Irena Grudzinska Gross was involved in student movement and emigrated from her native Poland after the unrest of 1968. She resumed her studies in Italy and received her PhD from Columbia University in 1982. She taught courses in East European literature and history at several universities and was 2018 Fellow at the Guggenheim Foundation. Her books include "Miłosz and the Long Shadow of War," 2020, "Golden Harvest" (with Jan T. Gross), 2012; "Czesław Miłosz and Joseph Brodsky: Fellowship of Poets," 2009; and "The Scar of Revolution: Tocqueville, Custine and the Romantic Imagination," 1995.