

## **Abstract**

The thesis *Danube: Journey, Memory, City and Death* is, to a certain extent, a personal search for today's meaning of the river Danube in literature and culture. Practically, it contains texts from the antiquity until today, not chronologically, but in motivic spirals of journey, memory, city and death. It is geographically linked especially to German-Austrian, Slovak and Hungarian space. The chapters are buoy-like, because together they form the characteristics of Danubian culture, which are border, appropriation, palimpsest quality, and pleasure seeking. The chapter about journey deals predominantly with searching for Danube's identity and the character of traveler. The chapter about memory analyses chosen places of memory and certain historical figures. The third chapter, dedicated to Danubian metropoli (Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest), searches for common traits of their soul, which are realized through the concepts of border, pleasure and bridge. The last chapter about death in Danube deals with both images of death and river beings – fairies and nymphs. The whole text represents certain literary-cultural anthropology of Danube.