Abstract (in English):

This work will consist in an analysis of the antiheroes in modern French literature, especially in “Roman Noir”.

Before treating the topic of antiheroes in mystery fiction we will describe the history of this type of protagonists in world literatures, from the classic literature to the modern one.

To be able to understand the problematics of antiheroes in Roman Noir, we will also describe the history of French mystery fiction. Regarding the analysis of antiheroes in this sub-genre of crime fiction, we will start with the character of Maigret. Although the novels of G. Simenon are not real Romans Noirs, we consider them as a "passage" of the detective novel – in the traditional sense – to the Roman Noir.

Furthermore, in this work, we will analyze characters of real Romans Noirs; first, the crude and surprising behavior of Nestor Burma, a famous character of Léo Malet, then the mediocrity of protagonists of the novels Morgue pleine and Le Petit Bleu de la côte ouest of Jean-Patrick Manchette, and finally, Fabio Montale, an atypical investigator from a novel series of the late twentieth century written by Jean-Claude Izzo.