

NEWSLETTER

The Fulbright Program in Ukraine
Autumn 2018



The Power
of International
Education



**U.S. Fulbright Scholars and Students
in Ukraine 2018-2019**





Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Warm autumn greetings and a heartfelt welcome to all our U.S. Fulbright scholars, fellows, students/researchers and English teaching assistants in Ukraine for the 2018-19 academic year.

With fifth anniversary commemorations of the Revolution of Dignity at the end of 2018 and a scheduled presidential election in 2019, your year promises to be interesting, as Ukraine continues on its path of European integration, democracy building and economic reform, and as its citizens continue strengthening civil society, striving to build a better life for themselves and their children.

We wish you a stimulating and successful year in your professional endeavors and hope that your time here will give you memories for a lifetime. You are a unique group and we congratulate all of you for choosing Ukraine at an exciting time of change and promise.

Your safety remains our primary concern; we continue to be cautious and ask that you ALWAYS inform us of your travel plans and any concerns you may have while in Ukraine, either personal or professional. The IIE/ Fulbright Office is your first point of contact and we are here to help and guide you with any issues you may encounter.

Although this summer was relatively quiet on the frontlines, the situation is still volatile in eastern Ukraine; in compliance with US Embassy guidelines, there is a travel ban on the occupied territories of the Donbas, Also, illegally annexed Crimea is off limits to U.S. citizens. Thus, we kindly ask you to clear all travel with the Fulbright Office; we will also be in regular contact with the Embassy's Regional Security Office for updates and alerts, which we will share with all of you immediately.

It should be noted that during your Fulbright academic year, you are entitled to a two-week hiatus outside Ukraine. If you need more time from your Fulbright assignment, for medical reasons or family emergencies, you must request this through the Fulbright Office. Non-compliance may result in suspension of your Fulbright grant/ stipend.

You are encouraged to travel throughout Ukraine, network with other students, scholars, NGO leaders, journalists, get acquainted with other universities, museums, foundations, etc. to get a broad understanding of the rich fabric of this country. You are encouraged to write articles, blogs, opinion pieces, share information and experiences with friends and colleagues. Always remember that you are here not only on an academic exchange, but serve also as cultural ambassadors of the United States.

Your academic curiosity is inspiring. We are all witnesses to living history; you are all part of the Ukrainian people's search for truth and justice. We encourage you to explore Ukraine, respond to other universities that may want to host you and learn about your work and life in the United States. Fulbright grantees play a significant role in promoting public diplomacy and Western ideals. Ukrainians may learn a lot from you, but you may be surprised about how much you can learn from them, a people who have shown patriotism, tolerance, resilience and perseverance, as they strive to take their rightful place among the European community of nations.

With this newsletter, we at Fulbright Ukraine are pleased to present to Ukraine's academic community our American scholars and fellows for the 2018-19 academic year with information about their projects, their host institutions and their contacts. They are eager to visit other universities and regions, make new friends and establish professional relationships.

We encourage Ukrainian universities, institutions and NGOs to invite any Fulbright students and scholars to visit and participate in seminars, conferences, workshops and lectures. You may contact our Fulbright grantees directly or contact our office for assistance in inviting them to your institutions or organizations.

We wish everyone a fruitful and rewarding year in Ukraine. Stay safe and pray for peace.

Respectfully,

Marta Kolomayets
Fulbright Program Director in Ukraine
Institute of International Education
Representative Office





U.S. Fulbright Scholars

2018-2019



Mark Dillen

Independent Media Professional, Denver, CO
**Journalism | *Sustaining Independent News Media
and Ethical Press Relations***
Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv
dillenmark@me.com
September 2018, 5 months

New professional journalists are facing unprecedented challenges. Traditional media must change to survive while new platforms struggle to find audiences and create viable business plans. Mr. Dillen will teach a course on the evolution of American news media to graduate students in journalism at Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) that will survey these challenges through the history of American journalism. By illuminating the changes in American news media and communication, Mr. Dillen hopes to provide new journalists in Ukraine with context and understanding for the changes they will need to navigate. He also plans to lecture on government-media relations to journalism and communications students at UCU and elsewhere.



Heather Fielding

Purdue University Northwest, Westville, IN

Literature | *Exploring Modern and Contemporary British Literature with Ukrainian Students and Investigating Possibilities for Honors Education in Ukraine*

Poltava V.H. Korolenko National Pedagogical University, Poltava
hfieldin@pnw.edu

September 2018, 9 months

Dr. Fielding will teach courses in modern and contemporary literature in English at Poltava V.H. Korolenko National Pedagogical University (PNPU). She hopes to deepen students' exposure to world literature, engage them with scholarly traditions in English, and help them imagine new avenues for potential interest and comparative research.

Dr. Fielding is particularly excited to teach a course related to her current scholarly project, on why and how Eastern Europe matters in fiction in English today. The course asks students to look comparatively at the figure of Eastern Europe in fiction from the US, Canada, and the UK, considering novels about diasporic communities and expatriates, side by side with novels that imagine post-Soviet Eastern Europe as a site for posing postmodern questions about authenticity and history. Read together, these texts pose interesting questions about how writers use Eastern Europe as a figure to work through issues of literary form, cultural conflict, and identity formation in their own countries.

Dr. Fielding plans to build opportunities for cross-cultural collaboration into her work in Poltava, especially by recruiting students, faculty, and community members to write for her home university's literary and cultural studies blog, LitPop. When they write for LitPop, Ukrainian students will work on the rhetorical flexibility needed to write for a broad, international audience on the web, and they will gain the cross-cultural experience of working with an editor from the US.

Having founded an honors program at her home university, Dr. Fielding also plans to work with faculty and administrators at PNPU to explore potential for honors education at the university. In US higher education, honors programs at public universities can provide special learning opportunities for interested and capable students, allowing them to distinguish themselves, cultivate leadership experience, and pursue academic interests beyond or outside of the normal curriculum. Honors programs can also provide faculty with the opportunity to experiment with new pedagogical modes and to develop interdisciplinary courses and research. Dr. Fielding hopes to collaborate with PNPU faculty to document their thinking about whether or how the American model of honors education might be adapted for Ukraine and the particular context of PNPU.



Brendan Hoffman

Freelance Photographer, DC

Photojournalism | *Ukraine Beyond the Front Line:*

A Photographic Exploration of Identity and Portrayal

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv

brendan@primecollective.com

September 2018, 10 months

Ukraine is in the process of its largest societal transformation since its rebirth as an independent nation following the collapse of the Soviet Union more than twenty-five years ago. The Maidan revolution, annexation of Crimea by Russia, and subsequent war in eastern Ukraine have all received significant international media attention, and Ukraine's image abroad of late has been defined by this string of crises – largely to the exclusion of other narratives that would help readers and viewers contextualize the turmoil, understand its place in the lives of most Ukrainians, and appreciate the wider consequences.

Mr. Hoffman has been documenting Ukraine since late Maidan in late 2013, including extensive work covering the war in Donbas as a photographer for The New York Times, The Washington Post, Getty Images, Newsweek, and many others. As a complement to this experience, his Fulbright project will explicitly focus on photographing Ukrainian culture and society away from the front line during a crucial year in which presidential elections, as well as the fifth anniversary of the various crises, will inevitably prompt a broad conversation on Ukraine's values and identity. With a specific eye on Ukrainian attitudes toward history and the future, Mr. Hoffman will travel widely within Ukraine during his grant term, with the goal of building a body of work that brings complexity to the singular narrative of pitiable crises familiar to most foreign audiences. Together with his photographs since the Revolution of Dignity, his project will form the basis of a photo book and traveling exhibition.



Joseph Kush

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA
Education | *Incorporating Student Centered Learning into the Instruction of Research Methodology*
Sumy State University, Sumy
kush@duq.edu
September 2018, 10 months

Dr. Joseph Kush will offer his experiences with student-centered learning to Ukrainian university students in classes focusing on evaluation, assessment, and in psychometrics. The incorporation of enhanced pedagogy into the educational curricula of assessment and psychometric instruction is particularly needed in Ukraine which is currently undergoing strategic modernization and reform. This attempt at expanded development in higher education followed the signing of the Bologna Declaration in 2005, where Ukraine joined other European countries in attempting to modernize their higher education system. This transformation has continued with the Conception of the Development of Education in Ukraine for 2015-2025 which outlines further future reforms in Ukrainian higher education. One of the key principles of student centered learning is that students learn under conditions and learning environments that replicate 21st century workplace requirements. Specifically, a shift of the focus of instruction from teacher to student is created by having students become actively engaged in the process of their learning and accepting responsibility for their learning. Student-centered methods have repeatedly been shown to be superior to the traditional teacher-centered approach to instruction, whether the assessed outcome is short-term mastery of basic skills or long-term retention of advanced concepts. Research has also shown that it improves the acquisition of critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills, formation of positive attitudes toward the subject being taught, and the level of student confidence across knowledge and skills.



George Kuzycz

Retired, Northwestern Medicine Central Dupage Hospital, Winfield, IL
Medical Sciences | Postgraduate Training Especially Cardiac Surgery
Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University, Ivano-Frankivsk
kuzycz@sbcglobal.net
September 2018, 10 months

Quoting from the Common Program Requirements (Residency) of the Accreditation Council for graduate Medical Education: " Graduate medical education is the crucial step of professional development between medical school and autonomous clinical practice. It is in this vital phase of the continuum of medical education that residents learn to provide optimal patient care under the supervision of faculty members who not only instruct, but serve as role models of excellence, compassion, professionalism and scholarship. Graduate medical education transforms medical students into physician scholars who care for the patient, family and a diverse community; create and integrate new knowledge into practice; and educate future generations of physicians to serve the public. Graduate medical education has as a core tenet the graded authority and responsibility for patient care."

Because of these principles, Dr. Kuzycz would therefore like to research and study the method of postgraduate training, after the completion of medical school, in the various surgical specialties such as Ophthalmology, Urology, Orthopedics, General Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Neurosurgery, and mainly Thoracic and Cardiac Surgery in Ukraine.

He will look into the course work of the various medical schools and see if this adequately prepares the students for postgraduate surgical training.

Since Dr. Kuzycz main interest is postgraduate education and training, he will look into how the postgraduate programs are structured, how many years are required

for completion of the program, how many cases are required and what type. Is there a gradation of increasing responsibility from one year to the next. What educational programs are in place such as lectures, pathological conferences, so called tumor boards, mortality morbidity conferences and the like.

Dr. Kuzycz will interview the trainees in their various specialties to see how their training is structured in actuality, and what they are allowed to do in their progression in the program, in and out of the operating room. This would also entail observation in the operating room of their technique and method of teaching and training in this setting, and thus corroborating some of the results of the initial interviews.

Dr. Kuzycz will look into which hospitals provide the training, how they are selected to do so and who does the accreditation. He will try to determine if there are any bodies, councils, for accreditation of graduate medical education? Are there any separate specialty boards that control and supervise the training? Is there any standardization from region to region? What is the mechanism for applying and being accepted for the training program? Is there any National body that examines the trainees after the completion of their training and issues a certificate of qualification in their specialty?

Dr. Kuzycz is trying to study and analyze their system of postgraduate surgical training in the hopes of trying to suggest how to improve the quality of the training, make it more structured and more in conformity with western medical training. At the same time he may do some consulting and possibly teaching and lecturing in cardiac, vascular and thoracic surgery as the need may arise.



Alaina Mallette

Professional (Returned Peace Corps Volunteer), Puebla, Mexico
Geospatial Information Technologies and Land Use Planning/Environmental Science | *Natural Resource Management and Environmental Decision Making in Ukraine using Geographic Information Systems Applications*
National University of Water and Environmental Engineering, Rivne
amallette21@gmail.com
September 2018, 10 months

Ms. Mallette is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer from the Mexico Program. She worked with environmental agencies, organizations, and municipalities within the State of Puebla that were interested in improving their land use planning processes. She led several technical trainings, including: conflict management and collaboration; participatory geographic information systems (GIS) training for outreach "brigades" at the Intercultural University of Puebla, and land use planning trainings. Ms. Mallette wrote a best management practices guide for land use planning in the State of Puebla based on her observations and thematic content analysis of thirty-two interviews with contributions from her counterparts. Simultaneously, she taught GIS courses using Quantum GIS and other open-source geospatial technologies. She has also worked with the Community Geographer, Dr. Jonnell Robinson, at Syracuse University and led environmental education lessons in Syracuse, New York, and the Dominican Republic.

The interface between human and natural systems is complex and requires a keen understanding of how socioeconomic, cultural, and ecological systems interact, depend, and impact one another. Ms. Mallette's teaching project has the overarching goal to teach Ukrainian students different interdisciplinary, theoretical, and practical approaches for sustainably managing natural resources through the use of GIS and collaborative decision-making processes. The two primary objectives of the project are to impart two courses: 1) An Introduction to GIS and Associated Technologies using Open-Source Software and 2) GIS Applications in Land Use Planning. A third goal, contingent on proper

funding and institutional support, is to design a week-long seminar in Western or Northern Ukraine in spring or summer of 2019 to analyze environmental decision-making processes as well as identify and apply several approaches to monitoring and evaluating natural resources using collaboration and public participation principles. Ms. Mallette would welcome public lectures on applying GIS in real-world environmental situations, especially related to land use planning, and any other topics that are relevant to the host institution.

Ms. Mallette's project aims to assist in building civil society for educational, economic, political and/or legal reform in Ukraine through knowledge sharing and the development of key competencies related to natural resource management and land use planning. Her project will provide opportunities for collaboration with public officials, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations identified over the course of her ten-month project.



Andrea Odezynska

Independent Filmmaker, New York, NY

Cinema Studies | *Art of Film Editing/Stories from the Danube Delta*

Petro Mohyla Black Sea National University, Mykolayiv

odezynska@gmail.com

September 2018, 10 months

Ms. Odezynska will interview residents living Southwest of Odesa in towns along estuaries at the Black Sea. A glacially paced and ill conceived man made, ecological disaster continues to unfold in this area. It began as far back as the late 1960's when Soviet authorities decided to build a very complicated irrigation system to hydrate the steppes and expand agriculture.

But their idea of damming lakes, estuaries, and rerouting major rivers backfired because engineers could never quite desalinate the brackish water. Thousands of hectares of pristine land was ruined. Meanwhile, the huge concrete infrastructure of dikes and canals prevented birds from nesting or fish from spawning normally. Much of this dysfunctional infrastructure remains in place along with dangerous algae blooms. Fishing and tourism went into decline, jobs were lost, and many local people have left.

Since the fall of the Soviet Union, remaining local residents have petitioned their regional government officials to dismantle this non-functioning series of canals and dikes. Ms. Odezynska's long term goal for this research is to create a documentary film from these interviews as well as explore and reveal the inefficiencies of the operating municipal process.

Also, this Fall, Ms. Odezynska will teach an "Art of Editing" course for Petro Mohyla Black Sea National University's Department of Journalism. The Art of Editing Course examines film/video editing esthetics — the fundamental building blocks needed to create compelling, riveting movies. Ms. Odezynska will screen contemporary American narrative and documentary independent feature films.



Serhii Plokhii

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

History | *Cultures at War: Revisiting the Fall of the Grand Alliance*

Institute of History of Ukraine

of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv

plokhii@fas.harvard.edu

August 2018 - November 2018; December 2018 - January 2019;

May 2019 – July 2019

Dr. Serhii Plokhii is coming to Ukraine with the goal of completing research and writing of the book on the rise and fall of the Grand Alliance between the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union. His book will explore the story of the alliance from below, zooming on the only place where the allies actually got the chance to live and fight side by side—the three American Air Force bases established on Soviet-controlled territory of Ukraine in April 1944. Taking off from airfields in Britain and Italy, American airplanes would bomb their targets and land at the bases in the Poltava area of today's Ukraine, repeating the bombing on their way back to Britain or Italy. Americans worked side by side with Soviets between April 1944 and June 1945, the final year of the war in Europe. Thousands of pilots, airplane mechanics, and rank-and-file soldiers participated in the shuttle operations. Moreover, tens of thousands of citizens of three Ukrainian towns were able to meet Americans and, in some cases, establish close personal relations with US airmen.

In the pages of his book, Dr. Plokhii explores the experiences and perceptions of rank-and-file participants in Soviet-American encounters. How did ordinary Americans and Soviets regard their counterparts? What role did cultural norms, predispositions and stereotypes play in the formation of American attitudes toward their wartime allies and Ukrainian civilians? What was the impact of such attitudes on the breakdown of inter-allied cooperation? How did the onset of the Cold War affect the attitudes of Americans and Soviets who met one another, quarreled, struck up friendships, or even fell in love during the final year of World War II? These are the key questions that Dr. Plokhii asks in the hope of explaining the

much larger problem of the development of subsequent American relations with the leaders and peoples of the region.

Dr. Plokhii's research will be focused on the files of the Committee for State Security (KGB) and its predecessors—documenting Soviet military counterintelligence and secret-police surveillance of Americans and their contacts with the Red Army Air Force and the local population. As the Americans suspected, the Soviets actively spied on their guests, observing not only their actions but also their attitudes. The Revolution of Dignity in Ukraine, which took place in 2013–14, resulted among other things in the unprecedented opening of former KGB archives, including World War II materials inherited from military counterintelligence. The reports of spies and the memos of their masters and handlers—about two dozen thick volumes in all—have now become available to scholars and the public at large. With a level of clarity and precision that few American sources can provide, the KGB documents describe Soviet attitudes toward American servicemen, the growth of tensions between Soviets and Americans on the Poltava-area bases, and the evolution of American attitudes toward their hosts.



Emre Sencer

Knox College, Galesburg, IL

History | *History of Revolutions; History of European Integration*

National University "Odesa Law Academy", Odesa

esencer@knox.edu

September 2018, 10 months

Emre Sencer is an associate professor of history, who focuses on twentieth-century German and Central European politics and culture. The history of political radicalization and the interaction between politics and culture are of special interest to him. His earlier work has focused on the comparative military cultures of Germany and Turkey in the 1930s; Central Powers on the First World War Eastern Front; and expeditionary forces in the First World War.

His growing interest in Eastern Europe in general and Ukraine in particular is rooted in his areas of research and teaching. As a specialist in German and Central European history in the early twentieth century, recent challenges to stability in Europe and conflicts over sovereignty in the post-Cold War era has led him to expand his focus toward Eastern Europe. As an additional area of investigation, he has always been interested in the history of democratization and the role played by borderlands and transnational developments as a part of his research. In all of these areas, his approach is often interdisciplinary and of comparative nature.

At Odesa Law Academy Dr. Sencer will be teaching a course on the history of revolution since the 20th century and another on the history of European integration. These courses are an extension of his regular research fields, but they are also of particular interest to Ukrainian history and current affairs. The revolutions course aims to bring the topic up to present day events, including the development and impact of the Maidan revolution within the context of European history. The course on European integration will investigate the meaning of EU expansion within the framework of present-day Central and Eastern European political situation.



John Swanson

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN
History | *Jewish Communities in Subcarpathian Rus' during the Twentieth Century*

Uzhhorod National University, Uzhhorod

john-swanson@utc.edu

August 2018, 3 months

John C. Swanson is a professor of history at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where he teaches courses on Central and Eastern European history, especially concerning ethnic identity, nationalism, twentieth-century minorities, and the Holocaust. He is also a documentary filmmaker. His most recent research resulted in the book *Tangible Belonging: Negotiating Germanness in Twentieth-Century Hungary* and the film *About a Village*.

As a Fulbright scholar, Prof. Swanson will be conducting research on the former Jewish communities in Subcarpathian Rus'/ Transcarpathia. This project begins with the images in the *Auschwitz Album* (Lili Jacob's Album), the only known photographs of Jews arriving in Auschwitz-Birkenau. There remain questions as to why these photographs were taken in the spring of 1944, but we know that the people we see came from Subcarpathian Rus', the majority of them from the Beregszász/Berehovo ghettos. The photographs have become iconic images of the Holocaust, but we know very little about the people and the lives that they lived. Prof. Swanson's goal is to investigate the lives of these people and the places that they lived in order to write a history of their world: their lives, their relations with their neighbors, their adaptation to a more modern, secular, interconnected world by the twentieth century.

Prof. Swanson will be based at Uzhhorod National University. He will also conduct research in the regional archives in Berehovo, as well as interview people throughout the region.





U.S. Fulbright Students 2018-2019



Nicholas Brown

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Modern History | *Tiers of Authority: Governing a Ukraine in Transition*

National Academy of Public Administration of Ukraine, Kyiv

September 2018, 9 months

nickbrown24@gmail.com

Building on a decade of experience studying diverse modalities for economic governance in international development, Mr. Nick Brown is bringing his expertise to bear on the challenges of designing an effective system of government in modern Ukraine. Mr. Brown has been interested for years in the penetration of international institutions into a country's domestic policies, and he recognized that Ukraine's experience with the European Union is an exemplary case to examine.

Mr. Brown will be working with the National Academy for Public Administration under the President of Ukraine in Kyiv, and plans to travel to several of its branch campuses in L'viv, Kharkiv, Odesa, and Dnipro. A Peace Corps Volunteer in Ukraine from 2006 to 2008, he is very excited to be returning to this fascinating and captivating part of the world.

Mr. Brown is curious about the ongoing process of defining governance at the local, national, and international levels. He is interested in developing a more nuanced appreciation for how state sovereignty operates in the 21st century, given the rise of regional economic communities such as the East African Community and the Association for Southeast Asian Nations. The EU, one of the oldest and now most discussed examples of these communities, is ripe for this project, and there is no better opportunity than Ukraine to evaluate the frontiers of the EU's reach today.

The ongoing process of amalgamating communities even as the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement is being implemented provides an interesting case, as state responsibilities are being both pushed toward more local communities, and aligned centrally with Ukraine's international commitments. Mr. Brown will be connecting with local, national, and international public servants to understand the process by which Ukraine is redefining its internal administration, seeking lessons that can be applied to international affairs elsewhere.

Mr. Brown will apply a mixed methods research methodology to this exercise, combining archival research from Ukraine's history as an independent nation with in-person interviews. Building on his experience as a facilitator, Mr. Brown will be convening a series of working groups and discussions to develop a working dialogue with the community of practitioners working on this issue. He will seek to integrate his expertise into this research agenda, assisting local communities as requested on these issues.

Mr. Brown's research will culminate in a working paper that crystallizes the key themes of his research. He hopes that this evidence will feed in to broader conversations about the role of regional economic communities in the international system, as well as Ukraine's experience with aligning its governance structures with the needs of its citizens.



Christopher Collison

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Interdisciplinary Studies | *After Maidan:*

The Growth of Civic Culture in Ukraine

V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Kharkiv

September 2018, 9 months

chrisgcollison@gmail.com

Mr. Christopher Collison received his Master’s degree in Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies from the University of Washington in 2017, and holds a Bachelor degree in Political Science with a minor in Journalism. Christopher has studied the development of Ukraine’s civil society since shortly after the Revolution of Dignity, also known as Euromaidan, in 2013-2014. Through the lens of small-scale civic groups such as neighborhood associations, historic preservation organizations and other groups of urban activists and volunteers, he examines Ukraine’s cultural and political transformation on the grassroots level.

Prior to his graduate work, Mr. Collison spent nearly four years learning visual storytelling in Ukraine. He worked for several domestic and international media outlets during the Revolution of Dignity and the early phases of the armed conflict in the Donbas as a photographer, reporter, and television editor. He has written about Ukrainian civic culture, conflict, and news media issues in Ukraine and Russia.

Ukraine’s democratic future depends on a strong civil society. Since independence, Ukrainian civil society has struggled to consolidate and exert itself in local and national politics. Since the 2013-2014 revolution, however, networks of grassroots activists and civic groups have formed in Ukraine’s major cities. Focused on myriad issues such as historic preservation, smart-city planning, civic education, promotion of the arts and neighborhood renewal, these groups are incubators for Ukraine’s future cultural and political leaders. Although few groups deal directly with national

political issues, many have successfully lobbied for causes in their local towns and cities outside of traditional power structures and political parties – a phenomenon not often seen earlier in independent Ukraine.

While much of the media attention in recent years has focused on the ongoing conflict in the Donbas and the gridlock in the national government, civic and political developments in Ukraine’s cities and regions have gone largely overlooked. Mr. Collison plans to analyze the legacy of the 2013-2014 revolution and its influence on Ukraine’s civic culture throughout the country. Looking at grassroots activist groups and newly formed civil society groups, Mr. Collison will trace how local activists and concerned citizens contribute to a civic nationalism in Ukraine and plot a future for the country’s civil society. He will talk to civic leaders in Ukraine’s major cities and regions to track how these groups have learned to organize, coordinate, and implement their projects.





Kristina Hook

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana

Anthropology and Peace Studies | *Grains of Truth: Holodomor Insights on Genocidal Violence and Ukraine's Political Identity*

National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Kyiv

September 2018, 9 months

khook@nd.edu

Ms. Kristina Hook is a PhD candidate in a joint Anthropology and Peace Studies program at the University of Notre Dame's Anthropology Department and Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. She previously earned Master of Arts degrees in Anthropology (2017) and in International Development (2012) from the University of Notre Dame and the University of Denver's Josef Korbel School of International Studies respectively.

Ms. Hook's professional and research career has centered on topics of war and armed conflicts, genocides and mass atrocities, and other complex humanitarian emergencies. She has published research on issues including genocide causality, post-conflict reconstruction, trauma healing, humanitarian lessons learned, and methods of merging theory and practice in sustainable development policies. At the University of Notre Dame, Ms. Hook is writing her doctoral dissertation on the Ukrainian Holodomor, examining both the dynamics of these historical events as well as their legacy on political identities in modern Ukraine.

The 1932-1933 Ukrainian Holodomor is often included in comparative genocide conversations, but it is under-studied due to decades of Soviet suppression. The Holodomor ("death by starving") refers to the artificially induced famine under Joseph Stalin which killed millions of people in the 1930s. Kristina's research uses the Holodomor test case as a springboard to exploring key areas of debate in assessing genocides and mass atrocities. Given the complexity and chaos of genocidal processes, Kristina's research focuses on combining qualitative and quantitative principles to identify and analyze core features of these violent events as they unfold. The ultimate aims of her work on the causes, dynamics, and consequences of the Holodomor are to contextualize the Holodomor in broader academic theorizing about genocides and to contribute to genocide "early warning" theories, which build off of historical research to sound the alarm on emerging genocide risks today.

In addition to exploring Soviet archives and the historical reconstruction efforts undertaken by Ukrainian scholars, Ms. Hook is also conducting ethnographic research on how modern Ukrainians understand and interact with the Holodomor's complex legacy in modern Ukraine. Reflecting some of the key professional differences in approaching the topic of genocide, Ms. Hook will interview Ukrainian academics, politicians, activists, lawyers, and others to understand how once-suppressed Holodomor narratives influence and impact contemporary Ukrainian political identities and discourses.

Over her Fulbright year in Ukraine, Kristina's goals include collecting archival and primary historical data that will enable her to refine test a genocide and mass atrocity assessment framework that she has been developing during her PhD studies. As she conducts interviews with influential Ukrainians and gathers other sources of ethnographic data, Kristina also aims to understand and map core differences and/or similarities among various Ukrainian professional communities that interact with Holodomor narratives. She will also trace how Holodomor narratives entered public political discourses after Ukrainian independence in 1991 and if/how these narratives have evolved over time due to such factors as increasing access to historical data and the impact of various post-independence political events. During her Fulbright year in Kyiv, Ms. Hook looks forward to her affiliation with the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, to working with the many Ukrainian experts examining the Holodomor, and to exploring all that Ukraine has to offer.



Rene Hickman

University of Missouri, Columbia, MI
Journalism | *Mapping the Landscape of Local and Independent Journalism in Post-Maidan Ukraine*
Zaporizhzhia National University, Zaporizhzhia
September 2018, 9 months
renee.hickman@gmail.com

Ms. Renee Hickman graduated from the University of Missouri with an M.A. in Journalism and an emphasis on policy and investigative reporting. She has covered state and local government in Missouri and national politics for outlets like NBC News and Bloomberg BNA.

Witnessing the rise of disinformation and waning trust in journalism as an institution in the U.S. after previously living in Russia, she became interested in how similar issues are playing out in the countries of the former Soviet Union – the parallels that can be observed, lessons learned, and information that can be shared among journalists facing related obstacles everywhere.

Research has indicated that local and independent journalists are among the most trusted sources of news in many places, suggesting that they can do much to inoculate the public against widespread disinformation and rebuild faith in the press as a whole. However, those same journalists face some of the greatest impediments to their work worldwide, from lack of resources to threats to their physical safety.

With that in mind, this project will focus on gathering data about the situation faced by local and independent journalists throughout Ukraine – what challenges they face, what successes have been had and what lessons can be learned from them about the building and bolstering of a free press.

Interviewing and observing journalists across the country, Ms. Hickman will ask where local and independent journalists are most active and where there is a dearth of this kind of reporting; what subjects are being covered and what is being neglected; what the greatest impediments are to reporters doing this kind of work and where there have been victories. She will also explore whether and how local and independent journalists in Ukraine feel they could be better supported in their efforts either locally or by international organizations.

The culmination of the research will be the presentation of this information in a variety of engaging formats, including multimedia storytelling. The goal of the project is to gather more comprehensive data on the situation of local and independent journalists in Ukraine, and share it in ways that make their experiences personal and relatable to a variety of audiences, including those who are less acquainted with the region, increasing the understanding of the task of developing and maintaining a free press in a growing democracy.



Kristine Nugent

Georgetown University, Washington D.C.

Education | *Language Education Policy Reform in Contemporary Ukraine*

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Kyiv

September 2018, 9 months

ken28@georgetown.edu

Ms. Kristine Nugent will investigate language education reform in contemporary Ukraine. In the wake of the 2013-2014 Revolution of Dignity, large-scale efforts have been undertaken to reinvigorate foreign language learning in Ukrainian schools with the goal of creating citizens who are better integrated with the global community and as a result structures and institutions beyond Ukraine's borders. Hosted by the Ministry of Education and Science, Kristine seeks to better understand how government and NGO initiatives are driving innovation in the sphere of foreign language education. Kristine is particularly interested in approaches to methodology and curriculum, as well as the best practices for implementing changes in the diverse educational contexts found across Ukraine.

In conducting this research, Ms. Nugent will draw on her educational and professional experiences in both the United States and Ukraine. Ms. Nugent holds an M.S. in Applied Linguistics from Georgetown University and a B.A. in Romance Languages from the University of Notre Dame. From 2009-2011 she taught at the Center of Modern Foreign Languages at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv and in 2013-2014 she was a teacher and teacher trainer in Luhansk through the US Department of State's English Language Fellow Program. In the US, she has worked at educational nonprofits on large-scale projects focused on English language learners in both international and US contexts, most recently at the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington DC. Through this work, she has gained insight into the complexity of language education policy implementation in contexts with diverse stakeholder needs and desires.

Ms. Nugent aims to enrich her understanding of foreign language education reform in Ukraine by better understanding both the strategies that policy makers adopt and the practical implementation of reforms carried out by teachers, NGOs, and professional organizations. Given her previous experiences in both far western and far eastern Ukraine, Ms. Nugent takes a particular interest in how education reform efforts can be tailored to the diverse regions of Ukraine, to both rural and urban contexts, and to particular populations including students with special needs and communities impacted by the conflict in Donbas. She looks forward to both learning from and collaborating with teachers, students, NGOs and policy makers, and is grateful to the Fulbright Program in Ukraine for the opportunity to carry out this project.



George O'Hara

Haverford College, Haverford, PA

Public Health | *Assessing Barriers to HIV and Addiction Treatment among Injection Drug Users in Ukraine*

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Kyiv

Ministry of Health of Ukraine/Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy

September 2018, 9 months

g.ohara.eire.111@gmail.com

Ukraine's HIV epidemic is among the worst in Europe and is concentrated in people who inject drugs. Stigma surrounding drug use has prevented many, notably women, from receiving care in Ukraine. Women account for an increasingly large share of people living with HIV in Ukraine (44.6%), including in people who inject drugs. Despite this, women have been under-served in HIV treatment and under-represented in past and ongoing HIV research. This has broader social implications in that women with HIV can transmit the virus to others because of the high proportion of HIV-positive women in the sex trade. Opioid agonist therapies (OAT) with buprenorphine or methadone have been used successfully in Ukraine to reduce HIV transmission. Although Ukraine has introduced these treatments in 2004 and 2008, respectively, only 2.7% of the 340,000 people who inject drugs in Ukraine receive them.

Ukraine is at the forefront of expanding delivery of specialty treatments by providing them in primary care clinics and integrated health services. Integrating services for people who inject drugs is recommended by international agencies and has had some early successes in Ukraine, including the results of a pilot study in primary care clinics. Consequently, Ukraine represents a case of regional best practices for integrating

services for people who inject drugs in Eastern Europe and Central Asia despite distinct regional political, socioeconomic, and religious trajectories since dissolution of the Soviet Union. In the context of these efforts to integrate OAT into primary care, Mr. O'Hara will evaluate the barriers to delivering OAT in the primary care setting and to identify gender-related factors that affect access to and retention in OAT.

Mr. O'Hara will interview patients receiving treatment for drug addiction to assess a new approach to addiction that delivers specialty treatment, which combines addiction and HIV treatment, in primary care settings with the aim of counteracting this stigma. This study will be based in Kyiv and conducted under the aegis of an ongoing larger longitudinal randomized clinical trial evaluating the integration of specialty care into primary care settings across 36 sites in Ukraine conducted by the Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy (UIPHP).

Furthermore, the UIPHP collaborates with Ukraine's two largest HIV prevention NGOs, Alliance Ukraine and the All Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV. George O'Hara will volunteer at these two organizations to educate about and bring people into HIV treatment.

His research will culminate in a presentation of my findings to the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, to stakeholders in the UIPHP, and to relevant policy makers in Ukraine. The results of this study can find application in improving integrated care using opioid agonist therapies on a larger scale in Ukraine, and in building awareness of the need to extend holistic HIV treatment to women and other vulnerable populations.



Mihail Tyutyunik

Pratt Institute, New York, NY

Arts | Murals and Public Art through Community Engagement in Ukraine

The Modern Art Research Institute of the National Academy of Arts of Ukraine, Kyiv

September 2018, 9 months

mtutyunik@gmail.com

In recent years, there has been a public art renaissance in Kyiv, with murals adorning buildings throughout the city. Mr. Tyutyunik’s project, however, is unique and innovative because unlike commercial or single-artist murals, it will incorporate the ideas, values, and efforts of local people at all stages of the process. In contrast to much of the public art currently on display in the city, these murals will be created with Kyiv, rather than for Kyiv.

The immediate and most highly visible goal for this project is the creation of three aesthetically-distinguished, collaboratively-designed, and cooperatively-painted artworks that highlight shared community assets, values, and visions for the future. The long-term goal for this project is to use public art to promote a vision of community life in which individuals are empowered to create their

own histories and legacies, strengthen their communities, and to impact the physical and socio-political landscape of the city.

This project will encourage cultural exchange and mutual understanding by creating opportunities for mural project participants to have open dialogue about local and international issues and using creativity to inform urban development and design. Finally, the completed artworks will stand as a testament to the collective vision of the participants for years to come. Through this project, Mr. Tyutyunik will draw on his own experiences creating public art with communities in New York and other North American cities as he apply his practice to working in Ukraine. Mr. Tyutyunik aims to use his public artmaking practice to similarities and differences in culture, history, and urban development through the lens of public art.





Isaiah Lawrence Valdez

United States Military Academy, West Point, NY

Economics | *Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in Post-revolution Ukraine*

Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, Kyiv

Kyiv School of Economics, Master's Program in Business & Financial Economics

September 2018, 9 months

isaiah.l.valdez@gmail.com

Recently graduated from the United States Military Academy, Mr. Isaiah Valdez holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. During his time as an undergraduate, he became interested in foreign affairs and economics, particularly those involving post-Soviet states and Russia's aggression in neighboring countries. Over the past three years, Mr. Valdez participated in cultural immersion and study programs in Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, and Ukraine, studying languages and experiencing first-hand each country's political and economic situation. He is especially interested in Ukraine's economic recovery following Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and invasion of the Donbas.

Mr. Valdez's interest in Ukraine stems from the time he spent in Kyiv during the summer of 2017. He traveled to Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa, and Dnipro to learn more about the Ukrainian and Russian languages and Ukrainian culture. During his travels, Isaiah met families that were displaced by the War in Donbas and other families that were severely afflicted by the economic crisis in 2014-2015. From these experiences, Isaiah decided to base his research around these issues. During his grant, Mr. Valdez will complete the Master's program in Business & Financial Economics at the Kyiv School of Economics while researching means to improve Ukraine's economy through attracting more foreign direct investment to Ukraine.

Following the 2014 Ukrainian Revolution, foreign direct investment (FDI), a key factor of economic growth, fell by 90%. Furthermore, there is evidence that pre-revolution FDI in Ukraine was not genuinely foreign, but instead was Ukrainian and Russian capital invested through tax havens such as Cyprus. Ukraine's economy, although improving, needs more FDI to see real growth. Mr. Valdez will study the barriers to increased FDI, such as political corruption and the ongoing War in Donbas, to create policy recommendations aimed at attracting investors to Ukraine. Mr. Valdez will complete his studies at the Kyiv School of Economics to improve his economics' expertise while conducting his research alongside some of Ukraine's top economists and researchers. There he will study alongside Ukrainian students and have the opportunity for daily cultural exchange.

When Mr. Valdez is not studying economics, you will find him spending time with his Ukrainian friends, studying Ukrainian and Russian, playing music, and volunteering his time at military hospitals. He hopes to use his military background to connect with soldiers that have returned from the Donbas. Isaiah is also interested in photography, and he hopes to create a photo journal documenting his experiences in Ukraine.

After completing his grant in Ukraine, Mr. Valdez will return to the United States to complete Army Aviation School at Fort Rucker, Alabama. After completing his tour as an aviation officer, Mr. Valdez aspires to use his language, cultural, and economic experience to serve as an Economics Officer in Eastern Europe.







Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship

2018-2019



Dexter Blackwell

Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA
TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship
Donbas State Pedagogical University, Sloviansk
September 2018, 9 months
dblackwell@oxy.edu

Mr. Dexter Blackwell graduated from Occidental College with a degree in Group Language, studying both linguistics and Russian language, while also earning a minor in Classical Studies. His research interests include sociolinguistics and Ukrainian-Russian bilingualism. He first became interested in Ukrainian culture and language by attending lectures at the Kennan Institute in Washington DC. Mr. Blackwell began his career in education by volunteering as an English conversation teacher while studying abroad in Saint Petersburg. Inspired by this experience, he worked as a one-on-one Russian language tutor and sought to increase student engagement with foreign language study at Occidental College.

Mr. Blackwell applied for a Fulbright after a summer of intensive Ukrainian language study, in hopes of furthering his career as an educator and to gain a deeper cultural understanding of Ukraine. In the future, he plans to work towards increasing Americans' knowledge about Ukraine.

Mr. Blackwell is teaching at the Donbas State Pedagogical University in Sloviansk. During his tenure in Ukraine, he looks forward to not only becoming an educator, but also an honest and effective ambassador of American culture. A lifetime lover of language, Mr. Blackwell is excited to improve his skills while living in Sloviansk. Outside of teaching, he hopes to explore the growth of English and its role in the future of Ukraine, and to seek out new and exciting opportunities to volunteer within his community.





Zachary Dmyterko

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship

Khmelnytskyi National University, Khmelnytskyi

September 2018, 9 months

zpdmyterko@comcast.net

Mr. Zachary Dmyterko graduated from Marquette University in 2017 with a Bachelors degree in International Affairs with a focus on European studies and minors in History and Spanish. Throughout his college career, Mr. Dmyterko has been active in various volunteer and study opportunities in Ukraine including a summer language program with the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine. He has spent 3 summers in Ukraine, using much of his time there volunteering with various organizations. His family's strong Western Ukrainian heritage has played a large role in his ongoing interest in the region and has inspired him to study the cultural identity of Ukraine and its current political role on the world stage.

Mr. Dmyterko's volunteer work has included running an English club and giving American cultural presentations at America House Kyiv, teaching English to children from the Donbas at a GoCamp summer program, and working with Ukrainian ATO veterans in the Main Military Hospital in Kyiv, Ukraine. Through his past volunteer work, Mr. Dmyterko promoted community building and youth development in Ukraine while building mutual understanding between Americans and Ukrainians. He hopes to show the citizens of Ukraine that even those of Ukrainian heritage living in the USA such as himself are part of the diverse cultural fabric that represent American society.

With his Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Scholarship, Mr. Dmyterko plans not only to continue to develop the potential of Ukraine's students but to also deepen his own understanding of Ukrainian history, culture and identity in a time when such issues are at the forefront of Ukrainian society. He plans to

research the history and modern-day impact that the Zaporizhian Cossacks of Ukraine have on Ukrainian culture and identity. He seeks to bring light to this almost mythic brotherhood of warriors and see how modern Ukrainian culture has adopted the Cossacks as a symbol of Ukrainian freedom and defiance in the face of their current war with Russia. In doing so he will be looking at Cossacks in a both historical context and in contemporary popular culture, political organizations, and military units that have adopted the Cossack image for themselves. By immersing himself in Ukrainian and Cossack cultural traditions, including folk dance, traditional holidays, and folk festivals, Mr. Dmyterko hopes to understand Ukraine's unique past and foster a deeper appreciation for his own Ukrainian heritage.

Additionally, Mr. Dmyterko will be taking classes to improve his Ukrainian language skills. A further side project that he would like to complete would be a genealogy of his family tree, tracing back the roots of his ancestors in Ukraine, and connecting with his family still living there.





David Dovgopolyy

Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, WA

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistant

Oles Honchar National University, Dnipro

September 2018, 9 months

dovgopolyyd@gmail.com

Mr. David Dovgopolyy graduated from Seattle Pacific University in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature. A native of the Pacific Northwest, he was born and raised in a Ukrainian diaspora community that resettled from the Donbass region to America in the early '90s. Though culturally American, he has retained a keen interest and love for his family's native Ukraine.

Through his university education, Mr. Dovgopolyy developed a strong belief in the educative capacity of literary storytelling to foster the kind of empathy citizens need to engage in the democratic process on behalf of one another. He wrote his senior thesis on Marilynne Robinson's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *Gilead* where he explored how Robinson mines the American tradition of confessional writing to give contemporary American society a language of social conscience. In 2016, his interests led him to work as a resettlement case manager

at World Relief Seattle where he assisted dozens of Ukrainian emigres to resettle in Washington state. These experiences form the basis of his passion to be in Ukraine on the Fulbright program.

While in Ukraine, Mr. Dovgopolyy will work as an English Teaching Assistant in the Department of Foreign Languages for the Humanities at Oles Honchar Dnipro National University. He is thrilled to immerse himself in Ukrainian culture and to work closely with students to enhance their English language skills and knowledge of American culture. To complement his teaching, Mr. Dovgopolyy hopes to volunteer with vulnerable populations in Dnipro. More specifically, he hopes to collaborate with non-profit and humanitarian agencies through photo-based storytelling to highlight the challenges facing vulnerable groups relocating to Dnipro from the war-torn east. Through the Fulbright Program in Ukraine, Mr. Dovgopolyy hopes to learn from his students, promote mutual understanding, and strengthen ties between Ukrainians and Americans.





Sherilyn Harrington

Linfield College, McMinnville, OR

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistant

Lutsk National Technical University, Lutsk

September 2018, 9 months

sherilynharrington@gmail.com

Ms. Sherilyn Harrington graduated from Linfield College in 2015 with a Bachelor's degree in French. During her time at Linfield, she studied abroad for a year with an immersion program in Aix-en-Provence, France. Following graduation, Ms. Harrington served for a year as an AmeriCorps Employment Specialist at LCS, a refugee resettlement agency in Vancouver, WA, and later earned TEFL certification.

She was then hired by LCS to coordinate and develop a new ESL program for high-needs refugee clients. For two years, Sherilyn recruited, trained, and managed a team of ESL volunteers to meet with clients one-on-one. In addition, Ms. Harrington also taught walk-in English classes for beginners, instructed citizenship courses for immigrants in Portland, and onboarded mentors for refugee families. As most clients were refugees from Eastern Ukraine, Ms. Harrington attended Russian courses at Portland Community College in order to improve communication. Learning Russian not only aided in day-to-day conversations, but also allowed Ms. Harrington to form deeper connections with members of the local community and advocate for more specific needs.

Ms. Harrington's passion lies in foreign language learning, working in multicultural settings, and promoting intercultural understanding on a micro level. By implementing these passions working with and for Ukrainians in the United States, Ms. Harrington learned not only the difficulties of resettlement, but also the importance of community support and engagement. She is grateful to have worked closely with individuals and families from a vast multitude of backgrounds and religious beliefs, while facilitating interactions with their American supporters. She looks forward to teaching, sharing, and learning with a new cohort of students in Lutsk, participating in American and Ukrainian cultural events, and studying the Ukrainian language.



Sarah Wood

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistant
Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University, Vinnytsia
September 2018, 9 months
smwo233@gmail.com

Ms. Sarah Wood graduated from the University of Kentucky with a double major in Integrated Strategic Communication and Modern & Classical Languages, Literatures, and Cultures with a concentration in Russian and a minor in International Studies. Her undergraduate career included extensive involvement with the Russian department, where she served as president of the Russian club, worked as a tutor for first-year Russian students and was the recipient of the Post-secondary Russian Scholar Laureate Award.

Ms. Wood's participation in the university's education abroad program to Krasnodar, Russia, during the summer of her sophomore year catalyzed her interest in history, diplomacy and the relationship between the United States and Eastern European countries. This ultimately led her to center her Russian Studies thesis around the mythic figure of the mother in Slavic cultures and her appearance and influence in World War II Soviet propaganda. She hopes that this research combined with her background in Integrated Strategic Communication will enable her to better analyze and understand the media climate and its influence in Ukraine during her Fulbright experience.

Hailing from rural West Virginia, Ms. Wood was intrigued by the parallels she noticed between the culture of Appalachia and Eastern Ukraine. This intrigue developed into a summer of service in 2017 in the Donbas region of Ukraine where she conducted intensive English language courses for displaced doctoral students and professors of Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University in the town of Severodonetsk. During her time at the

university, Ms. Wood was inspired by the people of Eastern Ukraine, prompting her to broaden her understanding of the country.

During her English Teaching Assistantship, Ms. Wood will be teaching at displaced Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University, located in Vinnytsia. Upon her arrival to her host city, she will create an online radio station to implement an on-air English reading hour with the goal of promoting the English language, culture and history to the community. Additionally, she intends to launch and co-host a podcast that will introduce her students to a broader network of native English speakers through a collaborative online conversation exchange with American university students. Ms. Wood has a keen interest in the individual stories and experiences of the people of Ukraine and she hopes to connect with Ukrainian culture through an open, weekly music event where musicians and artists within the community may perform and share their stories through music.

Through immersion in the culture of her host community, Ms. Wood hopes to gain a deeper understanding of both the political climate of Ukraine and the different perspectives that make the country so unique. Language acquisition, familiarity with cultural practices, and mutual understanding are all key ingredients in cultural literacy and diplomacy. Ms. Wood believes that each culture offers us a different lens through which we develop our own perceptions, and it is important to change lenses often to further transcend our differences. Through her Fulbright experience, she hopes to do exactly that.



The Virtual Fulbright Ukraine:

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Esplanadna str, 20, office 904
Kyiv, 01001, Ukraine
Tel: +380 (44) 287 07 77
office.ukraine@iie.org
www.iie.org • www.fulbright.org.ua