

### **Abstract:**

The thesis deals with the picture of woman in the Croatian prose and its transformations from realism to present times. The main aim of the thesis is to map out characteristics of the female subject primarily within discourses of feminist critique in the context of social aspects of the Croatian milieu. Thesis focuses on analysis of female characters that firstly embodies the social hierarchy, secondly represents the mythological concept of femininity and thirdly works towards confrontation of feminine identity with the patriarchal phallogocentric discourse. It also focuses on the analysis of femininity, sensibility and sexuality. The main part of the thesis comprises the analyses of nine selected texts written by Croatian authors, namely *Goldsmith's gold* by August Šenoa, *In the Registrar's Office* by Antun Kovačić, *Diary* by Dragojla Jarnević, *Melita* by J. E. Tomić, *The Last of the Stipančićs* by Vjenceslav Novak, *The Return of Philip Latinowicz* by Miroslav Krleža, *Marina; or, About Biography* by Irena Vrkljan, *Divine Hunger* by Slavenka Drakulić and *Ministry of Pain* by Dubravka Ugrešić. The thesis shows the transformation of female characters by the influence of intellectual concepts and specific cultural situation in patriarchal society. Texts are chosen for typological diversity, which aims to cover variety of women's representations in the Croatian Prose.