Dr. Monika Zgustova, the 6th Betsy-FIU Exile Studies Scholar/Writer-in-Residence, is a highly acclaimed author and translator. Born in Prague and educated in the United States—she is a graduate of the Ph.D. Program in Comparative Literature at the University of Illinois—Dr. Zgustova is a permanent resident in Barcelona. She has published eight books, including novels, a collection of short stories, a play, and a well-received biography of the noted Czech writer Bohumil Hrabal. A number of her novels, The Silent Woman and Goya’s Glass among them, were translated into English and published by The Feminist Press of CUNY. Her writings have garnered her much praise and several awards, among them The Guitat de Barcelona and Mercé Rodoreda awards, both from Spain, and the Gratias Agit Prize from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Prague. She has translated into Spanish and Catalan more than fifty books of Czech and Russian fiction and poetry by such writers as Havel, Kundera, Hasek, Achmatova, Dostoyevsky, Tzvetayeva, Babel, Hrabal, and Seifert. The high quality of her translations was acknowledged by the Serra d’Or Prize, the Barcelona City Award, and the Catalan Letters Award, to name but a few. A frequent contributor to El Pais, La Vanguardia, Avui, and The Nation, Dr. Zgustova is a highly sought-after speaker. She lectured at many American Universities, including Yale, Michigan, and Ohio State, as well as in different universities and cultural centers of Paris, Montreal, Moscow, Vienna, Budapest, Frankfurt, and Prague. Dr. Zgustova’s most recent novel La Rosas de Stalin (2016) is based on the life of Svetlana Aliluyeva, Stalin’s exiled daughter.