

# JEFFREY R. WATSON

acerjw@gmail.com

http://www.acerjw.com

## EDUCATION

---

- Ph.D.**      **Russian and Second Language Acquisition**, December 2007  
Bryn Mawr College  
    **Dissertation:** “Applying Sociocultural Theory in a L2 Classroom with 2nd-Year Students of Russian”
- M. A.**      **Teaching Foreign Language**, December 1999  
Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS)
- B. A.**      **Russian**, August 1997  
University of Texas at Arlington

## INTERNATIONAL STUDY

---

### **St. Petersburg State Pedagogical University**, September 1993 – June 1994

- Completed the first year of the five-year Teaching Russian as a Foreign Language course. Excelled in all areas including Grammar, Literature, Conversation, Linguistics, Ancient and Present Cultures of Russia, Russian History, Pedagogical Methods, and Theoretical and Applied Psychology. Emphasis of classes was the intrinsic knowledge of the language, its origin, history and usage in order to be able to teach it to speakers of other languages. GPA: 4.0

### **Rimsky-Korsakov State Conservatory of Music**, August 1992 – December 1992

- Gained knowledge of Russian musical terminology while interacting with Russian staff and faculty. Studied the grammatical structure of the Russian language in intensive private language course.

### **Moscow State University**, June – August 2002

- Awarded a grant from the American Council of Teachers of Russian to attend their 2002 Summer Russian Language Teachers Program, a 6-week intensive teacher-training exchange program at the Moscow State University. Of 500+ applicants, 21 were selected and funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

### **American Councils – Moscow** – June – August 2002

- Worked as an intern for American Council’s “Open World” program which brings Russian local and federal public officials to the U.S. to observe their American counterparts in action.
- Conducted telephone and email interviews with program alumni to identify and report significant success stories based on program participation and experience gained therein.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

### **UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY**, West Point, NY, September 2007 – present

#### **Assistant Professor**, Department of Foreign Languages (DFL)

- Teach Nature of Modern Languages, Academic Reading & Writing, 1<sup>st</sup>- and 2<sup>nd</sup>-year Russian.
  - Used textbooks “Introduction to Language” (Fromkin, Rodman, & Hyams), “Mosaic 2: Writing” (McGraw-Hill), “Golosa” and “V Puti” (Prentice Hall), and “Beginner’s Russian” (Kudyma, Miller & Kagan).
- Coordinate and assess language immersion experiences.
- Serve on faculty committees, Russian language club, and Service Academy working groups.
- Developed and maintain “Dr. Watson’s Russian Video Blog” (<http://www.acerjw.com/rusmuz>), an online teaching resource with level-appropriate culturally relevant music videos from Russia and Ukraine with English and Russian subtitles.

#### **Chair of Language Acquisition**, Center for Languages, Cultures, and Regional Studies (CLCRS)

- Pursue research endeavors to explore the relationship between language, culture, and regional expertise.
- Publish articles to promote discussion of the Center’s domains in the Army and academic community.
- Participate in curriculum development projects and recommend curricular changes.
- Develop and maintain a research database of pre- and post-semester abroad assessments of language proficiency, regional expertise, and cross-cultural competence (LREC).

**TECHTRANS INTERNATIONAL, Houston, TX and Moscow, Russia, June 2004 – August 2007**

**Russian Operations Manager – Moscow, Russia (September 2005 – present)**

- Supervised staff of 59 employees, coordinated accounts payable/receivable, purchasing, customer service, and facility maintenance. Managed HR/staffing, taxation, representative office legalization, payroll, corporate discipline. Facilitated development of Western-style corporate culture.

**Commercial Language Program Administrator (August 2004 – September 2005)**

- Administered TechTrans' language education programs for corporate clients including hiring teachers and marketing. Developed specialized training programs, supervised teachers, negotiated contracts, settled disputes.

**Language Trainer (June 2004 – September 2005)**

- Taught Russian language and culture to NASA astronauts and scientists at Johnson Space Center

**BRYN MAWR COLLEGE, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, August 2002 – June 2004**

**Program Coordinator/Instructor (2003)**

**Academic Coordinator (2004)**

***Russian Language Institute (Summer Intensive Program - 2003)***

- 2003: Developed curriculum and cultural program for RLI 2003. Coordinated teachers, processed student applications, developed curriculum, materials, and cultural activities.
- 2004: Recruited and hired teachers, prepared budgets and coordinated with Bryn Mawr College Accounting department to market the program nationwide.

**Teaching Assistant**

***Intensive Elementary Russian (AY 2002-2003)***

***Intensive Intermediate Russian (AY 2003-2004)***

- AY 2002-2003: Used *Live from Moscow: Stage One* as a textbook for 8 contact hours/week of teaching to Bryn Mawr College freshmen. Focused on grammatical accuracy and conversation practice while engendering a love for the Russian culture and history.
- AY 2003-2004: Used *Live from Moscow: Stage Two* along with many supplementary materials for 7 contact hours/week with Bryn Mawr College sophomores.

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 2001 – June 2004**

**IEP Lecturer**

***Writing for Professional Purposes – Spring 2004***

- Taught 8 international students in a distance learning environment using the e-College online learning management system. Focused on development of professional writing skills.

***Fulbright Pre-Academic Preparation – Summer 2003***

- Taught a group of 12 international Fulbright scholars the basics of American academic life including topics such as academic writing, norms of academic discussion, test-taking and study strategies, electronic libraries and literacy, computer-assisted learning, etc.

***Current Issues in Business***

- Used authentic business articles from online and offline business magazines and journals to teach and strengthen analytical reading and summarization skills.

***TOEFL Preparation***

- Reinforced students' listening comprehension, reading comprehension, essay writing, and grammar usage skills in preparation for the computer-based TOEFL test. Used Heinle & Heinle and Longman textbooks.

***Language Through Film***

- Taught content-based whole language course using 20<sup>th</sup> century American film

***Advanced Grammar***

- Used Heinle & Heinle *Grammar Dimensions 4* in an interactive focus-on-form course for advanced ESL learners.

***Intermediate Reading and Writing***

- Core course focusing on reading comprehension and strategies, vocabulary acquisition, free writing, academic essay writing, and grammar usage.

***FSA/ACCELS Pre-Academic Preparation for Muskie Fellows***

- Taught 2-week preparatory course to FSA Muskie Fellows as an orientation to college life in America. Focused on time management skills, essay writing skills, and research methods.

## LANGUAGE LINK, Moscow, Russia, January - August 2000

### *EFL Instructor / CALL Consultant*

- Taught TOEFL Preparation courses to intermediate and upper-intermediate students
- Taught general and business English to adult Russian learners at various levels of proficiency
- Prepared content for and implemented several online English courses including an online TOEFL prep course (<http://www.toeflinteractive.ru>)

## MONTEREY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, Monterey, CA, 1999 – January 2005

### Adjunct Instructor

#### *Using the Internet to Teach Languages*, 1999 – 2004

- Taught hands-on workshop/seminar on skills necessary for and Internet/WWW resources available to language teachers
- 2000 -2004: Course taught as a distance learning course via the Internet.

#### *Introduction to Computers in Pedagogy*, Fall 1999

- Led 15-week hands-on seminar concerning basic and intermediate computer skills useful to educators

### Student Teacher

#### *Master's Degree Practicum*, Summer 1999

- Developed lesson plans for and taught twelve lessons during the Russian course of the Summer Intensive Language Program

### Guest Teacher

#### *Orientation Course for Fullbright Scholars*, Summer 1999

- Presented "Research Opportunities on the Internet" Workshop to group of 40+ International Fullbright Scholars

## RUSSIAN STATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #11, St. Petersburg, Russia, Jan. 94 - June 94

### Adjunct English Language Teacher

- Developed lesson plans for and taught English and Music to young Russian children.

## RUSSIAN LANGUAGE TUTOR, 1994 - 2004

- Provided structured Russian language teaching to individual students on many different levels.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

---

Google Scholar Profile: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=4rTe2AsAAAAJ>

ResearchGate Profile: [http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jeff\\_Watson3](http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jeff_Watson3)

Watson, J. R., & Wolfel, R. (2015). The Intersection of Language and Culture in Study Abroad: Assessment and Analysis of Study Abroad Outcomes. *Frontiers: the Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*, 25, 57-72.

Watson, J. R., Siska, P. and Wolfel, R. L. (2013), Assessing Gains in Language Proficiency, Cross-Cultural Competence, and Regional Awareness During Study Abroad: A Preliminary Study. *Foreign Language Annals*, 46: 62-79.

Watson, J. (2010). Language and culture training: Separate paths? *Military Review*, March-April 2010, pp. 93-97.

Watson, J. (2003). The Role of Vygotskian Socio-cultural Theory in Modern Foreign Language Teaching in the US . *Slovo. Grammatika. Rech'*, Moscow State University Press, September 2003, pp. 163-168.

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS**

---

“The Intersection of Language and Culture during Study Abroad” (with Dr. Rick Wolfel), Intercultural Competence Conference, Tucson, AZ, January 21-23, 2014

- “Study Abroad Program Development and Assessment for Chinese: Best Practices” (with Dr. Martha Gallagher), American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Convention, Orlando, FL, November 22-24, 2013
- “Study Abroad Assessment and Program Development at the US Military Academy” (with Dr. Rick Wolfel and COL Mark Gagnon), National Association of International Educators (NAFSA) Region X Downstate NJ/NY Meeting, Paramus, NJ, June 27, 2012
- “Striving for Advanced Proficiency: West Point's Study Abroad Model for Russian,” 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Russian Language Education and Resources Network (LEARN) Conference on “Advanced Russian Language Learning: Models of Success,” DLI - Monterey, CA, August 1-4, 2011
- “Using *Chinese for Tomorrow*: Student Perceptions and Language Gain,” 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Chinese Language Teachers Association – Greater New York Conference on the Teaching of Chinese, New York, NY, May 15, 2010
- “Vygotsky Applied: A Holistic Application of Sociocultural Theory to a College Russian Course,” American Council of Teachers of Russian - International Symposium “Word in Intercultural and Interpersonal Communication,” Washington, DC, May 5-6, 2009
- “Computer-Based Assessment of Basic Language Proficiency and Regional Expertise in the Less Commonly Taught Languages,” Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium Conference, Tempe, AZ, March 12-14, 2009
- “Translating Sociocultural Theory into Practice,” American Association of Applied Linguistics Conference, Salt Lake City, UT, April 6 – 9, 2002
- “Learning Strategies in an Online CALL environment,” Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Convention, Salt Lake City, UT, April 9 – 13, 2002
- “Using the Internet to Teach Languages,” CATESOL Conference “Computers in the L2 Classroom,” Monterey, CA, February 27, 1999

## **TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCE**

---

**Web Administrator, Center for Languages, Cultures, and Regional Studies, U.S. Military Academy – West Point, NY, Sept. 2007 - current**

- Responsible for creation and maintenance of Center website

**Special Projects Web Designer, Bryn Mawr College IS – Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, Sept. 2002 – present**

- Worked on a variety of special projects for academic department web pages.
- Projects included general site upgrades, graphic design upgrades, small-scale PHP/MySQL research and implementation

**Internet Consultant / Web Designer and EFL Teacher, Language Link - Moscow, Russia, January - August 2000**

- Created design and content for <http://russian.language.ru> and <http://www.toeflinteractive.ru>.
- Prepared content for and implemented several online English lessons
- Taught general and business English to adult Russian learners at various levels of proficiency
- Taught TOEFL Preparation courses to intermediate and upper-intermediate students; especially preparation for the TOEFL CBT (computer-based test)

### **Webintern, MIIS, Fall 1998, Spring – Fall 1999**

- Designed and maintained 130-page website for the Graduate School of Languages and Educational Linguistics at MIIS.

### **Freelance Web Designer, 1997 – present (see <http://www.acerj.com>)**

- Create, develop and maintain a variety of websites on the Internet using straight HTML (Homesite 4.5), WYSIWYG HTML editors (Dreamweaver 1.0 & 2.0), and Macromedia Flash 3, 4 & 5. Limited knowledge of using Javascript templates and Java applets.
- Design and manipulate professional graphics using Adobe ImageReady, Photoshop 5.5 and Macromedia Fireworks 2, 3, & 4.

### **Tech Support Representative, Analysts International Corp., Dallas, TX, 1997 - 1998**

- Contracted to MCI Systemhouse as Technical Support Representative Help Desk Analyst for their Moore Document Solutions account.
- Duties included: Usage and telephone technical support of various operating systems (Win 3.11, 95/98/NT,) and software packages (Office 95, 97) on 386, 486, and Pentium-class IBM-Compatible PCs.
- Typical issues addressed: Mainframe and LAN connectivity on Novell 3.1 and 4.1 servers, Win3.1 and Win95 Dial-up connectivity (TCP/IP set up), troubleshooting of MS Office problems and errors, troubleshooting of OS conflicts with hardware and software, workstation setup and error resolution for end users of Lotus Notes R4 and R4.5.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

---

- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR)
- American Association of Teachers of Slavic & East European Languages (AATSEEL)
- American Association of Applied Linguistics (AAAL)

## **LANGUAGES**

---

- English – native
- Russian – fluent, native-like
- French – intermediate level

## **REFERENCES**

---

*More references are available upon request.*

• **Dr. Kathleen Bailey**  
*Professor, Applied Linguistics*  
Graduate School of Languages and  
Educational Linguistics, MIIS  
425 Van Buren Street  
Monterey, CA 93940  
*Tel:* (831) 647-4181  
*Fax:* (831) 647-6650  
*Email:* kbailey@miis.edu

• **Dr. Dan Davidson**  
*Exec. Director, American Councils*  
*Professor of Russian and SLA*  
American Councils  
1776 Massachusetts Ave., Ste 700  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
*Tel:* (202) 833-7522  
*Email:* ddavidson@actr.org