

# JONATHAN L. LARSON

Dept. of Anthropology  
114 MacBride Hall  
University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
[jonathan-larson@uiowa.edu](mailto:jonathan-larson@uiowa.edu)

## EMPLOYMENT

Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology; University of Iowa, Summer 2009-.  
Postdoctoral Fellow; The Harriman Institute for Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies; Columbia University; New York, Fall 2008-Spring 2009.  
Visiting Scholar; Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Fall 2008-Summer 2009.  
Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology; Miami University of Ohio, Fall 2007-Spring 2008.  
Visiting Instructor of Anthropology; Miami University of Ohio, Fall 2006-Summer 2007.

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2007.  
*Dissertation:* Whose Critical Thinking? Political Processes and Regimes of Voice in Western Slovakia, 1948-2005  
*Committee:* Alaina Lemon (Chair), Judith Irvine, Katherine Verdery, Michael Kennedy (cognate)  
M.A., Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2001.  
B.A., Magna Cum Laude with Honors, History and German; University of Vermont, 1994.

## ACADEMIC HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, and GRANTS

Volkswagen Visiting Fellow, Institute for Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague; May-June 2010 (tentative dates).  
Woodrow Wilson Center Short-Term Grant; Washington, DC; January 2010 (tentative date).  
New Faculty Teaching Enhancement Program; Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching, Miami University, Fall 2007.  
Grant Proposal Writing Workshop; Office for the Advancement of Research and Scholarship, Miami University, Fall 2007.  
Woodrow Wilson Center Junior Scholars' Training Seminar, August 2006.  
Václav Havel Dissertation Award, University of Michigan, 2004-05.  
Ronald and Eileen Weiser Award for Research in Slovakia, University of Michigan, 2004.  
Department of Anthropology Block Grant, University of Michigan, 2004.  
Department of Anthropology Mischa Titiev Librarian Fellowship, U. Michigan, 2003-04.  
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Abroad Fellowship, 2002-03.  
Fulbright-IIE Fellowship, 2002-03 (declined).  
Václav Havel Dissertation Award, University of Michigan, 2002-03 (declined).  
Department of Anthropology Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2002.

Society for Linguistic Anthropology Student Essay Prize, 2002.  
 Ford Seminar in the Social Sciences and Area Studies, University of Michigan, Winter 2000-Fall 2001.  
 Title VI Language Fellowship (FLAS) for Czech, Fall 1999-Winter 2002.  
 Kenya Mayfield Service Award, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, 2000.  
 Title VI Language Fellowship (FLAS) for Slovak, Summer 1999 and 2000.  
 Title VIII Language Fellowship for Slovak, Summer 1999.

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Criticism and political discourse; Knowledge, authority, and trust; Publics and public culture; Ethnographies of writing; Education and socialization; Political economy of language; Language, ethnicity, and nationalism; Regions and disciplinary knowledge.  
**Areas:** Slovak Republic, Central-Eastern Europe, Germany, former USSR.

### PUBLICATIONS

- [Forthcoming] Jazykoveda v zrkadle prelomov sveta: Prague Circle Theories of Jazyková kultúra, in *Jazyk v zrkadle prelomov sveta*, ed. Slavomír Ondrejovič. Veda: Publishing House of the Slovak Academy of Sciences.
- 2009 Cosmologies of Criticism: Taste, (Dis)trust, and Uses of Literature in a Slovak Secondary School, in *Critique of Anthropology*, 29 (4): 1-23.
- 2008 Ambiguous Transparency: Resumé Fetishism in a Slovak Workshop, in *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology*, 73 (2): 189-216.
- 2002 "Selling Oneself, Selling the Nation: Translating Slovaks for the Eyes of Europe," in *The Anthropology of East Europe Review Special Issue: New Directions in Post Socialist Studies*, 20 (2): 37-41.
- [Revised for resubmission to *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* for a special issue on "Verbal Duels and Conflict."] Debating A Debate That Is No Debate? Censure, Publication, and the Contexts of Moral Order in Postsocialist Slovakia.
- [Submitted to *Public Culture*] Love, *L'udskost'* and Education for Democracy.

### IN PROGRESS

- n.d. *Critical Society: Public Knowledge and the Ethics of Voice in Slovakia*. Manuscript.
- n.d. Sentimental *Kritika*: Hazardous Dialectics and Deictics of Accountability in Socialist Secular Criticism. Article in preparation for submission to *American Anthropologist*.
- n.d. Orality, Literacy, and "Cultures of Opinion"? Ideologies of Code in Slovak Classrooms. Article in preparation for *Language in Society*.

- n.d. Toward an Anthropology of Critical Thinking. Article in preparation for submission to *Anthropology News*.

### INVITED PAPERS

- 2009 "Sentimental *Kritika*: Sentimental *Kritika*: Hazardous Dialectics and Deictics of Accountability in Socialist Secular Criticism" at *The University of Chicago Workshop in Politics, Communication, and Society* in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2009 "Beyond Alienation and Intimacy: Pedagogical Sentiments in the Socialization to Discursive Ethics of Democracy in Western Slovakia" at *The Harriman Institute of Columbia University* in New York, New York.
- 2008 "Beyond Alienation and Intimacy: Institutional Sentiments, Socialization, and Democratic Discursive Ethics in Western Slovakia," at *the University of Michigan Anthropology and History Reading Group* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2008 "Koho kritické myslenie? Politické priebehy a schematizácie hlasu na západnom Slovensku, 1948-2005," at *2007-2008 Academic Seminar Series at the Ethnological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences* in Bratislava, Slovakia.
- 2007 "'That's Your Critical Thinking': Classroom Intimacies, Voice, and Democratic Practice in Western Slovakia" at *Loyola University Chicago School of Education Speaker Series* in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2007 "Criticism, Taste, and Politics: Of Reading Literature and Democratization in Slovakia," at *Emerging Nations: Identity and Culture in Today's Central Europe* in Oberlin, Ohio.
- 2007 "Political Voice, Conflicted Voices: Resituating Responsibility in Western Slovak Language Arts Classes," at *University of Toronto Institute for Women's Studies and Gender Studies Workshop on Language and Neoliberalism* in Toronto, Ontario.
- 2004 "To Criticize is Easy: Morality, Ideology, and Problems of Slovak 'Critical Thinking,'" *Brown Bag Series of the Center for Russian and East European Studies* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2003 "Gramotnosť a transformácia na postsocialistickom Slovensku: Návrh historickej etnografie kritického myslenia," at *2002-2003 Academic Seminar Series at the Ethnological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences* in Bratislava, Slovakia.
- 2002 "Learning to Represent Labor: Social Transformation and the CV in Slovakia," at *Rural and Urban Communities in the Process of Transformation. The Case of Central Europe Workshop* in Svätý Jur, Slovakia.

## OTHER PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

- 2009 “The Coarseness of Velvet: Crises and Clashes of Evidential Contexts,” at *The Tenth Czech Studies Workshop* in New York, New York.
- 2008 “Behind the Velvet Curtain: Crisis, Criticism, and Scripts of Conflict in Twentieth Century Slovakia,” at *The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* in San Francisco, California.
- 2008 “Beyond Alienation and Intimacy: Parsing Western Slovak Phenomenologies of Space and ‘Normal’ Initiative,” at *Annual Soyuz Symposium* in Berkeley, California.
- 2007 “The Discrete Charm of Denunciation? Regimes of Voice in Postsocialist Slovak Cultural Politics,” at *The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* in Washington, D.C.
- 2006 “Critical Publics: Intellectual Print Culture and the Normalization of Slovak Politics,” at *The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* in San Jose, California.
- 2006 “An Ethnography of Opinions: Of Socialism and Democracy in Slovakia,” at *The Woodrow Wilson Center Junior Scholars’ Training Seminar* in Wye River, Maryland.
- 2006 “The Politics of Literature and the Politics in Literature: Folk Sociologies of Critique in Slovak Classrooms,” at *The University of Michigan-University of Chicago Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology* in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2006 “Reading Central European Politics: Democratization versus Socialization to Critique,” at *The Seventh Michigan Czech Workshop* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2005 “Why Juraj Can’t Read: Socialist Histories, European Values, and Grading Slovak Secondary Schools,” at *The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* in Washington, District of Columbia.
- 2005 “Critiques of Impure Reason? Contextualizing Postsocialist Slovak Intellectual Conflict,” at Havighurst Center Conference *Thinking in/ after Utopia: East European and Russian Philosophy before and after the Collapse of Communism* in Oxford, Ohio.
- 2005 “More than Meets the Eye: Rewriting the Slovak Curriculum Vitae and Ideologies of Representation in the Documents of Capitalism,” at *Conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socioeconomics* in Budapest, Hungary.
- 2004 “Restoring Ideological Order: Criticism and Consensus in Late Slovak Socialism,” at *The National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies* in Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2004 “The Checkered Past: Situating the Relationship of ‘Black and White Thinking’ to Linguistic Practice in Postsocialist Slovakia,” at *The University of Michigan-University of Chicago Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology* in Chicago, Illinois.

- 2004 “The ‘Critical’ in Critical Thinking: Exploring the ‘Socialist Mentality’ in Postsocialist Slovakia,” at *The Fifth Michigan Czech Workshop* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2002 “Ambiguous Transparency: Resume Fetishism in a Slovak Workshop,” at *The University of Michigan-University of Chicago Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology* in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2002 “Selling Oneself, Selling the Nation: Remaking Slovaks for the Eyes of Europe,” at *Council for European Studies Conference* in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2002 “‘Put that on your CV:’ Personhood and Political Economy in Post-Socialist Slovakia,” at *Annual Soyuz Symposium* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2001 “Developing a Functional Linguistics: Prague Circle Theories of ‘Language Culture,’” at *American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* in Washington, D.C. and  
 2001 at *The University of Michigan-University of Chicago Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2001 “Slovakia’s ‘Questione della Lingua,’ or Why Noam Chomsky Wasn’t the First Linguist in (Political) Space,” at *University of Michigan-University of the Bosphorus Comparative Cultural Politics Project* in Istanbul, Turkey.
- 2000 “Performing Reconciliation: Misfires in Commemorating National Guilt in the Holocaust,” poster at *The 7<sup>th</sup> International Pragmatics Conference* in Budapest, Hungary.
- 2000 “Who’s the Father? Of Legitimacy and Origin Myths in the Standardization of Slovak,” at *The University of Michigan-University of Chicago Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology* in Chicago, Illinois.
- 2000 “William Safire, Eat Your Heart Out: Slovak Linguists and the Shaping of National Consciousness,” at *Midwest Slavic Conference* in Urbana, Illinois.
- 1999 “Performing Reconciliation: The Vicissitudes of Commemorating National Guilt in Kristallnacht,” at *The University of Michigan-University of Chicago Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology* in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

### CONFERENCES AND PANELS ORGANIZED

- “The Inner and Outer Lives of ‘Social Movements’: Postsocialist Trajectories and Shifting Contexts in Slovakia,” Panel at *National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies*, 2009 (co-organizer with Ed Snajdr).
- “Keywords: Ideologies and Practices of Criticism in Socialist Czechoslovakia,” Panel at *National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies*, 2004.
- Ford Workshop on Cultural Politics and Area Studies; University of Michigan; May 5-10, 2002.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- n.d. Space and the Sentiments of Dissent in Socialist Czechoslovakia  
(Library and archival research in Washington and Prague to be funded by the Wilson Center and Volkswagen Foundation/Institute for Contemporary History, Winter/Spring 2010)

## FIELD RESEARCH, RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE, AND LANGUAGES

**Slovakia:** June 2008; September 2004-September 2005; August 2002-August 2003; June-July 2001; July-August 2000; July-August 1999 (September 1994-September 1996 in country teaching secondary school).

**Hungary:** Debrecen Summer Language Program, July 2001.

**Czech Republic:** Bronze Age archaeological excavation sponsored by the Czech Academy of Sciences, Velim; July 1995.

**Germany:** Study abroad at the University of Konstanz, Fall 1991-Summer 1992.  
Intern, European Secretariat of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), Freiburg in Breisgau; February-April, 1992.

**Turkey:** University of Michigan-University of the Bosphorus Comparative Cultural Politics Project, May 2001.

**Languages:** Slovak (fluent, active); German (fluent, active); Czech (fair, active); French (fair, passive); Hungarian, Russian, and Swedish at beginning level.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Iowa, Department of Anthropology  
*Language, Culture, and Communication*, Fall 2009.

Miami University of Ohio, Department of Anthropology  
*Peoples and Cultures of the World (Introduction to Cultural Anthropology)*; Spring 2008, Fall 2007, Spring 2007, Fall 2006.  
*Language and Culture*; Spring 2008, Fall 2007.  
*Peoples and Cultures of Russia and Eurasia (Anthropology of Eastern Europe)*; Spring 2008, Spring 2007, Fall 2006.  
*Anthropology of Capitalism*, Spring 2007.

University of Michigan, Department of Anthropology.  
*Topics in Linguistic Anthropology: Language, Culture, and Censorship*, Summer 2006.  
**Graduate Student Instructor;** *Language and Society*, Winter 2002 & 1999.  
**Graduate Student Instructor;** *Introduction to Anthropology*, Fall 2001.  
**Graduate Student Instructor;** *Social Forms: Exchange, Possessions, and Value*, Fall 1998.

University of Michigan, Center for Russian and East European Studies  
**Graduate Student Instructor,** *Survey of East Europe*, Winter 2006.

### SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES: National

Officer at Large, Slovak Studies Association, 2008-2010.  
 Peer reviewer, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*.  
 Outside reviewer, Faculty Grant Competition, City University of New York, 2008.  
 Panelist, Roundtable discussion on the state of Europeanist ethnography; Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, September 2007.  
 Representative for linguistic anthropology on panel organized by the National Association of Student Anthropologists; "Student Orientation to the AAA Annual Meeting: Insider Perspectives;" at *The American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting* in San Jose, California; November 2006.

### Local

Chair, Panel titled "European Citizens and the Future of the European Union," Association for the Study of Nationalities World Convention, April 2009.  
 Organizer, Anthropology Faculty Writing Group, Miami University, Fall 2007-Winter 2008.  
 Chair, Panel titled "Remembering and Practicing the Cold War Today;" Havighurst Center 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Young Researchers Conference, Miami University, October 2007.  
 Coordinator, Anthropology of Eastern Europe Reading Group; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Winter 2004 and Fall 2005.  
 Participant, Virtual Seminar on Cultural Politics; Ford Foundation Project, "Crossing Borders: Revitalizing Area Studies;" University of Michigan; Winter 2001.  
 Student-Faculty Relations Committee Co-Chair, Michigan Anthropology Graduate Association, Winter 2001.  
 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Anthropology; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Jan.-Dec. 2000.

### OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Columbia University Libraries, New York.  
**Bibliographic Assistant in Western European Languages**, Fall 1997-Summer 1998.  
 Legacy International Global Youth Village; Bedford, Virginia.  
**Instructor and Counselor**; *Alumni Workshop*, Summer 1997.  
**Instruction Assistant and Counselor**; *English as a Second Language Workshop* and *Central Asian Youth Exchange Program Workshop*; Summer 1994.  
 Gymnazium V.P. Totha; Martin, Slovakia.  
**Instructor**; English and German conversation and grammar; Fall 1994-Spring 1996.  
**Theater Director**; *Jesus Christ Superstar*; Winter-Spring 1996.  
 U.S. Senator James Jeffords, Burlington, VT.  
**Intern**, Summer 1993. Duties included grant research, correspondence with constituents, and monitoring the media.

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association, American Ethnological Society, Society for Linguistic Anthropology, Society for Political Anthropology, American Association for the

Advancement of Slavic Studies, Soyuz: Research Network for Postsocialist Studies,  
Czechoslovak Studies Association, Slovak Studies Association.

## REFERENCES

Alaina M. Lemon, Associate Professor of Anthropology

101 West Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
734-764-2333, [amlemon@umich.edu](mailto:amlemon@umich.edu)

Judith T. Irvine, Edward Sapir Collegiate Professor of Linguistic Anthropology

101 West Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
734-647-4729, [jtiri@umich.edu](mailto:jtiri@umich.edu)

Michael D. Kennedy, Howard R. Swearer Director of the Watson Institute for International  
Studies and Professor of Sociology and International Studies

111 Thayer St., Brown University, Providence, RI 02912-1970  
401-863-3596, [Michael\\_Kennedy@brown.edu](mailto:Michael_Kennedy@brown.edu)

Linda F. Marchant, Professor of Anthropology

175 Upham Hall, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056  
513-529-1594, [marchalf@muohio.edu](mailto:marchalf@muohio.edu)

Katherine Verdery, Julien J. Studley Faculty Scholar and Distinguished Professor of  
Anthropology

Anthropology Program, Graduate Center, CUNY, 365 Fifth Ave, New York, NY  
10016  
212-817-8015, [kverdery@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:kverdery@gc.cuny.edu)

Revised 9/09