Frantisek W. Galan
Collection

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2.09 Linear feet

Vanderbilt University Special Collections
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Nashville, Tennessee  37203-2427
The Frantisek W. Galan Collection

Biographical Note

Dr. Frantisek W. Galan was a Professor of Comparative Literature and Slavic Languages and Literatures, as well as the Director of the Program in Comparative Literature, and a Professor of English at Vanderbilt University from 1989 until his death in 1992. A native of Ontario, Canada, and a person of Czechoslovakian descent, Galan pursued an active academic and professional career in Comparative Literatures and Russian.

Dr. Galan earned his undergraduate degree in English from the University of Toronto in 1970, and went on to complete his Master’s Degree in Comparative Literature at Princeton University at 1974 and his PhD in Comparative Literature and Slavic Languages at the University of Toronto in 1980. From 1987 to 1989, Galan worked as an associate English professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology, teaching both English survey and seminar classes. However, in 1989 Galan accepted a position as a Professor of Comparative Literature and Slavic Languages at Vanderbilt University. While at Vanderbilt, Galan served as an undergraduate academic advisor and sat on two graduate dissertation committees. A committed instructor and intellectual scholar, Galan continued his service by assuming a leadership position as the Director of Vanderbilt’s Program in Comparative Literatures.

Throughout his research and scholarly endeavors, Galan conducted extensive research, taught undergraduate students, and published. One of Galan’s early and most significant article publications was centered on the controversial yet pioneering contributions of Prague philosopher and literary scientist, Václav Cerny in ARDIS, the Journal of Russian Literature in 1974. During his academic tenure as a German and Slavic Languages faculty member, Galan received a series of fellowships and grants, including a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship from Cornell University, providing Galan with the opportunity to perform a linguistic analysis of a “Fonetika, Fonologia, and Grafika.” Galan’s linguistic analysis of “Fonetika, Fonologia, and Grafika” allowed him to delve into and examine the verbal tenses and grammatical nuances of twentieth century literary theory.

Dr. Galan passed away in 1992, just shortly after he assumed leadership over Vanderbilt’s Program in Comparative Literature.

Scope and Content Note

The Frantisek W. Galan Collection contains a series of Galan’s undergraduate and graduate school syllabi, personal notes, graded academic materials, various newspaper clippings, excerpts from his research projects, as well as student projects and evaluations. The majority of the Frantisek W. Galan Collection pertains directly to Galan’s academic career at Princeton University from the years 1971 to 1974.
Container List

Box 1—Undergraduate Materials

Box 1: Academic Career—B.A., University of Toronto—Course Materials, Syllabi, and Personal Notes (1967-1970)

1. Outgoing Correspondence—from Galan to Mr. Proffer (1974)

2. Incoming Correspondence—From Rene Wellek to Galan (1975)

3. Fall, 1967—University of Toronto, English 440: Department of Fine Arts
   English 440 Course Syllabus
   Poetry and Personal Notes, hand written
   Personal notes written on four index cards
   Two written and graded assignments

4. 1967—University of Toronto, Academic Career, Poetry and Notes
   Excerpt from book, Beckett Translating Beckett: Comment C’est: 201
   Excerpt from Shakespeare: Sonnet 87
   Poetry excerpts written in Russian
   Personal Notes, hand written

5. 1968—Galan, Canadian Immigration Identification Card and Citizenship Documents
   (October 15, 1968)

6. 1969—University of Toronto
   Russian excerpts from unknown texts
   Personal notes written in Russian, hand written
   Graded Russian essay assignments

7. Fall 1969—University of Toronto, Philosophy 400: Aesthetics, Department of Philosophy Fine Arts
   Philosophy 400 Course Syllabus
   Course Assignments/Essay Prompt
   Personal Notes, hand written

8. 1969—University of Toronto, English 460 Annual Examinations
   Annual Exam—Written, Directions and Prompts
   Annual Exam—Oral, Directions
   Personal notes, ‘criticism of major texts’
   Book excerpts, unknown

9. Fall-Spring, 1969-1970—University of Toronto, Slavic Languages, Course Syllabi and Reading Lists
   Slavic 420—1st year Russian
Slavic 422—4th year Russian
Exercise in Russian Syntax PII

10. 1969-1970—University of Toronto, Department of English, English 439
English 439 List of Topics for Consideration
Personal Notes, hand written
Graded Essay, “About Playwrights and What They Have to Say”

11. 1970—Slavic Studies 426, Department of Slavic Languages and Literature
Annual Examinations Directions and Prompts
Personal Notes, hand written
Only Envy)
Book Excerpt: Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Matryona’s Home

12. 1970—University of Toronto Bulletins

Essay Topics, Philosophy 414
Essay Topics, Philosophy 203
Personal Notes, hand written
Philosophy 203 First Term Exam
Magazine clippings, unknown
Essay written by Galan, On the Actuality of the Rational and the Rationality of
the Actual: In Celebration of the Hegel Bicentenary
Essay, written by Young Kun Kim (Herbert H, Lehman College) “Master and
Servant in Hegel”

14. 1970—University of Toronto, Philosophy: 342
Russian highlighted newspaper clippings
Personal Notes, hand written on H.L. Hart—Law, Liberty, and Morality
Three graded philosophy essays
Two political cartoons

Box 2—Academic Career (1970-1972)

Box 2—Academic Career, University of Toronto & Princeton University—Slavic Languages
and Comparative Literatures

Academic Career—Collected material by date

1. 1970—University of Toronto, Department of Slavic Languages & Literature
Russian Essays
Russian Poetry
Russian Homework Assignments
2. 1970—University of Toronto, Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures
   Slavic 432: Russian Poetry Syllabus
   Russian Essays
   Personal Notes, hand written
   Slavic 432, Annual Examination

3. 1970—University of Toronto, Russian Literature
   Russian Poetry
   Personal Notes, hand written

4. 1970—Princeton University
   Personal Notes
   Typed notes on Doctor Zhivago

5. 1970—Princeton University, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
   Provisional Syllabus for Modern German Literary Theory
   Personal Notes, hand written

6. 1970—Princeton University, Package from “Dean of Student Affairs” for the Program in
   Comparative Literature
   Graduate Program Requirements
   Comprehensive Reading List
   References for the Study of Comparative Literature
   General Examination Guidelines
   Dissertation and Final Public Oral Examination Guidelines
   Unknown Book Excerpts
   Types Essay Assignments

7. 1971-1972—Princeton University, Russian Literature
   Personal Notes, hand written
   Typed essay, Chekhov
   Preceptorials List, Spring 1972
   Russian Book Excerpts

8. 1971—Princeton University
   Official Register—Course Offerings (February 1971- June 1971)
   Temporary Bus Schedule, January 1970

   Studies in Criticism II: From Lessing to Valery—C.L. 526
   Comparative Literature 526 Syllabus
   Comparative Literature Selective Bibliography
   Personal Notes, hand written
   Typed Notes: Longinus, Peri Hupsous, and Criticism
10. Spring 1971-1972—Princeton University, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures & Program in Comparative Literatures
   European Literature 319 Syllabus
   European Literature 319 Bibliography
   Comparative Literatures 551: Topics in the Study of Literacy Genre, 14th cen.

Allegory
   History 358: Chronological List of Dates

11. 1972—Princeton University, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
    Comparative Literature 527: European Novel, I Syllabus
    Reading List for C.L. 527
    Personal Notes, hand written
    Book Excerpt, Richardson and Fielding

Box 3—Master’s Degree Materials

Academic Career—Collected material by date

1. 1970-1971—Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature
   Comparative Literature 521: Literary Interpretations
   Personal Notes, hand written
   List of Suggested Topics for Comparative Literature 526

2. Spring 1971—Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature
   Comparative Language 551: Seminar: Special Topics in Lyrical Poetry—Rilke and Stevens, Syllabus

   Comparative Literature 523-24 Course Syllabus, 1970-1971
   Comparative Literature 528 Course Syllabus, Spring 1971
   Personal Notes
   Selective Bibliography
   Reading excerpt—“Richardson and Fielding, Frank Kermode”

4. 1971—Princeton University, Humanistic Studies 404
   Humanistic Studies: 404, Contemporary Greek Poetry in Translation. Senior Seminar
   C.P. Cavafy: Selected Poems
   New York Times Review Clippings on Greek Poets (Class Related)

5. 1971-1972—Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature
   Comparative Literature 523-524: The Classical Tradition I and II
   Comparative Literature Documents

6. 1971-1972—Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature
   Comparative Literature 525-526: Studies in Criticism I and II
Studies in Criticism I: Classicism and Neo-Classicism

7. Fall, 1971—Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature
   Comparative Literature 521: The Comparative Study of Poetry – “Metaphysical
   Poetry” and Background, Princeton University
   Reserve Bibliography
   Poetry Excerpts—From Various Texts/Sources (Unknown)

8. 1972—Princeton University, Russian poetry
   Russian Poems, unknown
   Personal Notes, hand written

9. 1972—Princeton University, Poetry
   Poetry excerpts
   Personal Notes, hand written

10. Fall, 1973—Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature
    Comparative Literature 527: Studies in Literary History I: Dostoevsky and
    European Literature
    Comparative Literature 527, Bibliography
    Personal Notes, hand written

11. Spring, 1973—Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature,
    Comparative Literature 528, Seminar Syllabus
    Poetry Excerpts, typed (sources unknown)
    Personal Notes, hand written

12. 1971-1973, Princeton University, Program in Comparative Literature
    Selective Bibliographies

Box 4—Academic Materials

Box 4—Academic Career, Princeton University & Writing Materials on V. Cerney

Academic Career—Collected material by date

1. Professional Career, “Fonetika, Fonologia & Grafika”
   Personal Notes, hand written

2. 1974—Princeton University, Russian Poetry
   Poetry excerpts written in Russian
   Personal Notes, hand written

3. 1974—Princeton University, Russian Poetry and Notes
   Poetry excerpts written in Russian
Poetry analysis
Personal Notes, hand written


5. 1974—Pamphlet from Art Exhibit, University of Toronto – “Guderna Pamphlet”

Writings—Articles, Research, and Translations

   “Cesk Literatura” (1966)
   “Ceskoslovenska Rusistika” (1968)

7. Book Excerpts, Research Materials

8. Vaclav Cerny—CV and Obituary, Note Cards with Reference to Renee Welek


10. Galan’s Research on Vaclav Cerny’s “Dostoevsky and His Devils”
    Personal Notes, hand written

11. Galan’s Translation of Vaclav Cerny’s “Dostoevsky and His Devils”

12. Galan’s Personal Notes & Articles excerpts on—Roszhvor s Vaclavem Cernym

13. 1974—Galan’s Contract with Ardis Publishers—For writing on V. Cerney’s
    Memorandum of Agreement
    Letter correspondences from Ardis Publishers
    Translated excerpts, typed

Box 5—Professional Materials

Student Evaluations
1. Galan—Student Evaluation for English 100201 – for April 18, 1988
   Enclosed letter from Georgia Institute of Technology
   Item Response Distribution—Professor Report, Winter Quarter 1988
   Completed Scranton sheets with student names

2. Galan—Professional Career, Student Evaluations: English 313A –for April 18, 1988
   Georgia Institute of technology
**Vanderbilt Dissertation Committees**


5. Professional Career at Vanderbilt—Dissertation chapter of unknown student (Chapter unknown) –1990

6. Professional Career at Vanderbilt—Dissertation chapter of unknown student (Chapter unknown)—1990

**Professional Career**

7. Vanderbilt University Computer information documents –1990
   - Log-in/user names
   - Printing bill statements
   - Computer finance plans

8. Writing samples from undergraduate students, two classes –1990
   - Fiction into Film
   - Humanities 205