

MARKO DUMANČIĆ, Ph.D.

Miami University (OH)
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education
Professor, History Department



EDUCATION

- 2010** Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Dissertation: Rescripting Stalinist Masculinity: Contesting the Male Ideal in Soviet Film and Society, 1953-1968.
- 2004** M.A., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2002** BA, Connecticut College, New London

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

- 2025 – Present** Miami University, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education
- 2025 – Present** Miami University, Professor, History Department
- 2022 – 2024** Western Kentucky University, Assistant Provost for Faculty Development and Student Success
- 2019 – 2024** WKU, Director, Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning
- 2016 – 2019** WKU, Director, MA History Program
- 2024 – 2025** WKU, Professor, Department of History
- 2018 – 2024** WKU, Associate Professor, Department of History
- 2013 – 2018** WKU, Assistant Professor, Department of History
- 2010 – 2013** Oberlin College, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History

RELEVANT ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCES

Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

As Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, I provide strategic and collaborative leadership for undergraduate student success, teaching and learning excellence, curricular coherence, and general education. I oversee the general education program, the Honors College, undergraduate curriculum and policy, academic advising strategy and analytics, teaching and learning initiatives, and undergraduate program approvals and compliance. I work closely with deans, department chairs, faculty governance bodies, advising leadership, and institutional research to align curriculum, pedagogy, and student support with institutional priorities and state and accreditation requirements.

Key Accomplishments

- I am leading a comprehensive **revision of the University's general education program** to streamline degree pathways, increase curricular flexibility, and strengthen alignment between general education and the major. The Board of Trustees has approved the revised framework, and we are on track to formally complete and implement the revision by May, 2026, **bringing**

the redesign from development through adoption within a single academic year. The new model supports timely degree completion while preserving Miami's strengths in high-quality teaching, writing in the disciplines, and applied learning.

- I am launching the **AI in the Majors initiative** this semester in partnership with **13 academic departments** to embed discipline-specific AI and digital literacy outcomes across undergraduate curricula. This work **integrates emerging competencies directly into majors**, ensures that learning outcomes are explicit and assessable, and strengthens the professional relevance and distinctiveness of Miami's undergraduate programs. I also chair the university's newly-formed Academic Affairs Advisory Council.
- I am directing a campuswide effort **to strengthen the effectiveness of academic advising by shifting from activity-based reporting to outcome-oriented impact metrics.** This initiative is producing clearer institutional insight into which advising practices support retention, progression, equity, and time to degree, while also enabling advisors to deploy their time and expertise more strategically in support of student success.
- I am overseeing the development and approval of **accelerated three-year bachelor's degree pathways**, with two programs nearing submission, and providing leadership for undergraduate curriculum approvals and compliance with state requirements for public-facing syllabi and academic reporting. This work advances institutional accountability, expands degree options for students, and supports innovation within a framework of academic quality and shared governance.

Assistant Provost for Faculty Development and Student Success (2022-2024)

As Assistant Provost, I led a team of 25 professionals across three primary domains: faculty development, student success programs, and online education. I reported directly to the Provost to ensure a collaborative working relationship between academic programs, student affairs, faculty, and student support services.

Key Accomplishments

- **1st Generation Initiative.** Under my leadership, the **1st Gen Initiative** has improved student retention and academic success. The first-year retention rate for first-generation students increased from **68.6% in 2022** to **71.3% for the Fall 2023 cohort**, with the **credit completion ratio** rising from **77.0% to 81.0%** over the same period. This success is driven by the initiative's robust support network of over 150 faculty, staff, and alumni advocates, alongside engagement from more than 700 students in the 2023-2024 academic year.
- **Living Learning Community Program.** Under my leadership, the **LLC Fellows program** has expanded significantly, **championing DEI** through experiential learning. The program now includes a dozen academic and six themed LLCs, and the current cohort has grown to **804 participants**, marking a **25% increase** in just two years. The retention rates reflect the program's success, with LLC participants experiencing retention rates **11.1 points higher** than their peers. These impacts are especially pronounced among underrepresented groups, with **URM students retaining at 16 points higher**, **first-generation students at 19.5 points higher**, and **Low-Income students at 17.5 points higher** than their non-LLC counterparts.
- **WKU Online.** I implemented strategic initiatives that have resulted in strong student performance, as evidenced by the success and withdrawal rates for students in online courses. For the **AY 2023-2024**, students enrolled in **online-only classes** achieved an **88.29% success rate**, with only **2.54% withdrawing** from their courses. Furthermore, my efforts to expand online learning opportunities have contributed to the total **401,950 student credit hours**

produced. Notably, **32.6% of all student credit hours** were generated through online courses, with **66.8% of graduate-level credit hours** being produced online.

- **Transfer Student Success Initiative.** I led the WKU team as part of the National Association of System Heads (NASH) Improvement Collaborative. This initiative strengthened the bonds between WKU and the Kentucky Community College System. As part of our efforts to enhance student success, we've seen a **54% increase in transfer rates** from our partner community colleges, significantly improving the pipeline between two-year and four-year institutions.

Director, WKU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL), 2019-2024

As Director of the CITL I oversaw the development and expansion of the center's initiatives across three domains: innovative pedagogy, curriculum design and assessment, and faculty training. I simultaneously led student success projects of strategic importance to the institution in the area of student learning and academic success. I also directed the promotion of the effective use of technology in hybrid and online instruction.

Key Accomplishments

- In 2019, I launched the **Gateway to Graduation** initiative, which implemented evidence-based, high-impact practices into first-year general education courses. Since its inception, the initiative has involved over 20 faculty from five departments and has positively impacted several thousand students, **improving student success rates by an average of 5%**. Notably, the DFW rate for first-generation students in the general education history course decreased by **6 points**, and for underrepresented minority (URM) students in the math course, it dropped by **22 points**, demonstrating the initiative's significant impact on student outcomes.
- In Winter 2021, WKU began the transition to **Blackboard Ultra**, a modern and user-friendly learning management system. Collaborating with deans and department chairs, I have led the effort to ensure over **700 faculty** successfully migrate to the new system by January 2025. With only **60 full-time faculty** left to migrate, WKU is ahead of schedule. **Blackboard Ultra** offers a more modern interface whose **learner-centered design** enhances student learning by offering contextual tools that improve engagement and content delivery. This transition marks a significant improvement in the overall learning experience for WKU students.
- In 2020, I designed and launched a three-year **Faculty Fellowship** to address **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)** in teaching practices. This initiative culminated in the development of the **Institute for Inclusive Teaching**, a semester-long, four-module program which now boasts close to 100 faculty completers. It remains the only program in Kentucky awarded the **Cultural Competence Certificate** by the Council on Post-Secondary Education, marking a significant advancement in faculty training for inclusive education.
- In partnership with ACUE (**The Association of College and University Educators**), I facilitated a cohort of **32 faculty** through a 25-module course on **Effective Teaching Practices**, achieving a **100% completion rate**. Early data analysis indicates that ACUE-trained instructors posted **3.6% fewer DFWs** compared to colleagues teaching the same courses, after adjusting for variables like Honors College status and class enrollment, demonstrating both statistical significance and a meaningful impact on student outcomes.
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, I led the university's effort to pivot to **online instruction**, providing comprehensive support to over **400 unique faculty members** from

March to July 2020. During this period, we held over **40 training sessions**, uploaded more than **300 exams**, and developed **14 webpage and video resources** to assist faculty in adapting to remote teaching, ensuring the continuity of quality education during the crisis.

Graduate Program Director, MA History, 2015-18

As Graduate Program Director, I was responsible for student recruitment, admission, mentoring, assessment, and curriculum planning. I reported to the department chair and to the Dean of the Graduate School while acting as a liaison among the graduate student body, the graduate faculty, and the Graduate School administration. I assumed responsibility for three Graduate Assistants and a \$55,000 budget.

Key accomplishments

- I successfully guided the MA program through the internal **Comprehensive Academic Program Evaluation** process, drawing upon institutional and national data to ensure program excellence.
- I coordinated the program's assessment of **student learning outcomes**, leading to a comprehensive revision of the core courses and the capstone project to better align with student and faculty needs.
- I revised the procedures for **theses and comprehensive exams**, resulting in sustained enrollment from regional public-school teachers and enhancing the program's accessibility.
- I eliminated **mixed graduate and undergraduate courses**, increasing the academic rigor of the program and elevating its overall standards.

Chair, General Education Committee, 2015-17

As chair of the general education committee, I acted as a resource for colleges, departments, and faculty interested in developing courses for general education. Moreover, I advised the college deans and appropriate department chairs on policy recommendations (development and revision). Finally, I consulted monthly with the General Education Subcommittee and Faculty Senate to maintain the academic integrity and consistency of the program.

Key accomplishments

- I incentivized the development of **twenty new courses** that serve as **capstone experiences** for the general education program, enriching the curriculum and providing students with meaningful final projects.
- I organized and led a **five-person team** to the **AAC&U Institute on General Education Assessment**, presenting our **general education assessment plan** to the Provost's Office to streamline and improve academic program evaluation.
- I led the creation of a **faculty resources website**, streamlining the application process and improving communication with the General Education Committee, significantly enhancing the faculty experience.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses:

- World History II, 1500-Present
- Imperial Russian History
- History of Genocide
- History of HIV/AIDS

Graduate Courses:

- History of Genocide
- Russian History in Global Perspective
- Russian History from Stalin to Putin

SELECT INTERNAL PROFESSIONAL & SERVICE EXPERIENCES

2025 - Present,	Miami University Chair, Academic Affairs Advisory Committee
2025 - Present	Miami University Academic Advising Council
2020-2024	WKU Living-Learning Program Steering Committee
2019-2022	WKU Strategic Enrollment Plan Steering Committee
2019-Present	WKU University Assurance of Student Learning Committee
2018-20	Co-chair, WKU Student Success Summit
2018- 2021	WKU Graduate School Faculty Council
2018-19	Workgroup chair, WKU Strategic Enrollment Plan for General Education
2018	Lead, AACU Summer Institute for General Education Assessment
2017-20	Chair, University Excellence of Teaching Award Selection Committee
2016-19	Director, History MA Graduate Program
2017	WKU Strategic Plan, Academic Innovation and Excellence Working Group
2015-17	Faculty Senate Executive Committee
2015-17	Chair, University General Education Committee
2016-2017	History Department Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee
2015-2016	Faculty Advisor, Queer Student Union
2015-2017	Pride Index Committee
2015-2017	Member, Lavender Graduation Recognition Ceremony Steering Committee
2014-2018	Member, Colonnade General Education Committee
2014-Present	Advisor, Russian and East European Studies Minor

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

2021	The American Association for State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)'s Emerging Leaders Program (ELP)
2021	National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Grant
2020	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Russian and East European Open Research Laboratory Associate
2015-2019	Visiting Scholar, UNC Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies
2015	Potter College Faculty Research Grant
2010	UNC-CH Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2007	The University of Pittsburgh's Slavic and East European Video Collection Grant
2006	UNC-CH Off-Campus Dissertation Research Grant, UNC-CH Graduate School

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2024** The WKU President's Spirit of Western Award for exemplary leadership and achievement.
- 2022** AATSEEL, The Svetlana Boym Best Book in Cultural Studies for *Men Out of Focus*
- 2022** The Cynthia and George Nichols III Pride Center Recognition for Outstanding Service
- 2017** Western Kentucky University Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching
- 2017** Potter College Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching
- 2015** Kappa Delta Sorority Outstanding Faculty Appreciation Award
- 2013** Winner of Outstanding Instructor Award to First-Year Students at Oberlin College
- 2008** UNC-Chapel Hill Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
- 2006** Outstanding Teaching Award, UNC-CH History Department Committee on Teaching
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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (peer reviewed)

Book

- 2021** *Men out of Focus: The Soviet Masculinity Crisis in the Long Sixties*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Winner of the 2022 AATSEEL The Svetlana Boym Best Book in Cultural Studies
 - 2022 Outstanding Academic Title awarded by *Choice*

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- 2026** *[Under Review]* "Prijeedor's Theater of Horror: Local Dynamics, Gendered Hierarchies, and the Ecosystem of Violence in Northwest Bosnia," under review with *The Journal of Contemporary History*.
- 2026** "From Tool to Method: Developing AI Literacy in an Upper-Level History Course," *Journal of Teaching and Learning with Technology*, Vol. 14, Special Issue, pp.20-34. [co-authored with Trini Stickle]
- 2024** "'Many Who Came Here Suffered, But I Did Too: ' Examining Defense Narratives and Inter-Perpetrator Dynamics of Genocide Perpetrators in Northwest Bosnia," *Journal of History* 52 no. 2 (2024): 178-207.
- 2022** "'He Who Does Not Serve Is Not Fit for a Wife': The Problems of Military Service and Late Socialist Masculinity in 1980s Yugoslavia," *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review* 50 no. 1 (2022): 91-118.
- 2021** "Socialism's Mal(e)contents: Masculinity as Performance Art in Postwar and Late Socialism," *Aspasia: The International Yearbook of Central, Eastern, and Southeastern European Women's and Gender History*, 15 (2021): 140-45.
- 2018** "The Communist and Post-Socialist Gender Order in China and Russia," *Cambridge History of Communism*, vol. 3, 422-46. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- 2017** “Dehexing Postwar West Balkan Masculinities: The Case of Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia, 1999-2014,” *Men and Masculinities* 20, no. 2 (2017): 154-80. Co-authored with Dr. Krešimir Krolo.
- 2017** “Hidden in Plain Sight: The Histories of Gender and Sexuality during the Cold War,” in *Sexuality, Gender, and the Cold War*, edited by Philip E. Muehlenbeck, 1-14. Nashville, TN: Vanderbilt University Press
- 2014** “The Cold War’s Cultural Ecosystem: Angry Young Men in British and Soviet Cinema, 1953-1968,” *Cold War History* 14, no. 3 (2014): 403-22.
- Reprinted in *Cinema in the Cold War: Political Projections*, edited by Cyril Buffet, chapter 7. London and New York: Routledge, 2016.
- 2014** “Spectrums of Oppression: Gender and Sexuality During the Cold War,” *Journal of Cold War Studies*, 16, no. 3 (2014), 190-204.
- 2013** “Hiding in Plain Sight?: Making Homosexuality (In)Visible in Post-Yugoslav Film,” in *Dilemmas of Visibility: Post-Socialist Sexualities*, edited by N. Fejes and A. P. Balogh, 118-35. CITY: Intellect Press.
- 2012** “De-Stalinizing Soviet Science: Rethinking the Moral Implications of Scientific Progress in Khrushchev-Era Film” *Studies in Russian and Soviet Cinema* 6, no. 1 (2012): 75-92.

Media Engagement

- 2021** WKU NPR Interview, “Never Again? WKU Professor Discusses Why Genocide Continues to Happen, and What Can Be Done.”
- 2021** New Books Network Podcast Interview
- 2021** Sean’s Russia Blog Podcast Interview
- 2021** Slavic Connexion, UT-Austin Interview Show
- 2021** Russian History Blog, Book Conversations
- 2021** “Cold War Misogyny: Fear of Momism on Both Sides of the Iron Curtain,” *University of Toronto Press Blog*

INVITED TALKS

- 2023** “Queer(y)ing the Curriculum: Queer Pedagogy in Action,” Monash University, February 20, 2023
- 2022** “The Postwar Soviet Masculinity Crisis: Historical Reality or Semantic Diversion?” International Conference *Socialism’s Divergent Masculinities: Representations of Male Subjectivities in Soviet Constellations and Beyond*, June 18, 2022.
- 2017** “Where Stonewall Never Happened: Conceptualizing Queer History and Rights in Russia and Eastern Europe,” at UNC-Chapel Hill, September 20, 2017.
- 2013** “Coloring the Iron Curtain Pink: Queer Invisibility in East Europe,” at Loyola University, 8 April, 2013, Chicago

2008 “Enemies of the State, Heroes of the People: How Soviet Fascination with Western Movie Stars Threatened Soviet Ideology,” at Connecticut College, April 23, 2008, New London.

CONFERENCE, SYMPOSIUM, & WORKSHOP ACTIVITY

Papers Presented (last seven years only)

- 2024** “Sites Of Atrocity: Comparative Analysis of Bosnia, Croatia, And Slovenia,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 24 November, Boston.
- 2023** “Trends In Comparative Genocide Studies: Case Studies of Bosnia and Ukraine,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 2 Dec., Philadelphia.
- 2021** “He Who Doesn't Serve in the Military, Is Not Fit for Marriage: 1980s Yugoslav Military Service as an Expression of Late Socialist Masculinity,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 18 November, NOLA.
- 2020** “Perestroika-era Masculinity through the Glasnost Film Festival: A Moment of Crisis or Moment of Inflection for Soviet Men?” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 15 November, Virtual Convention.
- 2019** “The Raleigh School: Gender, Medicine, Provinces, Sports, Cinema, and Revolution, the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 25 November, San Francisco.
- 2018** “Drama in Public: Performers, Audiences, and Media of State-Sponsored Rituals in the USSR,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 8 December, Boston.
- 2017** “Consuming Manhood: Soviet Masculinity During the Thaw,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 10 November, Chicago.
- 2016** “Coming Together?: A Comparison of Balkan and European LGBTIQ Cinemas,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 20 November, Washington D.C.
- 2015** “The Cold War's Cinematic Front: The Soviet New Wave as a Shock to the Party Establishment,” presented at the International Association for Media and History (IAMHIST), 18 June, 2015, Bloomington, IN.

Discussant & Roundtable Participant (Last seven years only)

- 2022** “New Research in Masculinity Studies,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 10 November, Chicago.
- 2019** “Heroines and Celebrities: Star-Making and Belief in The Late- And Post-Soviet, Eras,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 25 November, San Francisco.
- 2018** “For The Individual and for Society”: Health, Social Policy, And Self-Management in Socialist Yugoslavia,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 8 December, Boston.

- 2017** “Testing the Limits: Late-Soviet and Post-Soviet Media Transgressions And Reactions (1985-2016),” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 10 November, Chicago
- 2016** “Q*ASEEES: Queering Slavic, East European, And Eurasian Studies,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 20 November, Washington D.C.
- 2015** “LGBT Histories and Identities in Post-Socialist Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia,” the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 22 November, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
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SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2019** Conducted an external comprehensive review of the Walker Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC)
- 2017—Present** Chair, ASEEES Regional Scholar Travel Grant Committee
- 2017—2018** ASEEES Mentoring Program
- 2016—Present** Ad hoc manuscript reviewer, *Studies in Russian and Soviet Cinema*
- 2014—Present** Ad hoc manuscript reviewer, *The History of Homosexuality*
- 2011—Present** Ad hoc manuscript reviewer, *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review*
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COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 2023** Lecture for *Owensboro Area World Affairs Council*, Through the Eyes of Genocide Perpetrators: The Case of Three Bosnian Serb War Criminals and Their Politics of Victimhood
- 2022** Presentation for Nelson County High School Social Studies on the history of genocide.
- 2022** Lecture for *Owensboro Area World Affairs Council*, “The Question of a Ukrainian Genocide and Ukrainian Identity.”
- 2021** Lecture for *Owensboro Area World Affairs Council*, “‘Never Again, and Again, and Again’: Debating and Recognizing Genocide in the 21st Century.”
- 2021** Presentation for Nelson County High School Social Studies “The Cold War in Eastern Europe and the USSR.”
- 2020** Lecture for WKU Topper Pride Alumni Chapter, “The Fate of LGBTQ+ Individuals in Russia and What We Can Learn from Their Stories.”
- 2016-17** International Year of Bosnia Planning Committee
- 2015** Lecture for Owensboro Area World Affairs Council “Russia as a Threat to the West: Perception or Reality?”
- 2015** Public Panel Discussion, Participant, “Is Vladimir Putin a Threat to World Peace?”
- 2014** Public Panel Discussion, Participant, “Why Do Ukraine and Crimea Matter to America?”