

## **Abstract**

Present thesis deals with the development of queer themes in Ukrainian literature, i.e. the development of literary expression of gender identities and sexualities that differ from cis heterosexual identities, as defined by gender and queer theory. The main aim is to map authors and works that touch these themes, from the very beginnings through the major milestones up to 2015, when the first gay novels were published.

The introduction consists of the description of the basic methodology – how queer themes can be explored, and the possible difficulties in the interpretation. Next, the introduction briefly outlines the historical development of the depiction of queer themes in world literatures that have in some way influenced the development of the Ukrainian one, taking into account the historical-political processes that are crucial for the depiction of the topic under study. In the main part, general literary tendencies are presented with an emphasis on the periods when queer themes receive the most space, i.e. modernism and postmodernism. Attention is paid in chronological order, first to authors of the classical national canon who, through postmodern reinterpretation, gained a place in the emerging queer canon, and then to authors thematizing queer identities in various ways in their works. One of the chapters also outlines the reception of queer themes in Ukrainian society, using the example of reaction to specific publications. The last section focuses on the personality, work, and analysis of queer textual strategies of the contemporary writer Oles Barlig.

## **Keywords**

Queer, LGBT+, Ukrainian Literature, Ukraine, Homosexuality, Queer Theory