

Anastasiia Gushchina

Email: anastasiia.gushchina@ucalgary.ca

EDUCATION

- 2026 Ph.D. in Communication and Media Studies
University of Calgary, Canada
- Supervisory committee: Dr. Ryan Pierson (University of Calgary), Dr. Charles Tepperman (University of Calgary), Dr. Matthew Croombs (University of Calgary); Dr. Scott Curtis, external reader (Northwestern University)
- 2017 M.A. in Art Criticism (with distinction)
Saint Petersburg State University, Russia
- 2014 B.A. in Film and Electronic Arts (with distinction)
Saint Petersburg State University, Russia + Bard College, NY, USA (dual degree program)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Calgary as Sessional Instructor

- 2027, Winter Special Topics in National Cinema (Russian Cinema) (FILM301)
- 2025, Spring Visual Communication & Culture (COMS367 – textbook: *Practices of Looking*)
- 2025, Winter Canadian Film (FILM351)
- 2024, Winter Special Topics in National Cinema (Russian Cinema) (FILM301)
- 2022, Fall Special Topics in Film Studies (Animated Documentary) (FILM409)

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology as Casual Instructor

- 2025, Winter Technical Communications I (COMM238)
- 2025, Winter Communication and Presentation Skills (COMN220)

University of Calgary as Teaching Assistant

- 2026, Winter Introduction to Art History I – Art History Before 1400 (ARHI 201)
- 2019-2024 Introduction to Film Studies (FILM201 – textbook: *Film Art*)
- 2023 Special Topics in Film Studies (The Animation Distillery) (FILM409)
- 2020, Spring Visual Communication and Culture (grading) (COMS367)
- 2020, Winter Topics in Film Genre (Science Fiction Film) (grading) (COMS305)

Reed College as Russian Language Scholar

2014-2015	Introduction to Russian (RUS120 – textbook: <i>Nachalo</i> , book 1, 2)
2014-2015	Intermediate Russian (RUS220 – textbook: <i>V Puti: Russian grammar in context</i>)
2014-2015	Advanced Russian (RUS300)

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, RECOGNITION

2024, 2025	Faculty of Graduate Studies Doctoral Scholarship – \$15 000 (CA)
2025	UCalgary Teaching Award for Graduate Assistants (Teaching), University of Calgary – <i>nonmonetary</i>
2025	Norman McLaren/Evelyn Lambart Award for Best Published Essay in Animation – <i>nonmonetary</i>
2023, 2025	Graduate Student Association Professional Development Grant – \$750 (CA)
2024	Congress Graduate Merit Award, Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences – \$500 (CA)
2024	Faculty of Graduate Studies Unibuddy Stipend – \$500 (CA)
2023, 2024	Travel Grant, Communication, Media and Film department – \$500 (CA)
2024	British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies Shortlist contender for the Best Published Essay by a Doctoral Student – <i>nonmonetary</i>
2024	Travel Grant for the 2024 <i>Society for Cinema and Media Studies</i> conference – \$400 (US)
2023-2024	Frances Spratt Graduate Student Fellowship, Calgary Institute for Humanities – \$10 000 (CA)
2023	Jonathan Kahana Graduate Student Writing Award – \$250 (US)
2022	Maureen Furniss Award for Best Student Paper, Society for Animation Studies – <i>nonmonetary</i>
2022	Public Humanities Fellowship, Calgary Institute for Humanities – \$10 000 (CA)
2022	University of Calgary Graduate Studies Scholarship – \$5000 (CA)
2022	Sherry Clarkson Prize for the Best Academic Paper – \$500 (US)
2022	Graduate Student Association Graduate Representative Council Distinguished Service Award – <i>nonmonetary</i>
2021-2022	University of Calgary Graduate Student Association Bursary – \$1000 (CA)

2020-2023	International Doctoral Scholarship – \$5 000/year (CA)
2019-2023	Eyes High International Doctoral Recruitment Scholarship – \$15 000/year (CA)
2019-2020	Entrance Scholarship of the Department of Communication, Media and Film – \$20 500/year (CA)
2016	Best Student Paper Award for Outstanding Scholarship, <i>V Smolny Student Conference – nonmonetary</i>
2015-2017	State Academic Scholarship for Master’s program – \$12 000/year (CA)
2010-2014	State Academic Scholarship for Bachelor’s program – \$20 000/year (CA)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Animated Documentary as a Feminist Practice.” *Animation Practice, Process & Production*, vol. 13, no. Animated Change: Women and Genderqueer Animators, June 2024, pp. 33-56. https://intellectdiscover.com/content/journals/10.1386/ap3_00052_1

“Towards a Materialist Theory of Animated Documentary.” *Animation Studies*, vol. 18, 20 June 2023. <https://oldjournal.animationstudies.org/anastasiia-guschina-towards-a-materialist-theory-of-animated-documentary/>.

- *Recipient of Norman McLaren/Evelyn Lambart Award for Best Published Essay in Animation (2025)*
- *Shortlisted for Best Published Essay by a Doctoral Student, British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies (2024)*

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Animating Real Space: Material-Based Animated Documentary and Its Relationship to History.” *Dimensions of Animation*, edited volume, 2027. (forthcoming: accepted for publication)

“Мыши и люди: комикс как актуальный медиум для репрезентации и интерпретации трагических событий прошлого” [Mice and People: Comics as a Relevant Medium for Representing and Interpreting Traumatic Historic Events]. *Izotext*, edited by Alexander Kunin and Julia Magera. Moscow: Russian State Library for Young Adults, 2017, pp. 36-47.

BOOK REVIEWS

“Review: The Classical Animated Documentary and Its Contemporary Evolution.” *Animation*, vol. 18 no. 2, 15 July 2023, pp. 188-190.

“Review: Nea Ehrlich, *Animating Truth: Documentary and Visual Culture in the 21st Century* (2021).” *Fantasy/Animation*, 3 Feb. 2023, <https://www.fantasy-animation.org/current->

[posts/review-nea-ehrllich-animating-truth-documentary-and-visual-culture-in-the-21st-century-2021.](#)

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

“After Postmodernism: How Documentary Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Representation.” *Heliotrope Journal*, 14 February 2024, <https://www.heliotropejournal.net/helio/after-postmodernism>.

“Review: BAFTSS Animation SIG Posthumous & Posthuman Animation Online Seminar.” *Fantasy/Animation*, 19 May 2023, <https://www.fantasy-animation.org/current-posts/review-baftss-animation-sig-posthumous-amp-posthuman-animation-online-seminar>.

“Review: Factual Animation Film Festival.” *Fantasy/Animation*, 11 Nov. 2022, <https://www.fantasy-animation.org/current-posts/review-the-factual-animation-film-festival-faff-2022>.

“The War as a Fairytale: The Construction of Memory Through Documentary Animation in *A Kosovo Fairytale* (Anna-Sofia Nylund, Samantha Nell, Mark Middlewick, 2009).” *Senses of Cinema*, 30 Oct. 2022, <https://www.sensesofcinema.com/2022/after-yugoslavia/the-war-as-a-fairytale-the-construction-of-memory-through-documentary-animation-in-a-kosovo-fairytale/>.

“No Visible Trauma: The Cinematic Investigation of Police Brutality in Calgary.” *The Gauntlet*, 2 Apr. 2021, <https://thegauntlet.ca/2021/04/01/no-visible-trauma-the-cinematic-investigation-of-police-brutality-in-calgary/>.

“Холокост в Комиксах” [The Holocaust in Comics.] *Батенька, Да Вы Трансформер*, 29 Jul. 2019, <https://batenka.ru/aesthetics/reading/holocaust-comics/>.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

Guest speaker at graduate seminars: COMS601 (Interdisciplinary Approaches to Communications Studies) and COMS615 (Research Methods), University of Calgary, 2024, Calgary (Canada), November 27 and December 3. **(Invited)**

“Documentary Film,” University of Calgary, guest lecture for survey Introduction to Film Studies course (~180 students), Calgary (Canada), March 13, 2023, and November 5, 2024. **(Invited)**

“Animated documentary as a feminist practice,” *Film and Media Studies Association of Canada*, Montreal (Canada), June 14-16, 2024.

“Animating Real Space: Material-Based Animated Documentary and the Environment of History,” *Visible Evidence XXIX*, Udine (Italy), September 6-9, 2023 + *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Boston, MA (USA), March 14-17, 2024.

- “Materiality of Digital Animated Documentaries: The Case of Digital Rotoscoping and Motion-Capture” (panel “Digital Age Technologies and the Future of Animated Documentary”), *Society for Cinema and Media Studies*, Denver, CO (USA), April 12-16, 2023. **(Invited)**
- “‘The Stuff of Reality’: Towards a Materialist Theory of Animated Documentary,” *CMF Connections: Doctoral Conversations*, University of Calgary, Calgary (Canada), March 24, 2023. **(Invited)**
- “Animating Real Space: Material-Based Animated Documentary and Its Relationship to History,” *Conference of AG Animation – Dimensions of Animation*, Lucerne (Switzerland), hybrid conference, November 10-12, 2022.
- “Materiality of Animated Documentaries,” *RAW Graduate Student Conference*, The University of Texas at Dallas, USA, virtual conference, February 12, 2022.
- *The paper was awarded the 2022 Sherry Clarkson Prize for the Best Academic Paper.*
- “Fragments of the world: Rethinking Animated Documentary Postmodernism,” *XXVII International Conference of Film Studies: Animation in the 21st Century. Rethinking Images and Technology*, Rome (Italy), hybrid conference, November 25-26, 2021.
- “TAs in a Dangerous Time: Junior Scholars and Teaching through the COVID-19 Pandemic” (co-organized panel), *2021 CMF Graduate Student Conference: Opportunities in Crisis*, University of Calgary, virtual conference, May 13-14, 2021.
- “Necessary Fiction: Understanding Reenactments through Lacan,” *LACK iv: Lack by the Lake, Psychoanalytic Theory at the University of Vermont*, Burlington, VT (USA), 2020 (paper accepted, the event postponed due to COVID-19, declined participation on a newer date).
- “Fiction as Truth: Reenactments in Documentary Cinema,” *22nd Annual FSAC Graduate Colloquium: Activity*, Toronto (Canada), February 28-29, 2020 + *Rundle Summit*, Banff (Canada), February 21-22, 2020.
- “Russia and Its Politics in Comics by Victoria Lomasko,” *Edmonton Expo*, Edmonton (Canada), September 20, 2019.
- “Representations of Holocaust in Comics and Graphic Novels,” *VI Smolny Student Conference: Multidisciplinary in Sciences and Arts*, Saint Petersburg (Russia), April 21-23, 2017.
- “Mice and People: Comics as a Relevant Medium for Representing and Interpreting Traumatic Historical Events,” *Object and Context*, Saint Petersburg (Russia), May 14-15, 2016.
- “Stories with Pictures: Representing History in Comics,” *V Smolny Student Conference: Synthesis of Sciences and Arts*, Saint Petersburg (Russia), April 15-16, 2016. The paper was granted the Best Paper Award for Outstanding Research.

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

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| 2025-Present | Research Specialist: grant and award development for faculty members, postdoctoral scholar support, research and mentorship programming at the Dean’s Office, Faculty of Arts, University of Calgary |
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- 2024-2025 **Graduate Assistant to Learning and Design Specialist:** assistance with and facilitation of onboarding training modules for graduate students: Graduate Academic Integrity Program, Graduate Cojoint Faculties Ethics Module, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention Module, supervised by Felicia Glatz, M.Ed., Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Calgary
- 2024 **Research Assistant:** editorial assistance for edited collection *The Golden Age of Canadian Cinema*, supervised by Dr. Charles Tepperman, University of Calgary, and Dr. Lee Carruthers, University of Calgary
- 2023-2025 **Research Assistant:** editorial assistance for edited collection *Cinemas of Global Solidarity*, supervised by Dr. Matthew Croombs, University of Calgary, and Dr. Masha Salazkina, Concordia University
- 2023-2024 **Research Assistant:** archival research, translations for SSHRC project *Cinema Against State Terror: Documentary, Algeria, and the Third World Left*, supervised by Dr. Matthew Croombs, University of Calgary
- 2023 **Research Assistant:** archival research on Amateur Movie Clubs for *Amateur Movie Database*, supervised by Dr. Charles Tepperman, University of Calgary
- 2023 **Research Assistant:** research, literature review, data interpretations for SSHRC project on Cinematic Late Style, supervised by Dr. Lee Carruthers, University of Calgary
- 2022 **Research Fellow:** Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, research and analysis on existing scholarship on newcomers in Canada, database entries and organization of *Newcomer Research Library*, supervised by Amanda Koyama and Amanda Weightman
- 2022 **Research Assistant:** organization of *Cinemas of Global Solidarity: Virtual Symposium*, supervised by Dr. Matthew Croombs, University of Calgary
- 2021 **Research Assistant:** organization of *New Views of Modernism: Forms and Publics*, virtual symposium, supervised by Dr. Ryan Pierson, University of Calgary
- 2020 **Research Assistant:** data collection and analysis for *Amateur Movie Database*, project: *Fashion Interpretations*, supervised by Dr. Charles Tepperman, University of Calgary

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2026 Facilitator, Canadian Forum for Social Innovation (Calgary, AB, Canada)

2016-2019	Senior Admission Specialist, Admission Office for International Students, Saint Petersburg State University (Saint Petersburg, Russia)
2017-2018	English as a Second Language Teacher, EF Education First (Saint Petersburg, Russia)
2012-2013	Journalist, <i>Rosbalt</i> News Agency (Saint Petersburg, Russia)

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

2024-Present	Membership Officer, Society for Animation Studies
2023-Present	Co-editor, <i>Animation Studies 2.0</i> , peer-reviewed blog, Society for Animation Studies
2025-2026	Programmer for Artifact Small Format Film Festival, Calgary Society for Independent Filmmakers
2023-2026	Graduate Representative, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Documentary studies Scholarly Interest Group (elected)
2025	Ad hoc peer-reviewer for <i>Animation: An Interdisciplinary Journal</i>
2025	Ad hoc peer-reviewer for <i>Animation Studies</i> journal
2024-2025	Unibuddy Ambassador, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Calgary
2024	Adjudicator, Teaching Awards, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary
2023	Jury Member for Best International Documentary Feature, Calgary International Film Festival
2023	Chair, session “Female Co-creation and Beyond” at Visible Evidence XXIX conference
2022-2023	Departmental Steward, Labour Relations Committee, Graduate Student Association, University of Calgary
2021-2022	Adjudicator, Awards Committee, Graduate Student Association, University of Calgary
2020-2022	Graduate Representative Council, Graduate Student Association, University of Calgary (elected)
2020	Member, Newcomer and International Students subcommittee, Graduate Student Association, University of Calgary

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATIONS

2026	MobilizeUCalgary – Knowledge Mobilization training, <i>University of Calgary</i>
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2026	La/The Collaborative's Foundational Collaborative Skills Training, including modules on EDI, Communication, Strategic Leadership and Conflict Resolution, <i>McMaster University</i>
2019	TCPS 2: CORE certificate
2019	Graduate seminar, ARTS601: Theory and Practice of Teaching and Learning, <i>University of Calgary</i>

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2026-present	Member, Canadian Association of Research Administrators (CARA)
2026-present	Member, Teaching Academy, University of Calgary
2022-Present	Member, Film and Media Studies Association of Canada (FMSAC)
2022-Present	Member, British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFFTS)
2021-Present	Member, Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)
2020-Present	Member, Society for Animation Studies (SAS)
2023-2024	Member, Calgary Society for Independent Filmmakers (CSIF)

LANGUAGES

English (fluent) • Russian (native speaker) • French (beginner) • Spanish (beginner)

REFERENCES

Dr. Ryan Pierson, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film, University of Calgary: ryan.pierson@ucalgary.ca

Dr. Charles Tepperman, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film, University of Calgary: cetepper@ucalgary.ca

Dr. Matthew Croombs, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film, University of Calgary: matthew.croombs@ucalgary.ca

Dr. Lee Carruthers, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media and Film, University of Calgary: lcarruth@ucalgary.ca

Dr. Kinga Olszewska, Senior Research Advisor, Dean's Office, Faculty of Arts, University of Calgary: kinga.olszewska@ucalgary.ca