

Abstract

The topic of the diploma thesis is the question of creating a discourse about unskilled jobs and the people who perform them. It is examined through everyday manifestations of work ethics, which is looked for in selected non-fiction literature. The diploma thesis constructs a definition of work as a concept which needs to be approached from an economic and cultural research lens at the same time. This is then linked to the development of work in the 20th century and subsequently to post-work theory. The content of the thesis is an analysis of the antinomies of work ethics in six non-fiction books devoted to low-income and unskilled jobs. Subsequently, there is an analysis of working conditions, work narratives and social discourses on work: The diploma thesis defines specific manifestations of the theories in defined antinomies in workplaces which are addressed in the analyzed books. The definition of work as a space of politics of redistribution and politics of misrecognition is supported by conclusions based on the necessity of grasping the everydayness of work ethics as a concept that maintains the work system and its inequalities and also entails revolutionary emancipatory potential. The duality of work behavior, the necessity of connecting the politics of redistribution and recognition in studies of contemporary forms of work, and the place of the care sector as a bearer of revolutionary potential are then abstractions by which the view of work ethics can be retroactively generalized.