

ABSTRACT

This diploma thesis deals with contemporary young adult dystopian literature, specifically focusing on the first books in three series – *The Giver*, *Divergent*, *The Hunger Games*. The aim of the thesis is to assess what instruments of power are used in dystopian fictional worlds and how the population of these worlds is kept obedient. The theoretical part of the thesis addresses the characteristics of young adult literature and dystopia, outlines their definitions, development, and main features. The analytical part examines the selected novels in terms of the modes of control and compares them. In the conclusion the thesis evaluates how stability of the established system is maintained in the novels and states the similarities and differences between the works, and what these findings reveal about the portrayal of dystopian themes in young adult literature.

KEYWORDS

dystopia, young adult literature, instruments of power, *The Giver*, *Divergent*, *The Hunger Games*