

## **Abstract**

The bachelor thesis will be devoted to the reflection of the French philosopher Paul Ricoeur on the issue of the limits of the structuralist approach to language and literature. I pay attention to some central conceptual pairs, which are based on the conception of the Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure. Ricoeur reviews these bases and points to the limitation of the method thus defined. Contrary to the structuralist approach, Ricoeur's hermeneutical reflections are inspired by a view that answers the issues of discourse, meaning and interpretation, that is to say, issues neglected by structuralism. Attention will be paid to Ricoeur's key distinction between the semantic and semiotic approach that Ricoeur wants to see as complementary, not mutually exclusive. Reflections on the relationship between language as a system and the speech will eventually lead to the theory of metaphor as the extreme case of discourse involved in the development of the language system.