Short Biography:

Jennifer Suchland, Assistant Professor in the Departments of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

My research is on the evolution of anti-trafficking norms at the global level and their relationship to the former Soviet Union, especially Russia. My work draws on multiple disciplines and methodologies, including area studies, cultural studies, and political science. In particular, my work focuses on why certain priorities have come to dominate our political, ethical and cultural conversations about this cruel reality in our modern world. It is important to study and respond to the problem of human trafficking with the following in mind: human trafficking happens everywhere, inside national borders and across national borders; cultural representations of trafficking can influence public policy and the effectiveness of anti-trafficking efforts; and the legal and political causes against human trafficking are entrenched in competing values.

This freshman seminar is a primer for students who want to learn how their academic studies can connect to a contemporary social justice issue. Students interested in cultural studies, public policy, law, government, social work, journalism, or social advocacy will be able to reflect on how their academic work in such fields can engage the issue of human trafficking.

Previous Courses at OSU: Modern Russian Culture (R235), Russian Law & Society (R675), Russian Women Writers (R656), Feminist Analysis in Global Perspective (WS505), and Cinderella’s Fantasy (H583).

\* I have not received any teaching awards in my three years at OSU. I have received strong student and peer evaluations. Those are available upon request.