

Alla V. Kourova, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Russian and TESOL
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
College of Art and Humanities
University of Central Florida
Alla.Kourova@ucf.edu

HIGHER EDUCATION

Ph.D., Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TESOL) and Cross-Cultural Studies (Russian), Moscow State University, Russia, December 1999.

M.A., Speech Therapy and TESOL, Moscow Pedagogical University, Russia, July 1994.

B.A., TESOL and Education, Rostov-on Don Pedagogical University, Russia, July 1982.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2017–present	UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA Associate Professor Russian and TESOL,
2011–2017	UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA Assistant Professor Russian and TESOL
2007-2011	UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA Visiting Professor in TESOL
2003-2007	UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, Missoula Adjunct Instructor in Education and Teacher Training.
2002-2003	UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, Missoula Fulbright Research Scholar,

External Grants

Principal Investigator of a **new two-year STARTALK** grant “How Words Shape People: Understanding Business Russian Through Proverbs” (The National Security Agency’s National Cryptologic Institute) US Department of Defense. May 2023- May 2025 **(\$306,500)**.

Principal Investigator of a **new two-year STARTALK** grant “How Words Shape People: Understanding Business Russian Through Proverbs” (The National Security Agency’s National Cryptologic Institute) US Department of Defense. May 2022- May 2024 **(\$359,970.86)**.

Principal Investigator for **STARTALK** grant “Where the East meets West” (National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) US Department of State. February 2019- March 2021 **(\$99,000)**.

Principal Investigator for **STARTALK** grant “Where the East meets West” (National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) US Department of State. February 2018- March 2019 **(\$89,599)**.

Principal Investigator for **Fulbright Hays Group Grant**, US Department of Education, August 2017-December 2018 **(\$91,795.00)**.

Principal Investigator for **STARTALK** grant “Preparation for the Business Trip to Russia” (National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) US Department of State.

February 2017-March 2018 **(\$87,778.28)**.

Principal Investigator for **STARTALK** grant (STARTALK is the newest of the component programs of National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) US Department of State.

February 2016-2017 **(\$88,778.00)**.

Principal Investigator for **STARTALK** grant (STARTALK is the newest of the component programs of National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) US Department of State.

February 2015-2016 **(87,266)**.

Principal Investigator of the US Department of State grant the **US- Russia Dialogue Program “Getting Closer: A Cross-Cultural U.S.-Russian Project Focusing on Teaching Foreign Languages to U.S. Students and Blind/Visually Impaired Students in Russia.”** Fall 2014-Spring 2015 **(\$ 99,203)**.

Co-Principal Investigator in the grant award for the TESOL association in Penza, Russia: “Cross-Cultural experience for TESOL Association Penza-Swallow” Penza, Ministry of Education of Penza Region and ESL office of the American Embassy in Moscow, Russia, February 2011 **(\$1,000)**.

Fulbright Research Grant: 9-month research grant at the University of Montana, 2001-2002.

Internal Grants

UCF In-House Faculty-Led Study Abroad Research Grant (2016—**\$3,000**).

LIFE at UCF Program Development Grant, (2015—**\$300**).

UCF In-House Research Grant, (2014—**\$7,500**).

ACADEMIC HONORS & AWARDS

- Awardee, 2022 The Best Teacher of the Year (Florida Foreign Language Association)
- Awardee, 2021 the Most Valuable Teacher of Florida-by-Florida Foreign Language Association.
- Awardee, 2021 College of Arts and Humanities “Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
- Awardee, 2020 National CARTA Excellence in Teaching Russian Language and Culture Award (Central Association of Russian teachers of America)
- Awardee, 2019 UCF Research Incentive Award (RIA)
- Awardee, 2018 UCF Scroll and Quill Society
- Awardee, 2016-2017 Distinguished Faculty Member of Lake Claire Community.
- Awardee, 2015 National AATSEEL’s 2015 award for Excellence in Teaching (Post-Secondary). AATSEEL is the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America.
- Awardee, 2015 University of Central Florida Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.
- Awardee, 2015 College of Arts & Humanities Excellence in Research Award.

- Awardee, 2015 College of Arts & Humanities Excellence in Professional Service Award.
- Awardee, 2014 University of Central Florida Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award.
- Awardee, 2014 College of Art & Humanities Teaching Incentive Program Award.
- Awardee, 2013 Research and Mentoring Award with Russian Minor student Irina Pidberejna, Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Central Florida.
- Nominee, 2007 11th annual edition “Who’s Who among America’s Teachers” (Honoring Our Nation’s Most Respected Teachers).
- Awardee, 2006 EFL Teacher Trainer Award, Phoenix, AZ.
- Awardee, 2001 Fulbright Research Award, University of Montana, Missoula, MT.

• **PUBLICATIONS**

Academic Books

Kourova, A. (Forthcoming May 2024). *Exploring Language and Culture in Business Russia: A Research Informed Approach*. Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, Dubuque, IA.

Kourova, A. (August 2016). *Picturing Russia: A Research Guide to Russian Culture*. Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, Dubuque, IA. Printed in the United States of America.

[**Review of the book** Aimee Roebuck-Johnson. (2016) *Picturing Russia: A Research Guide to Russian Culture* by A. Kourova]. *American Council of Teachers of Russia*, 43(2), 18-20.

Kourova, A. (2013). *Using cross-cultural projects in teaching foreign languages: A research-based approach to design and implementation*. Smolensk, Russia: Universum Press, University of Smolensk.

[**Review of the book** Nemtchinova, E. (2014) *Using cross-cultural projects in teaching foreign languages: A research-based approach to design and implementation*, by A. Kourova]. *Slavic and East European Journal*, 58(3), 565-566.

Kourova, A. & Ashmore R. (2004). *Russian education reconstructed: “Perestroika.”* Bloomington, Indiana: Phi Delta Kappa International, Educational Foundation.

Kourova, A. (2003). *Cross-cultural communication for English as a second language: Global English for global understanding*. Moscow, Russia: In-service Teacher Training Institute Publishing House.

Refereed Textbook

Kourova, A. (January 2024). *Journey Through the Russian Language: A Comprehensive Reading Textbook*. Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, Dubuque, IA

Refereed Book Chapters

Kourova, A. (May, 2016). Russian Education in the 21st century: Establishing links with the global community. In *Reconsidering Post-Soviet rhetoric: Theory and practice of professional writing and of writing education in the former Eastern Bloc*. Washington DC: Lexington Books.

Kourova, A. (2012). Multimedia programs and cross-cultural communication in teaching English—new way of interdisciplinary approach. In *Using humanities courses to prepare non-language major for effective intercultural communication* (pp.82-93). Kiev, Ukraine: National Aviation University.

Kourova, A. (2010). Cross-cultural differences in teaching ESL. In *Professional association and professional teacher development* (pp.136-139). Ulan-Ude, Russia: Ulan-Ude Press.

Kourova, A. (2010). No child left behind and ESL students in US. In *Professional association and professional teacher development* (pp.43-48). Ulan-Ude, Russia. Ulan-Ude Press.

Refereed Articles

Kourova, A. (January 2022). Let's songs help us. *CARTA Research Journal (Central Association Russian Teachers of America)*

Kourova, A. (November 2021). From Orlando to Russian Through Cultural Projects.” *CARTA Research Journal (Central Association Russian Teachers of America)*

Kourova, A.& Mihai, F (May 2021). Fulbright Hays Group Project Abroad: Building Bridges through Language and Culture in Russia. *Journal of the American Council of Teachers of Russian*

Kourova, A. (September 2020). Technology and Cross-Cultural Communication in Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language. *18th International Conference on Education and Information Systems, Technologies in the context of the 14th International Multi-Conference on Society, Cybernetics and Informatics (IMSCI 2020)* proceedings indexed by SCOPUS (Paper ID: EA504XB)

Kourova, A. (August 2020). Creativity in Teaching Russian: Challenges, Prospects, Methods *CARTA Research Journal (Central Association Russian Teachers of America)*

Kourova, A.& Howard, W. (August 2018). Digital Repository in the UCF Library “STARS” (database of photos and videos, an opened education resource under Creative Common License).

Kourova, A., Salter, A., Pidberejna, I., & McDaniel, R. (September 2016). From Orlando to Russia: Cross-cultural communication through gamemaking. In *Proceedings of the 34th Annual International Conference on the Design of Communication*. New York: Association for Computing Machinery. Arlington, Virginia.

Kourova, A., & Mikhanova, O.P. (2015). International exchange programs: a brief historical overview. Penza State University Press “*University Proceedings in Volga Region*” sponsored by Russian Ministry of Higher Education and Science, 4, 146-156.

Kourova, A., & Sergeenkova, Z.A. (2014). Dialogue of culture as collaboration between people in the 21st century. *Philosophy of Education: History and Present Time*, 11, 32-34. Penza State University Press. Sponsored by Russian Ministry of Higher Education and Science.

Kourova, A. (2013). Connecting classrooms: Russian language teaching project at UCF. *Journal of the American Council of Teachers of Russian*, 63, 79-91.

Kourova, A. (2013). The integration of the Bologna process in Russia. *Florida Foreign Language Journal*, 9, 52-60. <http://www.ffla.us>

Kourova, A., & Modianos, D.T. (2013). Inter-cultural awareness and its role in enriching students’ communicative competence. *The International HETL Review Special Issue*.

Kourova, A., & Modianos, D.T. (2013). Cross-cultural projects in the in-service teachers training programs. *Philosophy of Education: History and Present Time*, 10, 208-212. Penza State University Press, Russia, sponsored by Russian Ministry of Higher Education and Science.

Kourova, A. (2012). Teaching culture: strategies for cultural understanding. *Journal for Teachers of English as an International language*, 1, 64-70. Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, University Press.

Kourova, A. (2012). Corpus linguistics: translation of the English texts into Russian language. *Philosophy of Education: History and Present Time*, 8, 310-315. Penza, Russia, sponsored by Russian Ministry of Higher Education and Science.

Kourova, A. (2011). The role of Russian as a foreign language in America and issues of curriculum design. *Florida Foreign Language Journal*, 7(1), 40-51.

Kourova, A. (2009). Warming-up activities in Russian as a Foreign Language Classes. *Journal of Penza Association of Teaching English as Foreign Language*, 82, 2-5.

Kourova, A. (2007). Planning the English language lesson. *Journal of Moscow Association of Teaching English as Foreign Language*, 56, 54-58.

Kourova, A. (2005). Creative methodology in teaching foreign languages. *Journal of Penza Association of Teaching English as Foreign Language*, 78, 3-6.

Kourova, A. (2003). Multi-cultural education as a moral education. *Montana Association of Language Teachers Journal*, 48, 18-21.

Kourova, A. (2002). Foreign language teachers’ needs in the Russian in-service educational training. *Montana Association of Language Teachers Journal*, 47, 38-45.

Kourova, A. (2002). Falling out of the blue and back to earth. *Montana Association of Language Teachers Journal*, 47, 45-47.

Book Reviews in Refereed Journals

Kourova, A. (2014). [Review of the book *The texture of culture: Introduction of Yuri Lotman's Semiotic Theory*, by A. Semenenko]. *The American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) Journal*, 352-353.

Kourova, A. (2010). Book Review. *Glimpses of Oman*. Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, Printed by the University Press, 2010.

Non-refereed Professional Publications

Kourova, A. (2018). "Building Bridges through the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning." *UCF Faculty Focus*, 17(3), 4.

Kourova, A. & Filimonenko L. (2016). Youth for Tolerance. E-Book based on International project "Connecting Classrooms" UCF and Lyceum #7 Novochoerkassk, Russia.
<http://mou7novoch.narod.ru/>

Kourova, A. & Filimonenko L. (2015). Language and culture through Russian and America eyes. E-Book based on International project "Connecting Classrooms" UCF and Lyceum #7 Novochoerkassk, Russia. <http://mou7novoch.narod.ru/>

Kourova, A. (2014). Information about events and publications. *Newsletter of the American Association of teachers Slavic and Eastern European Languages*, 39 (1), 23-24
<http://www.aatseel.org/publications/newsletter/>

Kourova, A. (2014). University of Central Florida Program notes. *Newsletter of the American Council of teachers of Russian*, 40, 7-8.

Kourova, A. (2013). "Never has the carpet been so red." *UCF Faculty Focus*, 12(1), 8-9.

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS & CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Principal Investigator of a new two-year STARTALK grant "How Words Shape People: Understanding Business Russian Through Proverbs" (The National Security Agency's National Cryptologic Institute) US Department of Defense. May 2023- May 2025

Principal Investigator for the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Embassy, Moscow, Russia grant: "Developing Global Future Leaders: Women in the 21st Century", April 2019-2020 (under review)

Co-Investigator for the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Embassy, Moscow, Russia grant:
“*Extending Bridges: Best Practices in online Education*”, April 2019-2020 (under review)
Principal Investigator for **Fulbright Hays Group Grant**, “*Building Bridges with Language and Culture in Russia*,” US Department of State, July 2017- 2019

Developing digital stories for Russian and EFL classes, 2016-2019.
Principal Investigator for STARTALK Infrastructure grant. (STARTALK is the newest of the component programs of National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) US Department of State. February 2015-2016, February 2016-2017, February 2017-2018

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

(Most Recent Presentations [2011-2024])

Refereed, International

Kourova, A. (2023, April). Two training presentations based on the STARTALK grant. “

Kourova, A. (2023, February). “*Theoretical Approaches and Classroom Examples*” **Panel Chair and Roundtable: Key issues in intercultural competence development** at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)

Kourova, A. (2023, April). “*How Words Shape People: Understanding Business Russian through Proverbs*”, Conference presentation at the Central Association of Russian Teachers of America. (CARTA)

Kourova, A. (2022, February). “*Shaping Stereotypical Cultural Representations in an Introductory Russian STARTALK programs*” Conference presentation at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)

Kourova, A. (2022, April). “*Shaping Stereotypical Cultural Representations in an Introductory Russian STARTALK programs*”, Conference presentation at the Central Association of Russian Teachers of America. (CARTA)

Kourova, A. (2021, November). “*From Orlando to Russian through Cultural Projects*”, Conference presentation at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Virtual Conference.

Kourova, A. (2021, October). “*From Orlando to Russian through Cultural Projects*”, Conference presentation at the Florida Foreign language Association.

Kourova, A. (2020, November), *Cultural projects in EFL Classrooms*, SSTESOL 30th Annual Conference “30 Years Consent Decree,” Virtual, Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. (2019, October), *Mentoring Undergraduates: Professors Strategically Guiding the next generation of Professionals*, 12 Annual Florida Statewide Symposium “Best practices in Undergraduate Research,” Orlando, FL.

- Kourova, A. (2021, November). *"From Orlando to Russian through Cultural Projects"*, Conference presentation at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Virtual Conference.
- Kourova, A. (2021, April). *"From Orlando to Russian through Cultural Projects"*, Conference presentation at the Central Association of Russian Teachers of America. Virtual Conference.
- Kourova, A. (2021, February). *"Based Online Approach to Fostering Cultural Understanding in the Beginning Russian Class."* Virtual Conference presentation at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)
- Kourova, A. (2021, January). *International Projects in Foreign Language Classrooms*. Virtual conference on Intercontinental meet Gender and Sexuality Studies
- Kourova, A. (2020, September). *Technology and Cross-Cultural Communication in Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language*. 18th International Virtual Conference on Education and Information Systems, Technologies in the context of the 14th International Multi-Conference on Society, Cybernetics and Informatics.
- Kourova, A. (2019, November). *"Students Experiences as Cultural Tools through Digital Storytelling,"* Conference presentation at the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Washington D.C.
- Kourova, A. & Morris, B (2019, February). *"Building Bridges with Language and Culture in Russia"*. Conference presentation at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, New Orleans, LA.
- Kourova, A. (2019, January). *"Fulbright Hays Group Project Abroad in Russia"*. Conference presentation at the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). New Orleans, LA.
- Kourova, A. & Morris, B (2018, November). *"Building Bridges with Language and Culture in Russia"*. Conference presentation at the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). New Orleans, LA.
- Kourova, A. (2018, October). *STARTALK at UCF-fourth year. Workshop: "Study Abroad in the STARTALK program."* National STARTALK conference, Huston, TX.
- Kourova, A. (2018, May). Using *"Picturing Russia: A Research Guide to Russian culture"* in the *intermediate Russian class.* Presentation at the Central Association of Russian Teachers of America, Moscow, Russia.

Kourova, A. (2018, May). Round Table: Fulbright Team as co-presenters. *"Building Bridges with Language and Culture in Russia"*. Presentation at the Central Association of Russian Teachers of America, Moscow, Russia

Kourova, A. & Dr. Santana, (2018, March). Round Table: Fulbright Team as co-presenters. *"Building Bridges with Language and Culture in Russia"*. Presentation at the Florida Political Science Association, Florida Gulf coast University, Ft. Myers, Florida

Kourova, A. (2018, February). *"Bilingual and Bicultural Identity in Women Studies in Higher Education in the US and Russia."* Presentation at the International conference: "Women in TECH: The Next Generation of Activists", Orlando, Florida

Kourova, A. (2018, February). *"Fulbright for a Bright Future"* Presentation at the International conference: "Women in TECH: The Next Generation of Activists", Orlando, Florida

Kourova, A. (2017, November). *"Picturing Russia: A Research Guide to Russian culture"*, Presentation at the American Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Chicago, IL.

Kourova, A. (2017, November). *STARTALK at UCF—third year. Workshop: "Student Experience as Cultural teaching Tools through Digital Storytelling."* National STARTALK conference, Portland, OR

Kourova, A. (2017, February). *Using Digital Stories in the Language Classrooms*, Presentation at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America, San-Francisco, CA.

Kourova, A. (2016, October). *STARTALK at UCF—second year*. National STARTALK conference, Atlanta, GA.

Kourova, A. & Pidberejna, I (2016, September). *From Orlando to Russia: Cross-cultural communication through gamemaking*. Presentation at the 34th Annual International Conference on the design of communication. Arlington, Virginia.

Kourova, A. & Pidberejna, I. (2016, April). *Cross-Cultural Ways and Their Role on Students' Perceptions of Russian and American Culture in a Linguistic Context*. Paper presented at the International Russian American Master-Class Seminar for Teachers of English for the Republic of Bashkortostan, Ufa, Russia.

Kourova, A. (2015, October). *STARTALK at UCF*. Poster presentation at the National STARTALK conference, Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. (2015, May). *Getting closer: A cross-cultural project focusing on teaching foreign languages to US students and blind/visual impaired students in Russia*. Paper presented at the Zverev International Biennial Conference on American Studies, Moscow, Russia.

Kourova, A. (2015, March). *US-Russia Dialogue Project*. Presentation at the Central Association of Russian Teachers of America, Dallas, TX.

Kourova, A. & Pidberejna, I. (2015, January). *Picturing Russia: Cultural Research Project at UCF*. Presentation at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America, Vancouver, Canada.

Kourova, A. (2014, January). *The role of intercultural competence in teaching Russian as a foreign language*. Presentation at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America, Chicago, IL.

Kourova, A. (2013, May). *Culture as a language learning resource*. Presentation at the Russian State University for Humanities International Conference, Moscow, Russia.

Kourova, A. (2013, January). *Connecting classrooms: A foreign language teaching project at UCF*. Presentation at the International Higher Education Teaching and Learning Conference, Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. (2013, January). *Cultural and intercultural awareness and their role in informing and enriching students' communicative competence*. Presentation at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America, Boston, MA.

Kourova, A. (2012, November). *Globalization: Proper names in education and cultural traditions*. Presentation at the 13th AIIAS Graduate School Forum on Business, Education, and Public Health. Globalization: Its Impact on the Developing World, Silang Cavite. Philippines.

Kourova, A. (2012, June). *Multimedia programs and cross-cultural communication in teaching English—New way of interdisciplinary approach*. Presentation at the National Aviation University Conference: Using Humanities Courses to Prepare Non-language Majors for Effective Intercultural Communication, Kiev, Ukraine.

Kourova, A. (2011, June). *Reading in language classrooms*. Presentation at the International English as a Foreign Language Association Conference, Moscow, Russia.

Kourova, A. (2010, June). *International projects in teaching foreign languages*. Presentation at Moscow State University International Conference, Moscow, Russia.

Refereed, Regional

Kourova, A. (2011, September). *Cross-cultural Differences in Teaching English as a Second Language*. Southeast Regional TESOL Conference, Miami, FL.

Kourova, A. (2010, September). *New Ways in Teaching Culture*. SETESOL Regional Conference, Miami, FL.

Refereed, State

Kourova, A. (2023, October). *"How to Start Talking: Practical Ideas for Classroom and Extracurricular Activities"*, Conference presentation at the Florida Foreign language Association. Daytona Beach, FL

Kourova, A. (2022, October). *"Connecting classrooms to learn language and culture," "Designing and customizing Educational Videos to Teach Russian as a Foreign Language," "Shaping Stereotypical cultural Representations in an introductory Russian Program,"* **Round Table: Teaching Critical Languages in Impossible times.** Conference presentation at the Florida Foreign Language Association. Orlando, FL

Kourova, A. (2021, October). *"From Orlando to Russian through Cultural Projects"*, Conference presentation at the Florida Foreign language Association. Orlando, FL

Kourova, A. (2020, November), *Cultural projects in EFL Classrooms*, SSTESOL 30th Annual "30 Years Consent Decree," Virtual, Orlando, FL

Kourova, A. (2021, October). *"From Orlando to Russian through Cultural Projects"*, Conference presentation at the Florida Foreign language Association. Orlando, FL

Kourova, A. (2020, November), *Cultural projects in EFL Classrooms*, SSTESOL 30th Annual Conference "30 Years Consent Decree," Virtual, Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. (2019, October), *Mentoring Undergraduates: Professors Strategically Guiding the next generation of Professionals*, 12 Annual Florida Statewide Symposium "Best practices in Undergraduate Research," Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. & Reilly, K (2015, November). *Teaching English to Visual Impaired Students in Russia*. CFTESOL conference, Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. (2015, October). *US-Russian Dialogue program*. Florid Foreign Language conference, St. Augustine, FL.

Kourova, A. & Pidberejna I. (2014, October). *Picturing Russia*. Florid Foreign Language conference, Miami, FL.

Kourova, A. (2014, May). *Interactive forms of teaching intercultural communication*. Sunshine State TESOL conference, St. Petersburg, FL.

Kourova, A., Moore, M., & Pidberejna I. (2013, November). *Keys to communication*. Central Florida TESOL Conference, Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. (2012, May). *Linguistic aspect of intercultural communication*. Sunshine State TESOL Conference, Orlando, FL.

Kourova, A. (2011, November). *Teaching language through culture*. Central Florida TESOL

Kourova, A. (2011, September). Cross-cultural Differences in Teaching English as a Second Language. Southeast Regional TESOL Conference, Miami, FL.

Kourova, A. (2010, September). New Ways in Teaching Culture. SETESOL Regional Conference, Miami, FL.

Invited, International

(Most Recent Presentations [2011-2023])

Invited Speaker for book presentation “Picturing Russia: A Research Guide to Russian Culture” Russian Embassy, Russian Culture Center, Washington D.C., December 2018

Invited annually by the U.S. Department of State to conduct a workshop for Russian educators: “Language in Culture and Culture in Language.” Washington D.C., August 2010-2019.

Invited Keynote Speaker “Methods of Teaching Russian as a Foreign Language in the United States” NATE - Russia conference, June 2017.

Invited Round Table Speaker “US-Russian Dialogue Program.” Moscow State University, Russia, June, 2015 and 2016.

Keynote Speaker “Russian Language and Education in the USA.” Fifth Forum of Russian-American Compatriots of the USA, New York, August 2014.

Invited Workshop Speaker “Using cross-cultural projects in teaching foreign languages: A research-based approach to design and implementation.” Moscow State University, Russia, July 2014.

Invited Roundtable Speaker. “Using cross-cultural projects in teaching foreign languages.” Financial University under the Government of Russian Federation, Moscow, Russia. July 2014.

Featured Speaker. “Using cross-cultural projects in teaching foreign languages. Publishing House “Russian Word.” Moscow, Russia. June 2014.

Invited Chair. Panel: “Contemporary Russian culture” International American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America, Conference. Chicago, Illinois, January 2014.

Invited Chair. Panel: “Russian Language and Culture Abroad.” International American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America Conference. Chicago, IL, January 2014.

Featured Speaker: invited by the English Language Office, Moscow U.S. Embassy to make a presentation at the seminar “Equal Opportunities: Teaching Blind and Visually Impaired Students English.” St-Petersburg, Russia, June 2013.

Invited Speaker by the English Language Office, Moscow U.S. Embassy to conduct a workshop with the English Language Fellow program, funded by the U.S. Department of State: “Cross-Cultural Projects in Teaching Foreign Languages.” Penza State University, Russia, May 2013.

Invited Visiting Professor to teach a graduate course “Methods of Teaching English as a Foreign Language” in Penza State In-Service Teaching Training Institute, Russia, May 2013.

Invited Speaker by the State Pedagogical Rostov-on-Don University and Lyceum #7, Novocherkassk to conduct a seminar: “The Impact of Cultural Awareness on the Acquisition of Foreign Language.” Novocherkassk, Russia, May 2013.

Invited Speaker by the Moscow Association of EFL Teachers to conduct a workshop on “Cross-Cultural Projects in Teaching Foreign Languages.” Moscow, Russia, May 2013.

Invited Chair Panel: “Innovative Approaches to Instruction” International AATSEEL Conference. Boston, MA, April 2013

Invited Speaker at the Pedagogical Penza University: “Strategies in Teaching Culture in the Language Classroom.” Penza, Russia, July 2012.

Invited Speaker at the Russian TESOL conference: “Cultural Sensitivity Development in Teaching English as an International Language.” Moscow, Russia, May 2011.

Invited workshop leader: “Teaching Culture in the Foreign Language classroom: Ideas that Save Teacher’s Time.” Moscow TESOL, Moscow, Russia, January 2011.

Invited by the U S. Department of State to conduct a workshop for Russian educators: “Methodology of Teaching English as a Second language.” Washington D C., June 2010.

Invited Speaker at the Penza TESOL Association: “Cross-Cultural Component as an Integral Part of Teaching Material.” Penza, Russia, May 2009 & May 2010.

Invited, University

Faculty Panel “Introduction to Research Class” for the Office of Undergraduate Research, November 2023

Ongoing Russian Educational Cultural Nights for Faculty at the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, 2010- to present.

Guest lecture for new students and their parents at the UCF Open House Recruitment: “Why should you study the Russian Language?” April 2011-to present.

Invited UCF CAH for presenting “Requirements of and preparation for tenure/promotion as an assistant professor’s perspective” at the CAH Assistant Professor/Instructor/Lecture Excellence Program. November 2017-2018.

Invited UCF CAH for presenting “Funding Your Research and Creative Activities” at the CAH Assistant Professor/Instructor/Lecture Excellence Program. October 2017.

Invited UCF CAH for presenting “Assistant Professor Excellence Program on research in CAH.” November 2016.

Invited UCF CSWF for Conversation to Encourage Women to apply and receive UCF Teaching Incentive Program Awards, March 2015.

Invited Workshop “Dialogue of cultures and Cultural competences” Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, Summer Conference, May 2014.

Workshop: “Dialogue of Cultures: Russia-America” Office of Diversity Initiative, Feb. 2014.

Orientation program: “Russian Language and Culture” for Study Abroad, Orlando, May 2013.

Orientation program: “Russian Language and Culture” for Study Abroad, Orlando, May 2012.

Ongoing guest lectures for Russian American Students’ Association at UCF, 2011- to present.

Guest lecture for new students and their parents at the UCF Open House Recruitment: “Why should you study the Russian Language?” April 2011- to present.

“Cross-Cultural Component as an Integral Part of Teaching Material” presentation for the US Russia cooperation project of equal opportunities: Teaching English to Blind and Visually Impaired Students in Russia, UCF, March 2012.

Guest lectures in preparing for a Study Abroad Business Course in Russia. UCF, 2008–2011.

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Textbook Reviewer. Russian-Word Publishing. Foreign Languages, 2010–2013.

Engaged Scholarship Consultant and Faculty Coach. Penza State University, 2012.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

National Committees

- American Councils for International Education, Russian Language Programs Evaluation and Selection committee member, November 2022- to present.

- Critical Language Scholarship Program Committee Member, American Councils for International Education, December 2022- to present.
- Boren Scholarships and Fellowships for International Study National Screening Committee for US Students Learning Critical Languages Abroad, March 2017-present.
- Fulbright National Screening Committee for US Students English Language Teaching Assistantships, Washington D.C., December 2012–to present.
- American Council of Teachers of Russian committee member, National Standards for Language Learning (Standards Revisions document), February 2017
- Open World Program Committee, U.S. Embassy, Moscow, Russia, October 2017–2021

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

University Committees

- UCF Graduate Council Curriculum Committee, August 2023- 2026.
- UCF Faculty Senate, August 2023- 2025.
- Member of the UCF Global Search Committee for ELI administrator/director, May 2022
- Member of the UCF Faculty Senate Ad. Hoc Committee on Faculty Study Abroad, October 2019-2022
- UCF Faculty Senate (at large), 2021-2023
- Committee Member of the Florida Eastern Linkage Institute, March 2017 – 2023
- Member of the UCF Scroll and Quill Committee, October 2018-to 2020
- Member of the Faculty Compliance Advisory Committee, December 2018-2021
- Member of the Collective Impact Thematic Team “Growing Our Research and Graduate Programs”, Fall 2017 – to present.
- UCF Faculty Senate, 2017-2018
- UCF Graduate Appeals Committee, 2017-2019.
- Committee Member, Boren Scholarships and Fellowships for International Study for US Students Learning Critical Languages Abroad, 2017- 2021
- Committee Member, Fulbright, UCF 2014- 2018

- Committee Member, International Education Week, 2017-2019

College of Arts and Humanities Committees

- Committee Chair, James and Brooke Harhi Scholarship Program and the College of Arts and Humanities General Scholarship Program and Award, April, 2015- to present.
- Committee Member, CAH, Sabbatical Committee, Fall 2018-2020
- Committee Member, CAH GS&R Curriculum Committee, Fall 2016-2018
- Member of the Collective Impact Thematic Team, Fall 2017-2019

Department of Modern Languages and Literature

- Committee Member, Modern Languages and Literatures Department “Promotion for Instructors and Lecturers”, October 2023
- Committee Member, Modern Languages and Literatures Department “Study Abroad Scholarships” 2019-to present.
- Committee Chair, MLL metrics, Group #4, “Achieve distinction on the state, national, and international levels in Global Languages and Cultural Studies”, Modern Languages and Literatures, Fall 2019
- Committee Member, Modern Languages and Literatures Department “Promotion for Instructors and Lecturers at the English Language Institute” 2018-2019
- Committee Member, Center for Multicultural and Multilingual Studies hiring ESL instructors. July 2015.

Undergraduate Program Development

- Developed the new certificate Program “Russian as a Critical Language Certificate”, Spring 2021
- Course redesign of the Beginning Russian courses, 2020-21.
- Course redesign of the Beginning Russian courses, 2018-2019.
- Developed the new Russian program and revived the Russian Minor from 2014
- Developed 9 new undergraduate courses for Russian program (RUS 3955, RUT 3505, RUS 1120, RUS 1121, RUS 2200, RUS 2201, RUS 3760).
- Redesign 2 new undergraduate courses for TESOL program (TSL4240, TSL 4363)
- Created Study Abroad Program in Russia at the Finance University under the Government of Russian Federation: Russian Language and Culture, 2016- to present

- Created Study Abroad Program in Russia at State Moscow University: Russian Language and Culture, 2011-2016
- Maintained communication with 50+ undergraduate and 30+graduate students and 30-40 monthly requests for program information from prospective students.

Community Service and Outreach

- Adviser of the Service and Love Together (SALT) Student's Association at UCF 2019-2023.
- Adviser of the Russian American Student's Association at UCF (R.A.S.A.) 2010- to present.
- Community volunteer: Director of Education in Russian/American Community Center, Orlando, Florida. 2010–to present.
- Volunteer coordinator of the Sunday Russian School program in the Russian Orlando Community Center, 2010–to present.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses, UCF

Summer STARTALK Intensive Russian Program. July 2023
 Summer STARTALK Intensive Russian Program. July 2022
 Summer STARTALK Intensive Russian Program. July 2019
 Summer STARTALK Intensive Russian Program. July 2018
 Summer STARTALK Intensive Russian Program. July 2017
 Summer STARTALK Intensive Russian Program. July 2016
 Summer STARTALK Intensive Russian Program. July 2015.
 RUS 1120 Elementary Russian (Part 1)
 RUS 1121 Elementary Russian (Part 2)
 RUS 2200 Intermediate Russian (Part 1) (Global Learning course)
 RUS 2201 Intermediate Russian (Part 2)
 RUS 3955 Study Abroad (Field Studies)
 RUT 3505 Russian Language and Culture
 RUS 3760 Advanced Russian Language and Culture (Research-Intensive course)
 RUS 3240 Oral Conversation
 RUS 4912 Independent Research Study (from 2012-to present)
 RUS 3905 Independent Study
 RUS 4906 Independent Study
 TSL 4363 ESL Experience
 TSL 4240 Issues in Second Language Acquisition

Graduate Courses, UCF

TSL 6250 Applied Linguistics

TSL 5940 Issues in TEFL

TSL 6908 Independent Study

TSL 6918 Independent Research

Undergraduate Students' Achievements

- Mentor, Research and Mentoring Award with the Russian Minor student Jessica Wuebben, 2023-2024.
- Mentor, Research and Mentoring Award with the Russian Minor student Katherine Lapitskiy, 2022-2024.
- Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate by the American Council of Teachers of Russian, Undergraduate student Hannah Hillsgrove, April 2023
- Graduate Student and Teaching Associate, Research and Mentoring Program Fellow, Order of Pegasus Nominee Michelle Verbitskaya, 2020-2022
- Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate by the American Council of Teachers of Russian, Undergraduate student Taylor Jenko, April 2019
- Mentor, Barnett Research Scholarship with Russian Minor student Charles Martin, "Effects of Studying Abroad in Russia on Students' View and Cultural Understanding," 2018-2020
- Mentor, Research and Mentoring Award with the Russian Minor student Taylor Jenko, Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Central Florida, 2018-2020
- Mentor, Research and Mentoring Award – Transition with the Russian Minor student Michel Verbitskaya, Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Central Florida, 2018-2020.
- Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate by the American Council of Teachers of Russian, Undergraduate student Scarlett Thomas, April 2018
- Distinguished Undergraduate Research Award, Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Central Florida, research student Michael Martinez, November 2017
- Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate by the American Council of Teachers of Russian, Undergraduate student Michael Martinez, April 2017
- LEAD Scholars Academy Undergraduate Research program, research mentor of the undergraduate student Thomas Anchor, January 2017
- Mentor, Research and Mentoring Award with Russian Minor student Jorge Nunez, Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Central Florida, 2016-2018
- Undergraduate Research Initiative Award with the undergraduate student Marissa Hall, November 2016
- Order of Pegasus Award, undergraduate student Gabriela Wolk, 2016.
- Order of Pegasus Award, undergraduate student Shannon Payne, 2015.
- Founder's Day Student Award, undergraduate student Kerriane Reilly, 2016.
- Founder's Day Student Award, undergraduate student Irina Pidberejna, 2015.
- LEAD Scholars Academy Undergraduate Research program, research mentor of the undergraduate student Allison Stinson.

- Undergraduate Research Initiative Award with the undergraduate student Kerrienne Reilly, September 2015.
- Project: Language and culture through Russian and America eyes. *E-Book based on International project "Connecting Classrooms" UCF and Lyceum #7 Novocherkassk, Russia.*
- UCF Summer Undergraduate Research Grant with Gabriela Wolk, Summer 2015.
- Mentor, Fulbright Award. Four students were awarded the Fulbright, three to Russia and one to Kazakhstan, September 2015.
- Mentor, Research and Mentoring Program. Irina Pidberejna successfully published an article in the *University Undergraduate Research Journal*, Spring 2015.
- Research and Mentoring Award with Russian Minor student Irina Pidberejna, Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Central Florida, 2013-2015

Undergraduate Thesis Committees, UCF

- Undergraduate Theses Committee member – Jack Seay (November 2023): “The effect of Russian Propaganda on the Baltic Countries”
- Undergraduate Theses- Committee Chair: Charles Martin (November 2018) Burnett Research Scholars grant: “*Effects of Studying Abroad in Russia on Students' View and Cultural Understanding.*”
- Undergraduate Theses- Committee Member
- Michelle Verbitskaya (October, 2018-2020) Title “*Honors thesis proposal Effects of International Students' Use of L1 on L2*”
- Ely Almendarez (October 2018) Title: “*Honors Thesis Proposal for Analyzing the Trends of Russia's Influence in: Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela Russia's Influence in: Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela.*”
- William O'Brien (Defended, April 2015). Title: “*A Pacifist and a Revolution: Bertrand Russell and the Failed Promise of Bolshevism.*”

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Teaching and Learning Day. October 2023

Summer Seminars at FCTL 2022 and 2023

Teaching groups at Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, 2022

Teaching and Learning Day: Student Mental Health Impact in the Classroom: What are you experiencing? 2021

Certificate from Moscow State University, Russia from project “Window to Russia”

Teaching and Learning Day: Student Mental Health Impact in the Classroom: What are you experiencing? 04/10/20

Teaching and Learning Day: The COVID Cohort 09/18/2020

Technology Tuesday: Remote Teaching 10/06/2020

Technology Tuesday: Graphics & Widgets 10/13/2020

Technology Tuesday: Tools to Discourage Academic Dishonesty 10/27/20

Teaching and Learning Day: Inclusive Teaching with First Gen & Linguistically Diverse Students 11/13/2020

FCTL BlendFlex Tips 08/11/2020

Course redesign development workshops at FCTL 2019-2020

Course redesign development workshops at FCTL 2018-2019

STARTALK Development Conference in Phoenix, AZ, October 2019

STARTALK Development Conference in St-Luis MI, May 2019

Professional development program at TESOL conference in Atlanta, GA, March, 2019.

UCF: Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Book Club “A Guide to Teaching in the Active Learning Classroom” 2018

ACTR WEBINAR. Dr. Dan E. Davidson, President, American Councils for International Education; Professor of Russian and SLA, Bryn Mawr College. “What is a global professional? Preparing Culturally and Linguistically Competent U.S. Graduates for the Global Economy.” (October 2018)

STARTALK WEBINAR. Development New STARTALK Curriculum. (September 2016-2018)

STARTALK Development Conference in Denver Colorado, May 2015.

UCF: Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Book Club “Minds on Fire,” 2015.

Professional Organizations

- American Council of Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- Sunshine State Teaching and Learning Association
- American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL), an affiliate of the Modern Language Association of America
- Central Association of Russian Teachers of America (CARTA), an affiliate of AATSEEL

- American Council of Teachers of Russia (ACTR)
- Reviewer Committee Member, Higher Education Teaching and Learning (HETL)
- Florida Foreign Language Association (FFLA)
- NAFSA (Association of International Educators)

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborator with Lyceum #7, Novocherkassk, Rostov-on-Don region, Russia

A joint teacher-student project “Connecting Classrooms” (on going Skype conferences based on learning foreign languages English-Russian, 2017-to present))

Collaborator through English Language Office in US Embassy in Moscow, Russia (2017 to present):

- Seminar “Teaching English for blind and visual impaired students, St. Petersburg;
- Three invited lectures to National Association of Teachers of English in Russia on “Teaching Culture in the Language Classroom.” Penza, Rostov-on-Don, Novocherkassk;
- A join project “Fostering Tolerance and Cultural Awareness through English/Russian Language Teaching” (ELT), Moscow;
- Advising EFL secondary school teachers on the project: Teaching English to Blind and Visually Impaired Students (teachers visit UCF).

Collaborator with Penza State Technical University and EFL Penza Swallow Association in Penza, Russia, (2017-to present).

Fifteen invitations for workshops to EFL association in Penza on topics on ESP (English for Specific Purpose) and New Ways on Teaching Culture in the Language Classroom, (2017 to present).

TRANSLATION

Translation for Office of the Secretary of Defense, International Security Policy-Eurasia 2017 to present.

Translation for Open World Program, Florida, November 2017 to present.

Translation for UCF College of Science, Department of Psychology: Visit of the Russian Federal Child Development Research Center. Fall 2017.

Translation for Higher Education of Teaching and Learning International Conference at UCF, Spring 2017.

Translation for International Office at UCF: Agreement for Study Abroad in Samara, Russia, Fall 2017-2021

Translation for International Office at UCF: Agreement for Study Abroad in Moscow, Russia, March 2017-2021.

Translation for College of Health and Public Affairs: Agreement for Cooperation and Study Abroad in Volgograd, Russia, Fall 2017

Translation for College of Business and International Office at UCF: Agreement for Study Abroad in Samara, Russia, Fall 2017, 2018.