

SOVIET AMERICANA

The Cultural History of Russian and Ukrainian
Americanists

SERGEI I. ZHUK

BLOOMSBURY ACADEMIC
LONDON • NEW YORK • OXFORD • NEW DELHI • SYDNEY

CONTENTS

<i>List of Figures</i>	xv
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xvii
<i>Preface</i>	xxi
Introduction	1
<i>Amerikanistika</i> in Soviet Knowledge Production	4
Historiographical Context	6
Sources and Structure	9
1. The Cold War Context of Knowledge Production and American Studies in the USSR	13
<i>Amerikanistika</i> as Soviet Area Studies of the Cold War	14
The Cold War and Academic Exchanges	18
Soviet Institutions of American Studies during Détente	25
Part I The Postwar Generation	31
2. World War II and Inventing America on the Borders of Socialist Imagination: The Origins of American Studies in the USSR	33
Postwar Images and Sounds of America	34
The Year 1953 and Beyond	45
‘Trophy Films’ and the Genesis of Americanists in Soviet Ukraine	50
Conclusion	58

3.	Discovering America by Studying Russian–US and Ukrainian–Canadian Relations	61
	Soviet Pioneer of the History of Russian–American Relations	61
	Cultural Influences of the Khrushchev Thaw and its Aftermath	66
	American Discoveries of Soviet Russian Identity by a Historian of Russian–American Relations	76
	Soviet Pioneer of the History of Ukrainian–American Relations	80
	Conclusion	87
	Part II Détente Generation	89
4.	Academic Exchanges and Soviet Americanists during the Cold War	93
	American Hosts on ‘Politically Influential’ Soviet Guests	96
	Political Conformism in Academic Détente: A Soviet Ukrainian Case	107
	A Variety of Personal Discoveries of the Real America by Soviet Guests	113
	Soviet ‘Discursive’ Discoveries of America	123
	Conclusion	133
5.	Soviet Americanists and the Impact of American Cinema and Television on the Soviet Union	136
	The Western Goes East	138
	Cultural Détente in Soviet Society	141
	Problems of Nuclear Catastrophe and the End of Détente	150
	Television, New Video Technologies and Soviet Espionage Television Series	152
	Conclusion	159
	Part III From Détente to Perestroika: The Last Generations of Soviet Americanists	163
6.	Playing American Indians and Soviet <i>Indianistika</i>	165
	Yulia Averkieva, a Pioneer in Soviet Studies of Native Americans (1907–80)	166
	From Playing to Studying American Indians	173
	Andrei Znamensky and Alexander Vashchenko: Soviet Province–Centre Collaboration	181

Valery Tishkov: From the Russian Province to Soviet Academic Hierarchy	187
7. Carving the Academic and National Identity of Ukrainian Americanists	195
From Rock Music Enthusiast to Social Historian of Colonial America	195
Arnold Shlepakov, Political Conformism and American Studies in Soviet Ukraine	216
Conclusion: The Rediscovery of Modernity among the Ukrainians of North America, and the Shaping of Ukrainian Identity among Americanists in Soviet Ukraine	227
Epilogue Perestroika and the Crisis of Soviet <i>Amerikanistika</i>	231
Vladislav Zubok and 'Perestroika' among Young Soviet Americanists	231
'Envy of Moscow' and Provincial Americanists	237
'Perestroika' of Ukrainian Americanists	239
Three Generations of Soviet Americanists and Geopolitics	241
<i>Notes</i>	246
<i>Select Bibliography</i>	309
<i>Index</i>	313