

James White

Academic Curriculum Vitae

General Details

Name: James Matthew White

Date of Birth: 5th December 1986

Permanent Address: 36 Betteridge Drive, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, United Kingdom, B76 1FN

Email Address: james.white@eui.eu

University

Undergraduate

University attended: University of Birmingham

Course studied: BA Medieval and Modern History with Honours

Dates attended: September 2005 to June 2008

Classification: Class I

Postgraduate

University attended: University of Birmingham

Course studied: MA Russian and East European Studies

Dates attended: September 2008 – September 2009

Classification: 73% (Distinction)

Additional award: School of Government and Society John Grayson Memorial Prize (postgraduate)

Doctoral Programme

University: Department of History and Civilization, European University Institute, Florence.

Duration of course: 2010-2014

Supervisor: Steve Smith

Second Reader: Martin van Gelderen/Mark Gamsa/Aleksandr Etkind

Thesis Title: A Bridge to the Schism. *Edinoverie*, Russian Orthodoxy and the Ritual Formation of Confessions, 1800-1918

Jury: Professor Simon Dixon (UCL), Professor Steve Smith (All Souls, Oxford), Professor Irina Paert (University of Tartu), and Professor Boris Kolonitskii (European University in St. Petersburg).

Defence date: 23rd September 2014.

Status: Successfully defended.

Additional qualifications obtained: Masters of Research (awarded for successful completion of the first year).

Additional: The doctorate was jointly issued by the European University Institute and the European University in St. Petersburg.

Teaching Experience

Position 1:

Title: Lehrbeauftragter

Place: University of Passau

Length of Employment: 2013/2014

Duties: I taught two seminar courses. The first dealt with Russian history from c.1700-1918. The second was of my own design and was entitled 'Witches, Saints, and Tsars: Religion in Russia's Experience of Modernity.' This dealt with themes of religion in imperial Russia and the Soviet Union. Each student produced an essay, which I marked. The language of instruction was English.

Contact: Professor Dirk Uffelmann

Teaching Qualifications Held:

September 2014: Teacher Training Skills course at the European University Institute, conducted in co-operation with University College London.

Research

Publishing Activities

Articles (forthcoming)

'The Demonic Principle: Intellectual Reactions to Religious Freedom from the Russian Orthodox Church, 1864-1905,' in C. Stroop and A. Siljak, eds., *Russia, Religion, and Secularism* (DeKalb, Northern Illinois University Press, 2015).

'Orthodox Old Belief: The Confessionalisation of Edinoverie, 1905-1918' in *Russian History*, vol. 42, no. 4 (2015).

'The Ceremonial Enactment of Edinoverie, 1900-1913' in *Quaestio Rossica*, no. 4 (2015).

'Ritual, Ecclesia, and the Reform of Russian Orthodoxy. The Life and Thought of Father Ioann Verkhovskii, 1818-1891' in A. Djuric and R. Radic: *Orthodox Christian Renewal Movements in Eastern and Southeastern Europe in the 19th and 20th Centuries* (Serbian Academy of Sciences, Belgrade, 2015).

Reviews

Review of (ed.) G. Szvák: *The Place of Russia in Europe and Asia* (New York, Columbia University Press, 2010). Published in *European Review of History - Revue européenne d'histoire*, 19:2, 340-342 (2012).

Review of M. Khodarkovsky: *Bitter Choices. Loyalty and Betrayal in the Russian Conquest of the North Caucasus* (Ithaca & London, Cornell University Press, 2011) in *Europe-Asia Studies*, 64:10, 1942-1944 (2012).

Review of K. Lam: *Shared Space, Varied Lives: Finnish-Russian Interactions in Dacha Country, 1880s-1920s* (Ph.D. thesis, University of Michigan, 2013) to appear on Dissertation Reviews (www.dissertationreviews.org).

Review of: M. Hilton: *Selling to the Masses. Retailing in Russia, 1880-1930* (Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2012). *Europe-Asia Studies*, 66:1, 150-152 (2014).

Review of: R. O. Crumney: *Old Believers in a Changing World* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2011). *European History Quarterly*, 44:2, 314-316 (2014).

Review of: I. Paert: *Spiritual Elders: Charisma and Tradition in Russian Orthodoxy* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2010). *European History Quarterly*, 44:1, 174-175 (2014)

Review essay on D. Rogers: *The Old Faith and the Russian Land: A Historical Ethnography of Ethics in the Urals* (Cornell University Press, 2009) in *Antropologicheskii forum/Forum for Anthropology and Culture*, no. 23 (2014) pp. 229-235 (in Russian: trans. Arkadii Bliumbaum)

Editorial

I am a joint editor of the June 2013 issue of the German electronic journal *Zeitenblicke* in conjunction with three other researchers at the EUI. This issue is dedicated to presenting working papers of EUI students and interviews with EUI professors. A second issue is expected in early 2016. The June 2013 issue is available at: <http://www.zeitenblicke.de/>

September 2014 to present: English language proofreader for academic theses by non-native speakers.

List of theses successfully corrected

Robrecht Declercq: *The Leipzig Fur Industry as an Industrial District. Collective Action, Lead Firms, and World Market Transformation, 1870-1939*. (Ph.D thesis, European University Institute, 2015)

In progress

Carolina Obradors: Citizenship and Foreigners in Mediterranean Europe at the end of the Middle Ages. Integration, exclusion and protectionism in 15th Century Barcelona (Ph.D thesis, European University Institute, 2015)

Works in Progress

'Ritual Radicals: Three Churchmen and the Ritual Revitalisation of Russian Orthodoxy, 1865-1927.'

'Toleration, National Identity, and Liturgical Rituals in the 19th Century: Russian Orthodoxy and the Anglican Church in Comparative Perspective.'

'Old Belief in the German lands. A Study of Religious Migrant Networks in Prussia, Saxony, and Austria-Hungary in the 19th Century.'

'The Seizure of Property as a Mechanism of Religious Coercion in Imperial Russia, 1800-1917.'

Workshops and Conferences presented at:

Paper entitled 'Imperial Bishops: The Russian Church as an Agent of Empire in 1905' presented at the workshop 'Empires in a World Perspective: Images, Commodities and Agents, 15th-19th century,' convened on 12th December 2011 by Professors Jorge Flores and Bartolomé Yun-Casalilla.

Paper entitled 'Christianisation and Russification in the Altai: The View from the Orthodox Episcopate in 1905' presented at the workshop 'New Perspectives on Empire in Russia and the Soviet Union,' convened on 2nd March 2012 by Professor Steve Smith.

Paper entitled 'Rendering Unto the Schism: Church, State and Old Believer Property After 1905' presented at the XXXIX Conference for the Study Group of the Russian Revolution at the University of East Anglia in January 2013, convened by Dr. Matthias Neumann.

Paper entitled 'Intolerance in the Altai: The Russian Orthodox Church's Reaction to Burkhanism, 1904-1917' presented at BASEES/ICEES European Congress, Cambridge, 5th April 2013.

Paper entitled 'Christian Consciences: Theologies of Religious Freedom in the Russian Orthodox Church, 1864-1905' presented at The Varieties of Russian Modernity: Rethinking Religion, Secularism, and the Influence of Russia in the Modern World symposium in Moscow, 11th June 2013.

Paper entitled 'The Church Militant: Religious Plurality and the Russian Orthodox Church in the Russian Army, 1905-1917' presented at War and Religion in the Modern World conference in Ampport, Hampshire, 18th July 2013.

Paper entitled 'Radicals of the Rite. Three Orthodox Churchmen and the Ritual Rejuvenation of Russian Orthodoxy, 1864-1927' presented at The History and Cultures Workshop seminar at the University of Birmingham, 22nd January 2015.

Paper entitled 'Witches, Magic, and Possession. Evil and Holiness in Russia, 1500-1900' presented at The Birmingham History Network, St. Luke's Church Centre, 22nd February 2015.

Additional conferences and workshops attended

Russian Archive Training Scheme in April 2011: a week long training mission to the historical archives in Moscow. Organised by Dr. Polly Jones, UCL.

Attended 'Conference of Young Historians from Russia and Abroad,' at the Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Rossiiskoi Federatsiii: April 2011.

Exchange Programmes

September 2012 to June 2013: European University in St. Petersburg (EUSPB). Supervisor: Professor Boris Kolonitskii.

Additional Academic Activities

Joint convener the Imperial History Working Group (January 2012 to August 2012).

Joint convener and founder of the Religious History Working Group (January 2012 to August 2012).

Organiser of The History Network, an international social group aimed at expanding historical knowledge and promoting interaction between academic historians and the general public by means of seminars, lectures, museum trips, and other cultural activities. Locations: Berlin (from July 2014) and Birmingham (January 2015). Combined membership of both groups as of 24th February 2015: 380. Please see: <http://thehistorynetwork.blogspot.co.uk/>

Research Interests

My principal interest is the reaction of the Russian Orthodox Church to the problem of religious plurality in late imperial Russia. Within this broad research project, I am investigating the following themes:

- Religion, secularisation and modernity.
- Religion and empire; religion and nationalism.
- Russian Orthodoxy and the struggle with Old Belief.
- The religious history of the Lake Baikal Buriats and the tribal peoples of the Altai.
- Siberian Orthodoxy.
- The development of the Orthodox mission.
- Religion and ritual theory.
- Religious pluralism in Russia.
- Religious freedoms and religious toleration in eastern Europe.
- Confessionalisation.

Languages

Russian (advanced)

German (intermediate)

Italian (intermediate)

Old Church Slavonic (beginner)