

LAUREL TOLLISON THORNE

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(662) 832-7072

EDUCATION

Brown University; Providence, RI

Ph.D. (Slavic Studies), May 2029

Activities: Social Chair, Graduate Student Council (Fall 2023- present)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Urbana-Champaign, IL

M.A. (Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies), August 2023

Honors: Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellow (2021-2022, 2022-2023)

Study Abroad: Daugavpils University; Daugavpils, Latvia (Summer 2023)

Mississippi State University; Starkville, MS

B.A. (History Major), May 2021

Honors: Dean's Scholar (Fall 2018); President's Scholar (Spring 2018 and 2020, Fall 2019 and 2021); Phi Alpha Theta Historical Honor Society (Spring 2019); Gamma Phi Beta Honor Society (Fall 2020); Magma Cum Laude (Spring 2021)

Activities: Senator, Mississippi State Student Association (Spring 2019 – Fall 2020); Chairman, Health and Wellness Committee (Spring 2019 – Fall 2020); Study Abroad Ambassador, MSU Study Abroad Office and American Institute for Foreign Studies (Summer 2020-Spring 2021)

Study Abroad: St. Petersburg Polytechnic University; St. Petersburg, Russia (Spring 2020)

EXPERIENCE

Resource Compiler; Association for Women in Slavic Studies (Fall 2023-)

- **Curate lists of up-to-date jobs and funding** every two weeks to send to the AWSS list serv.
- Create and manage AWSS Instagram and Facebook
- **Send out AWSS listserv emails**

Social Media Liasson; AATSEEL (Spring 2022-)

- Manage and develop content for the AATSEEL Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook
- Increase AATSEEL social media presence through actively posting and engaging with followers

Outreach Graduate Assistant; Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (Fall 2021-Spring 2023)

- Curated multicultural lesson plans and crafts for K-12 programming and facilitated K-12 events at local head start schools, elementary schools, and libraries
- Promoted REEEC events by writing and scheduling emails from the REEEC list-serv
- Processed applications for REEEC's Open and Summer Research Labs
- Maintained the REEEC Opportunities Page with up-to-date information on jobs, funding, conferences, internships, and summer/language opportunities
- Assisted in the application process for grants through implementation of data in Excel spread sheets

Docent; Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library; Starkville, MS (Fall 2020)

- Headed the front desk at the library and assisted visitors to the museum

Historical Preservation Intern; Menokin Foundation; Warsaw, VA (Summer 2020)

- Managed Menokin social media accounts and wrote weekly blogs about the rebuilding of Menokin

Conferences and Presentations

“Women Were Colonizers Too: Unveiling the Role of Women in the Colonization of Russian America.”, Association of Women in Slavic Studies Biennial Conference, Champaign, IL, JUN 2024, Paper, Presented, Laurel Tollison.

“Dichotomies of the Feminine: Idealization and the Grotesque in Early Soviet Literature.”, 2024 Northeast Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Conference, New York University, New York City, New York, APR 2024, Paper, Presented, Laurel Tollison.

“Mothers of Empire: Indigenous Alaskan Women's Maternal and Reproductive Lives Under the Russian Empire.”, 2024 NAISI Spring Research Symposium, Brown University, Providence, RI, APR 2024, Paper, Presented, Laurel Tollison.

“Resistance in Empire: Indigenous Alaskan Women’s Narratives in Russian Alaska.”, 2024 American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, Las Vegas, Nevada, FEB 2024, Paper, Presented, Laurel Tollison.

“Maryanka and the Imperial Gaze: Desire, Gender, and Empire in Tolstoy’s *The Cossacks*.” 2025 Critical Approaches to Russia’s Engagement With the Caucasus, American University of Armenia, Yerevan, Armenia, JUNE 2025, Paper, Presented, Laurel Tollison.

Certifications

Sheridan Teaching Certificate, 12/2024

Sheridan Course Design Certificate, 5/2025