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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Area: Eastern Europe (especially Romania), and the United States

Topics: Political Economy, Infrastructure and Technology Design, Labor, Maintenance and Repair, Environmental Anthropology, Materiality and Material Culture

TEACHING AND SERVICE

May 2022 – present **Romanian Academy of Sciences, Bucharest, Romania**

Postdoctoral Researcher, ‘Fr. I. Rainer’ Institute of Anthropology, in the research project *State, Communities and Nature of the Lower Danube Islands: An Environmental History (1830-2020)*

January 2022 – present **Romanian Academy of Sciences, Bucharest, Romania**

Junior researcher, ‘Fr. I. Rainer’ Institute of Anthropology

February 2020 – present **National School of Political and Administrative Sciences, Faculty of Political Science, Bucharest, Romania**

Adjunct Lecturer, Sociology Department

Course taught: *Language, Culture, and Social Interaction* (graduate level)

October 2020 – present **University of Bucharest, Faculty of Sociology and Social Assistance, Bucharest, Romania**

Adjunct Lecturer, Anthropology Department

Courses taught: *Language and Social Interaction; Contemporary Theories in Anthropology; The Anthropology of Brokenness and Repair* (undergraduate level)

Fall 2019 - present. **SOYUZ: The Research Network for Postsocialist Cultural Studies**

Co-editor (with Nelli Sargsyan) of the group’s column in *Anthropology News*

Winter 2020. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.**

Guest lectures for *Communism and Capitalism in Central and Eastern Europe*

Lecture titles: “Making Private Property” and “The Collapse of the Welfare State”

Winter 2020. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor U.S.**

Graduate Student Instructor for *Communism and Capitalism in Central and Eastern Europe* (in person and online due to the Covid-19 pandemic)

Professor Krisztina Fehérváry

Winter 2018. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.**

Graduate Student Instructor for *Communism and Capitalism in Central and Eastern Europe*,

Professor Krisztina Fehérváry

Winter 2018. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.**

Guest lecture for *Communism and Capitalism in Central and Eastern Europe*.

Lecture title: "Collapse of the Welfare State"

Fall 2017. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.**

Graduate Student Instructor for *Culture, Thought and Meaning*, Professor Matthew Hull

Winter 2016. **National School of Governance, Bucharest, Romania**

Guest lecture for *The Practice of Observation*.

Lecture title: "The Political and Symbolic Economy of (Im)mobility"

Winter 2016. **"Constantin Carabella" Highschool, Târgoviște, Romania**

Guest lecture for 11th grade Sociology.

Lecture title: "The Love of Anthropology"

Fall 2015. **University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania**

Guest lecture for *The Anthropology of Infrastructure*.

Lecture title: "The Switchman's Conundrum: On the Politics and Poetics of Infrastructure"

Fall 2015. **National School of Governance, Bucharest, Romania**

Guest lectures and workshops for *Observational Practice*

Lecture title: "SpaceTime Assemblages"

Winter 2015. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.**

Graduate Student Instructor for *Introduction to Anthropology*, Professor Jason De León

Fall 2014. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.**

Graduate Student Instructor for *Culture, Thought and Meaning*, Professor Matthew Hull

Winter 2014. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, US**

Graduate Student Instructor for *Introduction to Anthropology*, Professor Thomas Chivens

Fall 2013. **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, US**

Graduate Student Instructor for *Introduction to Anthropology*, Professor Andrew Shryock

EDUCATION

2012- 2020 **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, United States**

Department of Anthropology. Sociocultural Subfield, Ph.D.

Conferral date: August 21 2020;

Advisory Committee: Krisztina Fehérváry (chair), Matthew Hull, Stuart Kirsch, Alaina Lemon, Dario Gaggio (cognate)

2009-2011. **National School of Governance (SNSPA), Bucharest, Romania**

Master of Arts in Social and Cultural Anthropology. First of my class

2007-2008. **Central European University (CEU), Budapest, Hungary**

Master of Arts in Nationalism Studies. Graduated with Distinction

2005-2007. **“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj, Romania**
Bachelor of Laws (discontinued)

2003-2007. **“Babeș-Bolyai” University, Cluj, Romania**
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, Second of my class

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2021. Nomis Grant (*via* Stuart Kirsch) for research about concrete and waste recycling (\$25,000)
2020. ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award (\$1,000)
2020. Louise Williams Distinguished Dissertation Award (\$1,000)
2019. Marshall Weinberg Dissertation Fellowship (\$13,500)
2018. Rackham Humanities Fellowship (\$16,000)
2018. CREES Research, Internship, and Fellowship program Grant (\$1,500)
2015. Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (\$19,817)
2014. Department of Anthropology summer funding (\$2,000)
2014. International Institute Individual Fellowship (University of Michigan, \$2,600)
2014. Center for European Studies Research Grant (University of Michigan, \$2,000)
2014. Department of Anthropology summer funding (University of Michigan, \$2,000)
2013. Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (University of Michigan, \$1,500)
2012-13. Fellow of the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies (University of Michigan, \$16,000)
2009-11. Awarded scholarship by SNSPA for high academic merit
2008. Best MA thesis award, Nationalism Study Program, CEU, Budapest, Hungary
2007-8. Open Society Foundation Scholarship to pursue Master of Arts in Nationalism Study, CEU
2007-8. Open Society Foundation Scholarship to pursue studies at Ithaca College, NY (declined)
2003-7. Awarded scholarship by the Romanian Ministry of Education for high academic merit

TEACHING AWARDS

2019. *Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor* for the Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

PUBLICATIONS

2022. “Sălașul tainic al reparațiilor.” [The Hidden Abode of Repair]. *Revista Scena9*, Nr. 4
2021. “(Dis)Connected: Phatic Politics and the (Dis)Enchantment of Infrastructure in Romania,” *Transfers: Interdisciplinary Journal of Mobility Studies*, special issue edited by Dr. Peter Schweitzer, Dr. Olga Povoroznyuk, and Dr. Stephanie McCallum.
<https://doi.org/10.3167/TRANS.2020.10020312>;
[forthcoming, 2021]. “Tracks of Post-Socialism: Agency and Politics Along Romanian Railroads.” in Zoltan Ginelli (ed.) *Technosciences of Post/Socialism*. London: Palgrave (Studies in the History of Science and Technology);
2020. Book review for *Social Anthropology*: “Repair, Brokenness, Breakthrough: Ethnographic Responses” (eds. Francisco Martinez and Patrick Laviolette), Berghahn 2019.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1469-8676.12773>;
2017. “Class Politics and Romania’s ‘White Revolution.’” *Anthropology News* website. July 6.
doi: 10.1111/AN.502.;
2012. “Suspendarea consensului in ‘Piețele Universității’: Tehnopolitică, Anticomunism și Hegemonia neoliberalismului” [The Suspension of Consensus: Technopolitics, Anticommunism and the Neoliberal Hegemony] In *Iarna Vrajbei Noastre: Protestele din Romania, ianuarie-februarie 2012* [The Winter of our discontent: protests in Romania, January-February 2012]. Cătălin Stoica and Vintilă Mihăilescu (eds.). Bucharest: Paideia;

ISBN: 978-973-596-748-2;

IN PROCESS

- [current project] “Concrete Ecology: Building a Green Future in Europe”
[in preparation] “Workers’ Skin: Filth and Affect in a Locomotive Repair Yard.” for submission to the *American Ethnologist*; (estimated date of submission: October 2021)
[in preparation] “‘No such thing as can’t’: Vulnerable Infrastructures and Repair Politics,” for submission to *Ethnos*; (estimated date of submission: December 2021)
[in preparation] Book proposal based on Ph.D. dissertation for Duke University Press (estimated date of submission: March 2022);

OTHER MEDIA

2020. “La CFR nu există ‘nu se poate,’” [There’s no such thing as ‘can’t’ at the Romanian Railroads] Sfertul Academic/Antropedia,
<http://antropedia.com/sfertulacademic/adrian-deoanca> (podcast);
2018. “Bildungsroman cu Securiști.” [Bildungsroman with the Secret Police]. Book review of Katherine Verdery, *My Life as a Spy: Investigations in a Secret Police File*. (Duke U. Press). *Scena9*. (in Romanian);
2017. “Prosvjedi bijelih i plavih ovratnika” [The Protests of White and Blue Collars]. www.bilten.org, May 27. <http://www.bilten.org/?p=18513> (in Croatian);
2016. “Uništene pruge postsocijalizma” [The Broken Tracks of Postsocialism]. www.bilten.org. June 28. <http://www.bilten.org/?p=14108> (in Croatian).

ETHNOGRAPHIC AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

2010. Cacica and Cajvana villages (Northern Romania). Survey and ethnographic research on home-making practices;
2011. Aristi and Monastiri villages (Greece). Interview-based ethnography on material culture and technologies of authenticity (with Marina Chatziaristeridou, Democritus University of Thrace);
2011. Bucharest (Romania). Observation, interviews, archival research on the demolition and gentrification of Grivița railway district;
2013. Bucharest (Romania), Moscow and Sankt Petersburg (Russia). Mobile ethnography on the materiality and temporality of train travel. (Preliminary dissertation fieldwork);
2014-7. Târgoviște, Fieni, Pietroșița, Giurgiu, Bucharest (Romania). Participant observation in two rail yards, mobile ethnography, archival research on the history of the Romanian railways and postsocialist reform. (Dissertation fieldwork).
2021. Exploratory fieldwork in Bucharest, Timiș and Hunedoara (Romania) on construction works.

PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

2022. ‘Workers’ Skin: Filth and Abjected Labor,’ *The Group for Anthropological Research and Debates* (GARD), New Europe College, București, România
2019a. “Workers’ Skin: Contradictions of Dirtiness in a Romanian Depot,” The Maintainers III, Washington D.C., (6-9 October)
2019b. “The Political Economy of Repair: Bricolage and Precarity in a Romanian Depot,” 17th “Border Crossings” International Student Conference, Bucharest, Romania (April)
2019c. Co-chair and co-discussant (with Dr. Alik Angelidou, Panteion University of Athens) for the panel “Spaces of (In)Stability and Exclusion,” 17th “Border Crossings” International Student Conference, Bucharest, Romania (April);
2018a. “Railroad Blues: The Politics of Waiting for Infrastructure in Romania.”

- American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting*, San Jose, California (14-18 Nov);
- 2018b "Filth!: Abjection and Postsocialist Affect in a Romanian Locomotive Repair Yard." *15th Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists* (EASA), University of Stockholm, Sweden (14-17 August)
2016. "Trains of Affect: Slowness and Postsocialist Imaginaries." Paper for the panel "Slow travelling: A precious heritage or a sustainable strategy for future mobilities?" at 2016 EASA [European Association of Social Anthropologists] Biennial Conference, Università degli Studi di Bicocca, Milan, Italy, July 20-23;
2015. "Tracks of Postsocialism: Rail Reform, Time and Mobility in Romania." Paper presented at the Technosciences of Post/Socialism Conference, Budapest, Hungary, September 03-05;
- 2013a. "Trains as Sign Vehicles: The Materiality of Rail Travel in Post-Socialist Romania". Paper delivered at the 112th Annual Convention of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, Illinois, November 20-24;
- 2013b. "Regimes of Infrastructure". Panel co-organized with Prash Naidu and John Doering-White (University of Michigan) at the 112th Annual Convention of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, Illinois, November 20-24;
2012. "Etre démolî à Bucarest, entre continuité et ruptures" (with Gruia Bădescu, University of Cambridge). 12th European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) Biennial Conference, Paris, France, July 2012;
- 2011 "Technologies of authenticity: Building, Preserving and Marketing Stone-Built Houses in Epyrus, Greece." Romanian Society for Cultural Anthropology (SACR) Conference, Bucharest, Romania;
2009. "Euronationalism in Intellectual Debates about European Identity" Paper delivered at the 2nd Annual Conference of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Central European University, Budapest.

LANGUAGES

Romanian – native | English – proficient | French – intermediate | Italian – reading comprehension | Spanish – reading comprehension | Russian – beginner

MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association | European Association of Social Anthropologists | SOYUZ: The Research Network for Postsocialist Cultural Studies | Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies | Romanian Society for Cultural Anthropology

PEER REVIEW

Occasional reviewer for *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology* (International), *Social Movement Studies* (International), and *Martor* (Romanian)