

## **Abstract**

In this thesis we will focus on D'Annunzio's *Novels of the rose* cycle, on the character analysis of its protagonists in the light of the specific social-historical interpretation of fin-de-siècle period. After a short introduction dedicated to life and work of the author, we will analyse the three novels with the aid of the works of literary criticism in a way that the major themes and specific characteristics of the novels emerge in their comparative interpretation based on the perspective of significance of the author's work in Italian and European literature at that time.

In conclusion we will consider the possibility of alternative solutions to decadence for D'Annunzio's protagonists which will bring our discussion into philosophical debate about crisis of misguided European rationalism, the crisis related to the problem of dissolution of subject of identity.