Curriculum Vitae

Alexander Safonov

Philosopher | Epistemology • Philosophy of Education • Metaphilosophy •AI & Higher Education

Kazan Federal University, Russia | Fulbright Visiting Scholar, Florida Institute of Technology (2022–2023)

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Academic Appointments

Deputy Head of Department of Social Philosophy, Associate Professor, Kazan Federal University, Institute of Social and Philosophical Sciences and Mass Communications 2024 – present

Educational program management: Leading the revision of undergraduate and graduate curricula in Social Philosophy, transitioning from a purely instructional role to that of an educational program manager. This includes incorporating emerging modules on digital ethics and artificial intelligence into the curriculum, drawing on my professional development in prompt engineering and Python programming.

Strategic departmental development: Curating the department's gradual shift from classical philosophical inquiry toward interdisciplinary research that bridges epistemology with information technology. I have personally initiated the launch of a new logic course that leverages digital tools for both instruction and assessment.

Academic and methodological leadership: Organizing and moderating major academic conferences, including the «I Kazan Philosophical Readings» and the «Folk Epistemology: Research into Everyday Concepts of Knowledge», where I serve as a session chair and expert reviewer, evaluating submitted papers and guiding scholarly discussions.

Academic mentoring: Supervising early-career faculty members and doctoral students, coaching them in academic writing, peer review protocols, and publication strategy, thereby strengthening the department's overall research capacity.

Associate Professor, Kazan Federal University, Department of Social Philosophy 2020 – present

English-language instruction: Designing and delivering advanced philosophy courses entirely in English, including General Philosophy and Introduction to Russian Philosophy, which require continuous cultural adaptation and sensitivity to the diverse backgrounds of international students while maintaining academic rigor.

Digital transformation of education: Authoring four study guides on formal logic and argumentation theory, published between 2020 and 2026, all produced using LaTeX to ensure precise mathematical typesetting and seamless conversion into digital learning formats. This competence has been formally recognized through certificates from Kazan Federal University and Innopolis University.

Research activity: Publishing articles in high ranking journals such as Synesis and Res Militaris, focusing on the ethical dimensions of artificial intelligence and the phenomenon of epistemic injustice in digitally mediated environments. This research provides actionable expertise in assessing the reputational and ethical risks associated with deploying neural networks within organizational culture.

Visiting Researcher (Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program), Florida Institute of Technology, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, USA 2022 – 2023

International research collaboration: Leading a collaborative research project with American colleagues at Florida Institute of Technology, investigating the intersection of epistemic injustice and the accelerating digitalization of higher education.

Presentation and defense of research: Presenting preliminary findings at the II International Scientific Forum on Sustainable Development and Innovation, defending my hypotheses before an international audience and incorporating critical feedback into subsequent manuscript revisions.

Cross-cultural communication: Engaging intensively with American faculty and students, adapting Russian academic approaches to Western standards of scientific methodology while maintaining intellectual rigor and originality. Participating actively in departmental seminars,

workshops, and informal academic exchanges to deepen cross-cultural scholarly understanding.

Lecturer, Kazan Federal University, Department of Social Philosophy 2015 – 2020

Fundamental student training: Delivering lecture courses on the history of philosophy, logic, and critical thinking to audiences of over one hundred students, distilling complex historical and theoretical material into coherent, engaging presentations that sustain attention and foster intellectual curiosity.

Methodological development: Designing complete courses on axiomatic calculus and the metatheory of logical systems, developing expertise in structuring highly abstract information into logical, pedagogically sound sequence: a competence directly analogous to technical writing and documentation in corporate settings.

Assessment systems design: Creating comprehensive testing and knowledge assessment systems, including logical problem-solving components, which translates into the ability to construct KPI frameworks for evaluating competencies in organizational contexts.

Education

PhD (Candidate of Sciences) in Philosophy (Ontology and Theory of Knowledge), Kazan Federal University	2016 – 2019
Master's in Philosophy, Kazan Federal University	2013 – 2015
Specialist, Transport Systems Service, Kazan Federal University	2008 – 2013

Professional Training & Certifications

Practical AI - SkaiLab LTD, Connexions Network, 2026.

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Workshop on Humanities and Social Sciences Manuscript Publishing & Peer Reviews — Virtual Training, Grant Training Center, Arlington, Virginia, December 16, 2022.

IT in the University Educational Process: Applied Aspects (Creation of a Digital Educational Resource)" (Kazan (Volga Region) Federal University), 2023

Digital Technologies in Teaching Specialized Disciplines (Python) ("Innopolis University"), 2022

History and Philosophy of Science (KFU Corporate Education Center), 2020

Information Competence of a Teacher in the Field of IT Application in the University Educational Process (Kazan Federal University), 2019

Innovative Forms and Methods of Teaching in Higher Education (Kazan, Faculty of Advanced Training, Kazan Federal University), 2016

Research Interests

Metaphilosophy, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Education, Logic, AI and Digital Technologies in Higher Education

Selected Publications

- Safonov A.S. Progress in Philosophy: The Possibility of Extreme Optimism. The Kazan Socially-Humanitarian Bulletin. 2026;(2(73)):84-95. (In Russ.)
- Safonov, A. 2025. “Generative Artificial Intelligence and Its Educational Implications for Cultivating Intellectual Virtues.” *Revista Conrado* 21 (106): Article e4849.
- Safonov, A. 2025. “Analyticity as an Epistemic Fiction.” In *Boundaries of Science / Boundaries in Science: Proceedings of the All-Russian Scientific Conference*, edited by I. T. Kasavin, L. V. Shipovalova, and T. M. Khusyainov, 54–56. Moscow: Russian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science. Electronic resource. (In Russian).
- Safonov, A., and A. Mayakovskaya. 2023. “Epistemic Injustice and Digitalization of Higher Education.” Paper presented at the II International Scientific Forum on Sustainable Development and Innovation (WFSDI 2023).
- Safonov, A., and A. Mayakovskaya. 2023. “Epistemic Injustice and Virtues in the Digital World.” *Synesis* 15 (4): 194–205.
- Safonov, A., and A. Mayakovskaya. 2022. “Metaphilosophical Appropriation of Religious Methods: Prayer and Heresy.” *Res Militaris* 12 (2): 1993–1999.
- Safonov, A. 2021. “Misunderstanding of Philosophy.” In *VIII Sadykov Readings. XXI Century: Variability of the Human: Proceedings of the International Scientific and Educational Conference*, 159–167. Kazan. (In Russian).
- Safonov, A. 2020. “Metaphilosophy: Ontological and Deontic Forms of Reflection.” *Utopía y Praxis Latinoamericana* 25.
- Safonov, A., and A. Mayakovskaya. 2020. “Post-Digital World, Pandemic and Higher Education.” *International Journal of Higher Education* 9 (8).
- Safonov, A. 2020. “Metaphilosophical Legacy of Gregory of Nazianzus.” *Manuscript* (Tambov: Gramota) 11: 142–146. (In Russian).
- Safonov, A. 2019. "Metaphilosophy as a Problem of Philosophy." *Manuscript* (Tambov: Gramota), no. 1: 89–92. (In Russian).
- Safonov, A. 2018. "Philosophy in a Changing World: Three Types of Metaphilosophy." *SocioTime / Social Time*, no. 4(16): 27–35. (In Russian).

Edited volumes

- *Socialization of Youth in the Digital Age: Agents, Factors, and Contradictions* / M.Yu. Eflova, M.D. Shchelkunov, E.M. Nikolaeva, et al. – Kazan: Kazan University Publishing House, 2025. – Book 6. – 302 p. (Digital Socialization and Digital Competence of Young People in the Context of Global Systemic Changes).

- *Russian Youth in the Context of Digital Divides* / M.Yu. Eflova, G.F. Gabdrakhmanova, R.G. Minzaripov, et al. – Kazan: Kazan University Publishing House, 2023. – Book 1. – 223 p. – (Digital Socialization and Digital Competence of Young People in the Context of Global Systemic Changes)

Conferences

International Scientific Conference uAnalytiCon-2025: Fictional Objects, Yekaterinburg, UrFU, May 23, 2025 - May 24, 2025

Presentation Title: *Fictional Particulars*

Regional Scientific and Educational Conference: I Kazan Philosophical Readings in Memory of N.A. Vasiliev, Kazan, KFU, July 10, 2025 - July 10, 2025

Presentation Title: *The Imaginary Logic of N.A. Vasiliev*

All-Russian Scientific Conference: Folk Epistemology: Research into Everyday Concepts of Knowledge, Kazan, KFU, October 24, 2025 - October 25, 2025

Presentation Title: *Positive and Negative Programs in Experimental Philosophy: Critique and Prospects*

All-Russian Conference: Boundaries of Science / Boundaries in Science, St. Petersburg, European University, November 21, 2025 - November 22, 2025

Presentation Title: *Analyticity as an Epistemic Fiction*

International Scientific Conference uAnalytiCon-2024: Reference and Objectivity, Yekaterinburg, UrFU, May 24, 2024 - May 25, 2024

Presentation Title: The Ontological Status of Artifacts

All-Russian Scientific Conference: Fragmentation of Social and Philosophical Knowledge: Crisis or Norm, Moscow, November 20, 2024 - November 20, 2024

Presentation Title: *Progress in Philosophy and the Fragmentation of Scientific Knowledge*

International Online Forum II International Scientific Forum on Sustainable Development and Innovation (WFSDI 2023) April 27, 2023 - April 28, 2023

Presentation Title: *Epistemic Injustice and Digitalization of Higher Education*

All-Russian Online Conference "Practical Philosophy: From Classics to Information Society," Astrakhan, September 27, 2018 - September 28, 2018

Presentation Title: *The Place of Language in Ontology: Frege's Theory of Meaning*

International Conference "The 23rd Vavilov Readings," Yoshkar-Ola, December 6, 2018 - December 7, 2018

Presentation Title: *Three Types of Metaphilosophy*

Textbooks and teaching aids

Predicate Logic: A Study Guide / Safonov, A. S. – Kazan: Kazan Federal University, 2026. 17 p.

Formal Syllogistics: A Study Guide / Safonov, A. S. – Kazan: Kazan University Press, 2026. 15 p.

The System of Natural Inference: A Study Guide / Safonov, A. S. – Kazan: Kazan University Press, 2026. 11 p.

Metatheoretical Properties of Logical Systems: A Study Guide / Safonov, A. S. – Kazan: Kazan University Publishing House, 2020. 19 p.

Axiomatic Calculus of Propositions: A Study Guide / Safonov, A. S. – Kazan: Kazan University Publishing House, 2020. 16 p.

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate

- General Philosophy (in English)
- Introduction to Russian Philosophy (in English)
- Fundamentals of Russian culture (in English)
- Symbolic Logic
- History of Philosophy
- History of Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy
- Critical thinking and theory of argumentation

Post-graduate

- Methods of Philosophy
- Philosophy of consciousness
- English in Professional Communication (Philosophy)

Honors & Awards

Fulbright Visiting Scholar, 2022–2023

Skills

LaTeX (advanced), Academic Writing, Peer Reviewing, Prompt Engineering, Python

Languages

Russian – Native

English – Professional Working Proficiency (C1)

Membership in associations

Russian Philosophical Society

Interests

Literature, Running, History of Art, Languages