

Dissertationes Semioticae Universitatis Tartuensis

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Abstract. Doctoral dissertations in semiotics have been defended at the University of Tartu since 1999; since the year 2000, these theses have been published as the series *Dissertationes Semioticae Universitatis Tartuensis*. The present paper provides an up-to-date bibliography of the dissertations.

Keywords: history of semiotics; bibliography of semiotics; PhD in semiotics

Academic institutionalization of semiotics necessarily involves defending doctoral theses under the aegis of this subject field at various universities of the world. Despite the long history of semiotic research in Estonia, true specialization in semiotics became possible only after the establishment of the Department of Semiotics at the University of Tartu in 1992. The department immediately opened study programmes in semiotics and theory of culture on the bachelor's and master's levels, and since 1996 also on the doctoral level.

The first doctoral dissertation in semiotics at the University of Tartu was defended by Virve Sarapik on semiotics of art in 1999. Starting from the following year, 2000, most of the doctoral theses in semiotics have been published by the University of Tartu Press in a series titled *Dissertationes Semioticae Universitatis Tartuensis* (see Fig. 1). PhD programmes in semiotics exist in several universities around the world (e.g. Charles University in the Czech Republic, University of Bologna in Italy, Catholic University of São Paulo in Brazil, etc.), but such a specialized series of published doctoral theses in semiotics may well be unique.

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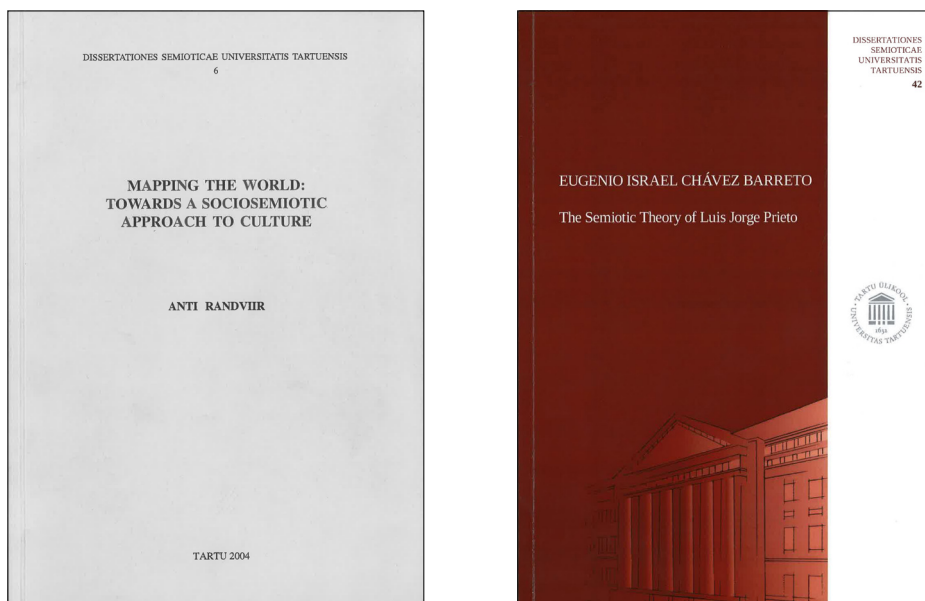


Figure 1. Covers of the dissertation series (Left – Volumes 1–10; right – the current cover).

Below, Table 1 provides a complete list of doctoral theses in semiotics defended in the University of Tartu until now – altogether 46 dissertations. The Table shows the number of the volume in the series, the title of the thesis in English as well as in the original language if different from English – some theses were written in Estonian (seven), Russian (seven), or French (one) –, the supervisors (altogether 20) and opponents. In four cases, the thesis was published separately, that is, not in this series; these cases are marked with an asterisk (*).

The requirements set for PhD theses at the University of Tartu allow it to be either a monograph (labelled as ‘m’ in the table), or based on published articles and a cover text (labelled as ‘a’ in the table). The defence occurs at an open meeting of the relevant Institute’s council, in which the researcher gives a talk about his or her work, followed by a discussion with the opponent(s) and thereafter an open session of questions from other participants of the meeting.

Table 1. List of defended and published doctoral theses from the Department of Semiotics, University of Tartu.

n	year	name	title	t	supervisors	opponents
*	1999	Virve Sarapik	Language and Art (Keel ja kunst) ²	m		Boriss Bernštein, Peeter Torop
1	2000	Mihhail Lotman	The Structure and Typology of Russian Verse (Структура и типология русского стиха)	a		Mihhail Gasparov, Tiit-Rein Viitso
2	2000	Jelena Grigorjeva	Emblem: Structure and Pragmatics (Эмблема: структура и прагматика)	m	Peeter Torop	Sergei Daniel, Jerzy Faryno
3	2000	Valdur Mikita	A Comparison of Creativity Treatments in Semiotics and Psychology (Kreatiivsuskäsitluste võrdlus semiootikas ja psühholoogias)	m		Peeter Tulviste, Arne Merilai
4	2001	Irina Avramets	The Poetics of Dostoevsky's Novellas (Поэтика новеллы Достоевского)	m	Juri Lotman, Peeter Torop	Peter Jensen, Roman Leibov
5	2003	Jan Levtsenko	History and Fiction in V. Shklovsky's and B. Eikhenbaum's Works in the 1920s (История и фикция в текстах В. Шкловского и Б. Эйхенбаума в 1920-е гг.)	m	Peeter Torop	Sergei Zenkin, Igor Smirnov
6	2004	Anti Randviir	Mapping the world: Towards a sociosemiotic approach to culture	m		Paul Cobley, Kalevi Kull
*	2005	Anneli Mihkelev	The Poetics of Allusion (Vihjamise poeetika) ³	m	Ülle Pärli	Peeter Torop, Toomas Liiv
7	2005	Timo Maran	Mimicry as a Communication Semiotic Phenomenon (Mimikri kui kommunikatsioonisemiootiline fenomen)	m	Kalevi Kull	Toomas Tammaru, Peeter Torop

2 Published as: Sarapik, Virve 1999. *Keel ja kunst*. (Oxymora 3.) Tallinn: Underi ja Tuglase Kirjanduskeskus.

3 Published as: Mihkelev, Anneli 2005. *Vihjamise poeetika*. (Collegium litterarum 19.) Tallinn: Underi ja Tuglase Kirjanduskeskus.

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*	2005	Boriss Baljasnõi	Semiotic aspects of translation and applied translation studies (Семиотические аспекты перевода и прикладное переводоведение) ⁴	m	Peeter Torop	Natalja Galejeva, Mihhail Lotman
8	2005	Eleonora Rudakovskaja-Borissova	Semiotics of Food in the Works by Andrei Platonov (Семиотика пищи в произведениях Андрея Платонова)	m	Ülle Pärlil	Jelena Grigorjeva, Maria Dmitrovskaja
9	2006	Andres Luure	Duality and Sextets: A New Structure of Categories	a	Kalevi Kull	Sergei Chebanov, Myrdene Anderson
10	2006	Peeter Linnap	Photology (Fotooogia)	m	Jelena Grigorjeva	Jay Ruby, Virve Sarapik
*	2007	Peet Lepik	Universals in the Context of Juri Lotman's Semiotics ⁵	m	Peeter Torop	Vilmos Voigt
11	2008	Daniele Monticelli	Wholeness and Its Remainers: Theoretical Procedures of Totalization and Detotalization in Semiotics, Philosophy and Politics	m	Mihhail Lotman	Tõnu Viik, Aleksander Astrov
12	2009	Andreas Ventsel	Towards Semiotic Theory of Hegemony	a	Ülle Pärlil	Risto Heiskala, Raivo Vetik
13	2009	Elin Sütiste	On the Dynamics of the Concept of Translation in Translation Studies and Estonian Translation History (Tõlke mõiste dünaamikast tõlketeaduses ja eesti tõlkeloos)	a	Peeter Torop	Bruno Osimo, Anne Lange
14	2010	Renata Sõukand	Herbal Landscape	a	Kalevi Kull	Almo Farina, Myrdene Anderson

⁴ Published as: Балясный, Борис 2005. *Семиотические аспекты перевода и прикладное переводоведение*. Tallinn: TLÜ Kirjastus.

⁵ Published as: Lepik, Peet 2007. *Universaalidest Juri Lotmani semiootika kontekstis*. (Tartu Semiotics Library 6.) Tartu: Tartu University Press. – Lepik, Peet 2008. *Universals in the Context of Juri Lotman's Semiotics*. (Tartu Semiotics Library 7.) Tartu: Tartu University Press.

n	year	name	title	t	supervisors	opponents
15	2011	Kati Lindström	Delineating Landscape Semiotics: Towards the Semiotic Study of Landscape Processes	a	Kalevi Kull	Guido Ipsen, Patrick Lavolette
16	2011	Morten Tønnessen	Umwelt Transition and Uexküllian Phenomenology: An Ecosemiotic Analysis of Norwegian Wolf Management	a	Kalevi Kull, Winfried Nöth	Jesper Hoffmeyer, Dominique Lestel
17	2013	Anu Sarv	Self-Reflection and Professional Identity of a University Teacher (Õppejõu eneserefleksioon ja professionaalne identiteet)	a	Ülle Pärl, Mari Karm	Jaana Valsiner, Tiina Kirss
18	2014	Vadim Verenich	Semiiotic Models of Legal Argumentation	a	Mihhail Lotman, Igor Gräzin	Anne Wagner, Peeter Järvelaid
19	2015	Maarja Ojamaa	The Transmedial Aspect of Cultural Autocommunication	a	Peeter Torop	Nicola Dusi, Eva Näripea
20	2015	Tiit Remm	Sociocultural Space: Spatial Modelling and the Sociocultural World	m	Anti Randviir	Risto Heiskala, Hannes Palang
21	2015	Riin Magnus	The Semiotic Grounds of Animal Assistance: Sign Use of Guide Dogs and Their Visually Impaired Handlers	a	Kalevi Kull	Dario Martinelli, Jaana Valsiner
22	2016	Davide Weible	Exaptation: Towards a Semiotic Account of a Biological Phenomenon	a	Kalevi Kull	Karel Kleisner
23	2016	Mari-Liis Madisson	The Semiotic Construction of Identities in Hypermedia Environments: The Analysis of Online Communication of the Estonian Extreme Right	a	Andreas Ventzel, Indrek Ibrus	Massimo Leone, Daniele Monticelli
24	2016	Claudio Julio Rodríguez Higuera	The Place of Semantics in Biosemiotics: Conceptualization of a Minimal Model of Semiotic Capabilities	m	Kalevi Kull	Donald Favareau
25	2017	Kadri Tüür	Semiotics of Nature Representations: On the Example of Nature Writing	a	Kalevi Kull, Ulrike Plath, Peeter Torop	Kate Rigby, Julia Tofantšuk

n	year	name	title	t	supervisors	opponents
26	2017	Gleb Netchvolodov	Pictorially Simplified Images as Machine Vision Design Tool: Semiotics Approach	a	Peeter Torop	Ekaterina Velmezova
27	2018	Silvi Salupere	On Juri Lotman's Metalanguage: Problems, Context, and Sources (О метаязыке Юрия Лотмана: проблемы, контекст, источники)	a	Irina Avramets	Peter Grzybek, Kęstutis Nastopka
28	2018	Remo Gramigna	Augustine and the Study of Signs and Signification	m	Timo Maran	Giovanni Manetti, Costantino Marmo
29	2018	Nelly Mäekivi	The Zoological Garden as a Hybrid Environment – A (Zoo)semiotic Analysis	a	Timo Maran	Paul Cobley, Dario Martinelli
30	2018	Silver Rattasepp	The Human Mirror: A Critique of the Philosophical Discourse on Animals from the Position of Multispecies Semiotics	a	Timo Maran	Pauline Delahaye, Felice Cimatti
31	2018	Ott Puumeister	On Biopolitical Subjectivity: Michel Foucault's Perspective on Biopolitics and its Semiotic Aspects	a	Andreas Ventsetl, Daniele Monticelli	Tõnu Viik, Sergei Prozorov
32	2019	Lyudmyla Zaporozhtseva	Structural Units of Mass Culture Mythology: A Cultural Semiotic Approach	m	Andreas Ventsetl	Kristian Bankov, Evaripides Zantides
33	2020	Tatjana Menise	Fairy Tales in Transmedia Communication: Fanfiction	a	Peeter Torop	Roman Leibov, Cristina Bacchilega
34	2020	Alexandra Milyakina	Digitalization of Literary Education in the Context of Cultural Autocommunication	a	Peeter Torop, Maarja Ojamaa	Raine Koskimaa, Piret Viires

n	year	name	title	t	supervisors	opponents
35	2021	Tyler James Bennett	Detotalization and Retroactivity: Black Pyramid Semiotics	m	Kalevi Kull, Andreas Ventsel	Donald Favareau, Daniele Monticelli
36	2021	Jason Mario Dydynski	Semiotic Modeling of Cuteness in Cartoon Characters/Mascots	a	Timo Maran, Nelly Mäekivi	Joshua Paul Dale, Massimo Leone
37	2021	Tiina Hoffmann	Film Translation in Soviet Estonia: Contexts, Practices and Actors (La traduction cinématographique en Estonie soviétique: contextes, pratiques et acteurs)	m	Elin Sütiste, Antoine Chalvin	Martin Barnier, Valérie Pozner
38	2021	Mirko Cerrone	Interspecies Relationships: A Zoosemiotic Analysis of Human-Ape Communication	a	Timo Maran, Nelly Mäekivi	Matthew Chrulew, Filip Jaroš
39	2022	Jonathan Grant Griffin	A Semiotic of Motives: Kenneth Burke and Deely-Tartu Semiotics	m	Kalevi Kull, Mihhail Lotman	Richard Fiordo, Andres Luure
40	2022	Kyle Jonathan Davidson	Semiotic Modelling of Identity and Communication in Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, and Mixed Reality	m	Kalevi Kull, Anti Randviir	Kay O'Halloran, Merja Bauters
41	2022	Aleksandr Fadeev	Lev Vygotky's Approach in the Contemporary Semiotic Research of Learning, Meaning-Making and Inner Speech	a	Peeter Torop	Jaan Valsiner, Laura Gherlone
42	2022	Eugenio Israel Chávez Barreto	The Semiotic Theory of Luis Jorge Prieto	a	Kalevi Kull	Emanuele Fadda

Professionals with doctoral degrees in semiotics are those who carry on semiotics as a discipline. While around the 1990s the international interest in semiotics was decreasing, we can observe several signs of its growth or comeback (Danesi 2012) in the current century (see, for instance, Deni, Zingale 2017; Herrmann-Pillath, Nöth 2021; Kull *et al.* 2015; etc.). As ecosemiotics would argue, ecology and semiotics, ecological worldview and semiotic understanding should learn to go hand in hand (Maran 2020).

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La première thèse de doctorat en sémiotique à l'Université de Tartu a été défendue en 1999. Depuis l'année 2000, ces thèses sont publiées dans la série *Dissertationes Semioticae Universitatis Tartuensis*. Cet article présente une liste complète de ces travaux.

Dissertationes Semioticae Universitatis Tartuensis

Doktoriväitekirju semiootika erialal on Tartu Ülikoolis kaitstud alates 1999. aastast, 2022. aasta seisuga kokku 46. Enamik neist töödest on avaldatud Tartu Ülikooli kirjastuse sarjas *Dissertationes Semioticae Universitatis Tartuensis*. Siinjuures on toodud semiootika doktoritööde täielik nimistu. Seni kaitstud töödest on ingliskeelsed 31, eestikeelsed 7, venekeelsed 7 ja prantsuskeelne 1; monograafilisi dissertatsioone on 21 ja artiklite põhjal koostatuid 25. Neid töid on juhendanud kokku 20 teadlast.