

*The Graduate Program in Folklore & Folklife, the Jewish Studies Program, and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature present:*

**Dr. Anna Kushkova,**  
European University, St. Petersburg  
***“Refined Jews: Yikhes and Social Status in the (Post)-Soviet Shtetl”***

Monday, November 24, 4 p.m.  
Cherpack Room, Williams Hall, 5th Floor

Shtetl—a key notion for understanding traditional Jewish life among East European Jewry—has become a topos of Jewish collective memory and one of the resources in constructing ethnic identity. A small Jewish population that is still living on the traditional ancestral territories seems to possess a special aura of “authenticity.” However, the long time spent under the Soviet regime, mass immigration of 1990s, and the “leveling” influence of the current “Jewish revival” may put this authenticity under question.

***Dr. Anna Kushkova*** is a research fellow of the Department of Anthropology and Petersburg Judaica Center, European University at St. Petersburg. She is actively engaged in Jewish field research in contemporary Ukraine.

***Reception to follow.***

