THE BLACK SEA
Crossroads of Culture
from the Ancient Past
to the Present

Aboard the All-Suite,
114-Guest Corinthian II
July 29 - August 10, 2007
COLUMBIA FACULTY

Michael Stanislawski is Director of the Undergraduate Program in Human Rights, Chair of the Interdepartmental Committee on Yiddish Studies, the Nathan J. Miller Professor of Jewish History, and Acting Director of the Center for Israel and Jewish Studies at Columbia. His fields of interest and research are Russian History, European Intellectual History, medieval and early modern Eastern European Jewish History, and Modern Jewish History. Professor Stanislawski has spent many years researching, writing, and lecturing about ethnic relations in the Russian Empire and Soviet Union, including Ukraine. Three of his recent publications have dealt extensively with Odessa in particular, and his newest book, *A Murder in Lemberg*, discusses at length the complex inter-ethnic dynamics in 19th-century Ukraine. He has also done comparative analyses of the Russian and Ottoman Empires, focusing on the two states’ radically different approaches to ethnic and religious communities. He was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1952, and received his A.B., A.M., and Ph.D. in History from Harvard University. Professor Stanislawski looks forward to sharing his insights and knowledge with alumni through formal lectures and informal discussions.

GUEST LECTURERS

Marvin Kalb is Executive Director of the Washington office of the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy. He was the founding director of the Center at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, and for more than 30 years was Chief Diplomatic Correspondent for CBS News and NBC News, and moderator of “Meet the Press.”

Carol Saivetz is a Senior Scholar in the Caspian Studies Program at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, and Executive Director of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. She teaches courses at Harvard on Russian foreign policy, international relations, and international politics in the Middle East.

Frank Wcislo teaches courses on modern Russia, Eurasia, and Europe in the Department of History at Vanderbilt University. He is the author of *Reforming Rural Russia: State, Local Society, and National Politics, 1855-1914*, and is completing *Tales of Imperial Russia: The Life and Times of Sergei Witte, 1849-1915*, a biographical study of the empire’s last great reformer and the world he inhabited during imperial Russia’s last decades.
Dear Fellow Columbian,

Jason and his intrepid Argonauts became the first Western sailors to navigate the Black Sea on their legendary search for the Golden Fleece. Even today, the magnificent Black Sea area is new territory for the majority of Western visitors. Join Columbia Professor Michael Stanislawski, fellow alumni, family, and friends on The Black Sea: Crossroads of Culture from the Ancient Past to the Present, aboard the all-suite, 114-guest Corinthian II.

The history embedded along the rim of the Black Sea spans from the ancient, with the almost 3,000-year-old Trabzon, to the recent, with the landmark 20th-century events in Odessa and Yalta. Due to the lifting of the Iron Curtain, the area has transformed yet again, as it ushers in democratic governments and market economies, prominently evident in Ukraine. In addition to its splendid history and culture, the Black Sea region—particularly the Crimean coast—enjoys a subtropical climate akin to that of the Mediterranean. Palm trees, rare flowers, vineyards, and orchards flourish, and the golden beaches and invigorating mineral spas draw visitors from throughout Europe.

Our itinerary begins in Kiev, Ukraine’s capital and ethnic heart of the eastern Slavic states, before a group flight to lovely Odessa. Stand on the great Potemkin Steps in Odessa, a city of faded, cosmopolitan glories now re-establishing itself as Ukraine celebrates its emergence as a full-fledged democracy. Journey to Crimea to explore the Black Sea Fleet city of Sevastopol, the focus of the Crimean War and off-limits to Westerners until 1996, and visit the site of the world-altering Yalta Conference. Sail along the largely tourist-free northern coast of Turkey, where Ottoman mosques and Byzantine churches lie in the shadows of soaring citadels built by kingdoms established in the wake of Alexander the Great. Cruise to Bulgaria’s Varna to see its Archaeological Museum’s astounding collection of some of the oldest gold relics in the world.

Seldom is the opportunity to enjoy such intriguing destinations so far from the well-traveled capitals of Europe and Asia Minor. Joining us will be alumni from Harvard University, Northwestern University, the University of Southern California, Vanderbilt University, and the United States Naval Academy. We have no doubt this will be a splendid experience for all. Space is limited, so we encourage you to place your reservation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Furda ’94TC
Vice President for Alumni Relations

Telephone: 866-3-ALUMNI
(866-325-8664)
E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

LUXURY
Our programs are classified in three categories: Value, Superior and Luxury

- Enjoy a traditional feast with the Mayor of Amasra, in northern Turkey.
- Make a special visit to Sevastopol’s Panorama Museum to view the three-dimensional depiction of the city’s heroic resistance during the Crimean War.
- Attend a private concert at the newly restored Organ Hall on the grounds of Yalta’s Livadia Palace.
- Participate in a wine-tasting, sampling the products of Crimea’s finest estates.
- Meet with local families in their homes in Odessa.
- Learn about contemporary affairs from local experts.
Sunday, July 29, 2007
USA
Fly from the U.S. to Kiev, Ukraine.

Monday, July 30
KIEV, UKRAINE
Arrive in Kiev and transfer to the Premier Palace Hotel. Ukraine’s capital is the ethnic heart of the eastern Slavic states and the home of the Russian Orthodox Church. Commemorative statues, monuments, and golden domes rise up from Kiev’s hilly site on the Dnieper River, while chestnut trees line the boulevards and shade the squares. Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and especially after the Orange Revolution of 2004, this metropolis has become a magnet for diplomats, news correspondents, and students, providing a lively and energetic pulse that can be felt as the city opens to Western development.

Tuesday, July 31
KIEV
Kiev is a combination of ancient Greek, Byzantine, imperial Russian, and Soviet influences. See the ruins of the 11th-century Golden Gate and the Cathedral of St. Sophia. Journey to the Perchersky (or Cave) Monastery, one of the most sacred structures of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. (B)

Wednesday, August 1
KIEV | ODESSA | EMBARK
Fly from Kiev to Odessa, one of the loveliest cities in Ukraine and founded by Greek colonists in the 4th century B.C. It flourished in the early 19th century when the Duke de Richelieu transformed it into a center of free trade. By 1850, Odessa was a thriving, cultured trade nexus, with Yiddish, French, Greek, and Italian heard in the streets as well as Russian. Embark on Corinthian II and spend the night aboard ship docked in Odessa. (B, L, D)

Thursday, August 2
ODESSA
Explore Odessa’s elegant leafy streets, lined with stately mansions. See its principal landmarks, including the grand, Viennese Baroque-style Opera House; the historic Potemkin Steps, site of the 1905 uprising of workers and sailors from the battleship Potemkin; and the Archaeological Museum. In the afternoon, you will have the opportunity to meet with local families in their homes. (B, L, D)

Friday, August 3
SEVASTOPOL | CHERSONESOS | BAKHCHYSARAY | SEVASTOPOL
Arrive in Sevastopol, a beautiful port city and the former base of the Russian Black Sea Fleet from the days of Catherine II until the fall of the Soviet Union. Drive to nearby Chersonesos, an ancient city founded by Greeks in the 5th century B.C. which became a prosperous trading city. Return to Sevastopol to visit the Panorama Museum, featuring a circular, three-dimensional work of art depicting the defense of the city during the Crimean War. In the afternoon, enjoy time at leisure in Sevastopol, or alternatively, drive to the Crimean interior to visit the imperial Khan’s palace, built in 1519, in Bakhchysaray, the seat of the Tatar state from the 16th to the 18th centuries. (B, L, D)

Saturday, August 4
YALTA
In the mid-19th century, the Russian
Temple ruins in Chersonesos, an evocative ancient city with Greek, Roman, and Byzantine influences.

Imperial family chose Yalta for its summer residence, and almost overnight the town grew into an elegant and popular resort. Tour the Alupka Palace, an amazing 19th-century edifice with both English Tudor and Byzantine embellishments. Then visit the Livadia Palace, famous site of the 1945 Yalta Conference between Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin, to attend a private concert at its Organ Hall. (B, L, D)

Sunday, August 5
AT SEA | TRABZON, TURKEY
Spend the day at sea enjoying lectures and the ship’s amenities. Arrive this evening in Trabzon, Turkey. (B, L, D)

Monday, August 6
TRABZON
Trabzon, the ancient Trapezus, was one of antiquity’s greatest cities and commercial centers. Founded by Greek colonists during the early part of the 1st millennium B.C., it continued to prosper under the Romans and Byzantines, reaching its golden age in the 13th and 14th centuries. From here, travel to the Sumela Monastery, founded in the 4th century and situated high in the mountains in a spectacular setting. Back in Trabzon, visit the 13th-century Church of Hagia Sophia and spend time at leisure to explore the city on your own. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 7
SAMSUN | AMASYA | SAMSUN
From Samsun, drive to Amasya, founded, according to legend, by the Amazon queen Amasis and later claimed by all manner of conquerors: the Hittites, Alexander the Great, Pontus, the Byzantines, the Selcuks, Genghis Khan, and the Ottoman Turks. Admire its beautiful location in a narrow gorge on the Iris River, bounded by vertical cliffs. Just as Amasya’s native son Strabo described, Amasya’s massive Pontic and Ottoman-era citadel dominates the landscape. Ascend to the clifftop fortress for fantastic views and explore the rock tombs of the Pontic kings, which were carved into the cliff face. Also visit the architecturally precious 15th-century Sultan Beyazit mosque before enjoying lunch at a restaurant high on the hill, affording spectacular views. Then continue to the Archaeological Museum. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 8
BARTIN | AMASRA | BARTIN
Cruise alongside ancient Paphlagonia, a country that hosted Greek colonies until Romans conquered the area in 63 B.C. Arrive in Bartin and drive to Amasra (the ancient Sesamus), situated atop a headland sheltering two bays and known as one of the coast’s most beautiful towns. Founded by Milesians in the 6th century B.C., it later became an important possession of both Byzantium and Genoa. Visit the Genoese citadel, which crowns one of the promontories with a constellation of towers, battlements, and gates, and attend a reception hosted by the Mayor of Amasra. (B, L, D)

Thursday, August 9
VARNA, BULGARIA
Explore Varna, founded in 580 B.C. as the ancient Greek trading colony Odessos. Visit the domed Cathedral of the Assumption, with its splendid iconostasis and bishop’s throne, and the Archaeological Museum, with an astounding collection of the “Gold of Varna,” Chalcolithic grave-goods from Varna’s necropolis and the oldest gold treasure ever excavated. Continue to the remains of the Roman Thermae (Baths) and the adjacent Church of Sveti Atanas, and on to the Evksinograd Palace, built in 1882 by Prince Aleksandar Batenberg, and its botanical gardens. (B, L, D)

Friday, August 10
ISTANBUL | DISEMBARK | USA
Disembark in Istanbul, the former capital of both the Byzantine and Ottoman empires. Transfer to the airport for return flights to the U.S. (B)
CORINTHIAN II – The ideal combination of cruise ship grandeur and small-ship intimacy

Spacious Suites
The deluxe Corinthian II is an all-suite mega-yacht accommodating no more than 114 guests. Originally built in Italy in 1992, Corinthian II was refurbished and redecorated in 2005 specifically to create an atmosphere of effortless elegance and easy conviviality. All 57 outside-facing suites are a minimum of 225 square feet, appointed in rich wood tones, and feature beds that can be configured as two twin-size beds or one queen-size bed, a sitting area, satellite TV/DVD, mini-refrigerator, safe, and a marble-appointed bathroom with fine toiletries. Guests staying in the spacious Penthouse Suites and Veranda Suites (400 and 300 square feet, respectively) will also enjoy a private balcony, private butler service, complimentary bottle of champagne on arrival, and other exclusive in-suite amenities.

Fine Dining
Superb Continental cuisine is created by Corinthian II’s European chefs and served either in the stately restaurant or al fresco on the wide sun deck, which is specially equipped for outdoor dining service. Select regional wines are complimentary with lunch and dinner. Fresh ingredients are chosen locally at many ports of call. All meals are served at one unassigned seating; varied seating arrangements assure comfort for all. Corinthian II’s widely praised service equals that of the finest restaurants.

Effortless Elegance Each Day and Night
Returning from excursions, enjoy complimentary refreshments, afternoon tea, and all-day coffee in The Club, a comfortable space for relaxation with panoramic windows. Before or after dinner, savor a cocktail while the ship’s pianist plays arrangements ranging from jazz to classical to contemporary. Corinthian II also features a library, Internet center, beauty salon, gym, elevator serving all decks, and a wraparound sun deck with Jacuzzi. The 70 European officers and crew ensure an atmosphere akin to a private club for the length of your voyage.

OPTIONAL TWO-NIGHT POST-CRUISE EXTENSION
IN ISTANBUL
August 10 - 12, 2007
(Please note you fly back to the U.S. on August 12.)

Set on the beautiful Bosphorus and overlooking the Golden Horn, Istanbul is a city where the traditions of East and West meet. The skyline is one of the world’s loveliest, filled with the domes of Byzantine churches and the minarets and turrets of Ottoman mosques, palaces, and hundreds of other historic buildings. This optional post-cruise program includes transfers; two nights at the Istanbul Hilton Hotel, with breakfast; and city sightseeing tours.

Rates: $850 per person, double occupancy; $300 single supplement

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare (except designated group flight listed above); visa and passport fees; luggage and trip cancellation insurance; meals, soft drinks, and alcoholic beverages other than those specified above; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes, and e-mail service; and gratuities to shipboard personnel

Program Inclusions
• Two nights in Kiev at the Premier Palace Hotel, with breakfast daily
• Designated group flight from Kiev to Odessa
• 9-night cruise aboard the all-suite, 114-guest Corinthian II
• Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship
• All meals aboard ship, including house wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
• Complete program of tours and excursions
• Educational program of lectures and discussions by Columbia Professor Michael Stanislawski and accompanying guest lecturers
• Professional Travel Dynamics International tour staff
• Complete pre-departure materials
• Baggage handling and transfers aboard on the designated program departure and arrival dates
• Port dues and embarkation taxes
• Gratuities to porters, guides, and drivers

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare (except designated group flight listed above); visa and passport fees; luggage and trip cancellation insurance; meals, soft drinks, and alcoholic beverages other than those specified above; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes, and e-mail service; and gratuities to shipboard personnel.
Cruise and Land Rates

All accommodations aboard Corinthian II are suites. They face outside, affording sea views, and several have balconies with sliding doors. All suites include a bedroom with beds that can be configured as two twin-size beds or one queen-size bed, sitting area, ample closet space, mini-refrigerator, TV/DVD, marble-appointed bathroom with shower, and other amenities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 250 - 252</td>
<td>$7,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Columbus Deck with window and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 329 - 332</td>
<td>$8,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 285 sq.ft. Suites 414 - 415</td>
<td>$9,395</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Columbus Deck with window and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 254 - 262</td>
<td>$10,095</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Marco Polo Deck with window and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 416 - 428</td>
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<td>AA</td>
<td>Deluxe Veranda Suites on Erickson Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 300 sq. ft. Suites 505 - 512</td>
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<td>VS</td>
<td>Deluxe Penthouse Suites on Explorer Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 400 sq. ft. Suites 601 - 604</td>
<td>$13,295</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHS</td>
<td>Deluxe Penthouse Suites on Explorer Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 400 sq. ft. Suites 601 - 604</td>
<td>$14,195</td>
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VS & PHS suites are provided with private butler service and other exclusive amenities.

Single Supplement: A limited number of cabins have been designated for single travelers in Categories D - A at a supplement of $2,695 to the per person, double occupancy rates. Singles in Categories AA - PHS are available at double the per person, double occupancy rates.

Airfare: Airfare from the U.S. to Kiev, returning from Istanbul, is not included in the Cruise and Land Rates. (However, the designated group flight from Kiev to Odessa is included in the rates.) Please contact Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., the agency handling air arrangements for this program, for competitive airfares to Kiev and from Istanbul. To reach VWTI, kindly call toll-free 877-711-9896 or 212-592-1340, and please have your tour code (7421) handy for reference.
Please read carefully the following terms and conditions.

**Please book me/us on the Optional Post-Cruise Twin Beds Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values.**

**Single Occupancy**

The itinerary, accommodations, and arrangements are subject to substitute lecturers.

The Columbia Alumni Travel Study group. We reserve the right to cancel or pursuant to applicable New York law. We cannot guarantee the size of such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other passengers. We reserve the right to decline to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure; and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the passenger's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, ships, or lecturers if this be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the passenger's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, ships, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the passenger certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other passengers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other passengers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be handled, stored or transported at the passenger’s risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in the City of New York, pursuant to applicable New York law. We cannot guarantee the site of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study group. We reserve the right to cancel or substitute lecturers.

**Rates:** Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. Due to fluctuations in fuel costs, a fuel surcharge may be levied.

**Ship's Registry:** Malta

**CST # 2043599-40 TDI**

**An Honest Discussion About Fuel Costs**

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult—if not impossible—to predict fuel costs over the long term, and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing (usually nine months before departure). While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge. If one is necessary, the total surcharge for your voyage will not exceed $180 per person. Thank you for your understanding.

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**Registration**

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $ ____ (1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on The Black Sea. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure.

Please make check payable to: Travel Dynamics International and mail with this registration form to: Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program, 245 Mill St., 2nd Floor, Greenwich, CT 06830. (Or, fax to 203-724-0844.)

Phone: 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664) Email: travelstudy@columbia.edu

- AmEx
- Discover
- Visa
- MasterCard

No. ____________

Exp. ___________ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code _________

Please select cabin category in order of preference:

**PHS VS AA A B C D E**

- Twin Beds
- Double Bed
- Single Occupancy
- Share

(Cannot be guaranteed, but I will pay the single supplement if need be.)

- Please book me/us on the Optional Post-Cruise Extension in Istanbul.

**DR., MR., MRS., MS. FIRST LAST**

**SCHOOL/YEAR DATE OF BIRTH**

**DR., MR., MRS., MS. FIRST LAST**

**SCHOOL/YEAR DATE OF BIRTH**

**ADDRESS**

**CITY/STATE/ZIP**

**TELEPHONE (DAY) (EVENING)**

**E-MAIL**

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the “General Information” section and agree to its terms.

**SIGNATURE DATE**

**SIGNATURE DATE**
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Alumni Travel Study Program
245 Mill St., 2nd Floor
Greenwich, CT 06830
www.alumni.columbia.edu/attend

Discover the splendor and ancient mysteries of the Black Sea, aboard the all-suite Corinthian II

For further information about this travel program, please contact the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program.
You may reach us toll-free at 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664).
fax: 203-724-0844 • e-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu
website: www.alumni.columbia.edu/attend