Understanding Polyphony: Ukraine's Fluid Identity/ies
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with

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Today’s conventional wisdom on Ukraine as a deeply divided country, trapped in a post-Soviet cultural crisis of East versus West, maintains a firm hold not only on popular imagination, but on some scholars as well. Comparing and contrasting Ukraine’s diverse regional experiences in light of memory studies, this talk explores national identity/ies in the country today, especially those known as "fluid". Positioning multiculturalism as an asset rather than a fault, we'll interrogate the notion of (im)proper Ukrainians in favour of a nuanced and historicized approach.

Tanya Zaharchenko is a final-year Ph.D. Candidate in Slavonic Studies at the University of Cambridge, UK. She researches collective memory of trauma in the post-Soviet space, with a particular emphasis on echoes of the past in imaginative literature. She holds an M.S. degree in Russian and East European Studies from the University of Oxford ('07), where she was a Chevening Scholar, and a dual B.A. from Bard College ('03) in Literature and Writing. Tanya's professional background is in the fields of human rights and development (United Nations Development Programme, International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights). She is currently part of an interdisciplinary team working on the Memory At War project (www.memoryatwar.org).

Wednesday, April 10, 2013
4:00 – 5:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/zaharchenko

This event is on the record