inter-Asia.” Panel: Buddhism and Inter-Asian History, Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, San Diego.
- 2013 “Buddhist Body Politics: Life, Death, and Reincarnation in Transnational Eurasia,” Invited paper for the symposium, “The Tulku Institution in Tibetan Buddhism: Past, Present, and Future Prospects of the Reincarnation System,” University of San Francisco.

- 2012 “Isolation as the Politics of Time: Cultural Sovereignty In Buddhist Siberia,” AAA Executive Panel “The Refusal of Relation,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
- 2012 “Gendered Cosmopolitanisms: Networks of Buddhist Learning in Postsocialist Eurasia,” SSRC Inter-Asian Connections II. Panel: Networks of Religious Learning and the Dissemination of Religious Knowledge across Asia. Hong Kong.
- 2011 “Tibetan Bodies, Buryat “Roots”: Negotiating Relatedness in the Transnational Terrain,” Panel “Intimate Cosmologies of Kinship: Tracking Spiritual and Affective Relatedness in Inner Asian Societies.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal.
- 2010 Panel Organizer (with Robert Y. Chang), “Buddhisms in Motion,” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
- 2010 Presenter, “Buddhism After Socialism: Money and Morality in the World of Samsara.” Discussant, “The Modern Shaman,” Roundtable, American Museum of Natural History.
- 2010 “Mobile Bodies: Death, Reincarnation, and Border Crossing in Buddhist Eurasia.” Panel: “Migration and Transnationalism,” Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Conference, Michigan State University.
- 2010 “The Body as Gift: Gender, the Dead, and Exchange in the Chöd Ritual Economy,” Panel: “The State of Tibetan Anthropology,” 12th Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies, Vancouver, BC.
- 2010 “Sovereign Bodies: Religion and Cultural Politics in Buryatia,” for the panel: “Rossiiskii but not russkii: Russian Indigenous Minorities,” Russian Futures: Contexts, Challenges, Trends, Duke University.
- 2009 “Bodies in Flux: Reincarnation and Apprenticeship as Transnational Ties in Buryat Buddhism,” at the “Global Socialisms and Postsocialisms” Annual Soyuz Symposium, Yale University.
- 2008 “The Revival of Chöd (*gcod*) in the Gelug school as a Cultural Link Between Mongolian and Tibetan Worlds.” Buddhism and the Third Millennium Conference, Ulan-Ude, Russia.
- 2008 “North Asia Meets South Asia: Buryat Buddhists in India” at the Annual Fulbright Conference, Jaipur, India.
- 2007 “Pilgrims, Fieldworkers, and Secret Agents: Buryat Buddhologists and Eurasian Imaginary.” Annual Soyuz Symposium: “Locating “Eurasia” in Post-Socialist Studies: The Geopolitics of Naming,” Princeton University.
- 2006 “From Wild Men to Businessmen: Shamanic Transformations in Buryatia.” Workshop “Reassessing Religion in Siberia and Neighboring Regions,” Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany.
- 2006 “Remapping Sacred Landscapes: Tourism and National Identity in Olkhon Island,” Panel: “Sacred Landscapes and Shamans in North Asia,” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Jose.
- 2006 “Food for the Gods: The Matter of Sacrifice among the Shamans and Buddhists of Buryatia,” Panel: “Powerful Objects: Materiality and Metonymy in Four Asian Religious Communities,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Washington DC.
- 2006 “Is Siberian Buddhism Really Tibetan?” Presented at the SSRC Eurasia Program/Princeton University Institute for International and Regional Studies

- Dissertation Development Workshop, "Russia and Eurasia in World Context: A Dialogue with East Asian Studies."
- 2004 "Navajo Religion," Conference "Cultural Links Between Ancient America and Siberia," Buryatia, Russia.
- 2002 "Beyond Realism: Representation of Religious Experience in Ethnographic Film," at the "Audiovisual Recordings of Traditional Culture" panel, International Methodological Seminar, Salekhard, Russia.
- 2002 "Buddhist Revival in Buryatia" at the "Contemporary Mongol Groups" panel, Mongolia Society/Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Washington DC.

TEACHING

Harvard University:

- 2025 Remaking Life and Death (PhD seminar). Spring.
- 2024 Research Design/Proposal Writing. (PhD seminar). Fall.
- 2024 Anthropology of Death and Immortality (undergraduate). Spring.
- 2023 Anthropology of Religion (undergraduate and graduate). Fall.
- 2023 Guest Seminar for Anthro 2605 History and Theory of Social Anthropology (Graduate Proseminar). Fall.
- 2023 Anthropology of Death and Immortality (undergraduate). Spring.
- 2023 Remaking Life and Death (PhD seminar). Spring.
- 2021 Remaking Life and Death (PhD seminar). Fall
- 2021 Research Design/Proposal Writing (PhD seminar). Fall.
- 2021 Guest Seminar for Anthro 2605 History and Theory of Social Anthropology (Graduate Proseminar). Fall.
- 2020 Remaking Life and Death (PhD seminar). Spring.
- 2020 Guest Seminar for Ethnographic Methods course (Multi-sited and Transnational Ethnography) (Anthropology, graduate). Spring.
- 2019 Research Design/Proposal Writing (Anthropology, graduate). Fall.
- 2019 Humans, Technology, and Biopolitics (Social Studies, junior tutorial). Fall.
- 2019 Remaking Life and Death (Anthropology, graduate). Spring.
- 2019 Contribution to co-taught Methods course (Multi-sited and Transnational Ethnography) (Anthropology, graduate). Spring.
- 2018 Research Design/Proposal Writing (Anthropology, graduate). Fall.
- 2018 Humans, Technology, and Biopolitics (Social Studies, junior tutorial). Fall.
- 2017 Anthropology of Socialism and Postsocialism (Reading course). Fall.
- 2017 Grounding the Global: Introduction to Social Anthropology (Anthropology, undergraduate). Spring.
- 2016 Anthropology of Death and Immortality (Anthropology, graduate and undergraduate). Fall.
- 2016 Humans, Technology, and Biopolitics (Social Studies, junior tutorial). Fall.
- 2016 Anthropology of Religion (Anthropology, graduate and undergraduate). Spring.
- 2016 Religion and Secularism in a Global World (Social Studies, junior tutorial). Spring.
- 2014 Religion and Secularism in a Global World (Social Studies, junior tutorial). Fall.
- 2014 Dissertation Writing Workshop (for PhD Candidates in Anthropology), co-taught with Mary Steedly. Fall

- 2014 Religion and Secularism in a Global World (Social Studies, junior tutorial). Spring.
 2014 Anthropology of Death and the Afterlife (Anthropology, graduate and undergraduate). Spring.
 2013 Anthropology of Religion (Anthropology, graduate and undergraduate). Fall.

University of Michigan:

- 2011 Shamans, Nomads, and Commissars: Introduction to North Asia (Asian Languages and Cultures, freshman seminar).
 2011 Anthropology of Death and the Afterlife (Anthropology, senior seminar).

Guest Seminars (Other Institutions):

- 2025 “Anthropology of Death and Dying,” Dartmouth College
 2024 “Siberia Between Heaven and Hell,” Princeton University
 2019 “Arctic Transformations,” Colgate University
 2017 “Personhood,” Columbia University
 2014 “Buddhism and Modernity,” Georgetown University
 2014 “Buddhism and Film,” Georgetown University

LANGUAGES

Russian: native
 English: near native
 French: fluent reading, writing, speaking
 Italian: advanced reading and speaking, intermediate writing
 Spanish: intermediate reading and speaking
 Tibetan: modern colloquial, intermediate reading and speaking
 Latin: basic reading
 Old Church Slavonic and Old Russian: basic reading

SELECTED FILM SCREENINGS

- 2016 Division of Russian and Slavic Studies, Hunter College, CUNY, New York
 2014 Theology Department, Georgetown University
 2012 Australian Anthropological Society Annual Conference, Univ. of Queensland
 2009 Centre d'études mongoles et sibériennes, EPHE, Sorbonne, Paris
 2009 State Ethnographic Museum, Warsaw, Poland
 2009 Linden State Museum of Ethnology, Stuttgart, Germany
 2009 International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, China
 2009 11th RAI Ethnographic Film Festival, Leeds, UK
 2008 Delhi International Ethnographic Festival, India
 2008 Nordic Anthropological Film Festival, Iceland
 2008 Dialektus Film Festival, Hungary
 2008 Center for Visual Anthropology, Russian State University of the Humanities

2007 Viscult, Festival of Visual Culture, Finland
 2007 Globians Film Festival, Potsdam, Germany
 2007 The International Society for Shamanistic Research, Budapest, Hungary
 2007 Association for the Study of Nationalities Convention, Columbia University
 2007 Eyes and Lenses IV, Ethnographic Film Festival, Warsaw, Poland
 2007 Ethnographic Film Festival of Montréal, Canada
 2006 Festival de Filme Documentario e Etnografico, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
 2006 XV International Festival of Ethnological Film, Belgrade, Serbia
 2006 SVA Film and Video Festival, AAA Meeting, San Jose, CA
 2006 Moscow Festival of Visual Anthropology, Russia
 2006 Sardinia Ethnographic Film Festival, Italy
 2006 Göttingen International Film Festival, Germany
 2006 XV Bilan du Film Ethnographique, Paris
 2006 Tibet House, New York
 2005 Regards Comparés: Mongolie, Musée de l'Homme, Paris
 2005 Buddhist Film Festival, San Francisco
 2004 Asia Film Festival, Finland
 2004 Heard Museum Indigenous Film Festival, Phoenix, Arizona
 2004 North American Interfaith Network Film Festival, New York
 2003 Religion Today, 6th International Festival of Cinema and Religion. Trento, Italy
 2003 8th Royal Anthropological Institute Festival of Ethnographic Film, UK
 2003 Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, New York
 2003 DC Independent Film Festival, Washington DC
 2002 XVI Pärnu International Documentary and Anthropology Film Festival, Estonia
 2002 XXI Bilan du Film Ethnographique, Musée de l'Homme, Paris, France
 2002 American Anthropological Association Film and Video Festival, New Orleans
 2002 III Russian Festival of Anthropological Films, Salekhard, Russia

SELECT RECENT MEDIA APPEARANCES (long-form interviews, podcasts, mentions):

The BBC Radio 4, (“Thinking Allowed” “Immortality – Transhumanism”)
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0009qvr>
The Guardian/ Sunday Observer, “On My Radar: Karl Ove Knausgaard’s Cultural Highlights,”
<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2021/jan/24/on-my-radar-karl-ove-knausgaards-cultural-highlights>
Sean’s Russia Blog Podcast, “Immortality and Transhumanism in Russia,”
<https://srbpodcast.org/2020/03/27/immortalism-and-transhumanism-in-russia/>
V-A-C Foundation (Italy and Russia), <https://sreda.v-a-c.org/en/read-14> (English),
<https://sreda.v-a-c.org/ru/read-14> (Russian)
Archipelago Podcast (Athens, Greece), “Russian Immortalists with Points to Prove,”
<http://movement.radio/show/The-Archipelago-feat-Anya-Bernstein--Russian-Immortalists-with-Points-to-Prove-29052021>
“(In Bed With) The Russians” Podcast “Mortals of the Earth, Unite!”
<https://yasha.substack.com/p/mortals-of-the-earth-unite-fixed>
Yorokobu: (Spain), <https://www.yorokobu.es/anya-berstein-transhumanismo/>
Meduza.io, 2019 Top Russia-related Books, “Non-fiction of the Future” category
<https://meduza.io/en/slides/2019-s-top-russia-related-books>