Abstract

The bachelor thesis deals with the depiction of the forest in medieval literary sources. It focuses on depiction of the forest in different types of sources: exempla, medieval romances, books of travels, chronicles. It focuses on literary motifs of the forest: the forest as desert, border and hiding place, fores as *locus amoenus* and landed property. The social construction of the forest is based on dichotomy *cultura versus natura*. The forest as a domain of nature represents the counterpart of the world of civilization. The bachelor thesis discusses the forest in terms of its function in literary text. The socially unacceptable actions are set in the forest. The dichotomy between town and forest is used to illustrate cultural norms.

Keywords:

*forest, Middle Ages, literature, imagination*