

# Theses in American Studies for Norwegian University Degrees 1908 — 69

Below are listed theses on American subjects presented to the departments of English and History in the universities of Oslo and Bergen.

The Norwegian higher degree in *English* is based on a lower degree (*mellomfag*) where English has been studied for three semesters and is one of three so-called minor subjects required for the *Cand.mag.* degree. Studies in English on the higher level comprise courses in English and American literature, a course in linguistics, a study of Old and Middle English set texts, and exercises in translation (Norwegian-English). The average time required for the preparation of the »*hovedfag*\* (main subject) is four semesters. This also includes the writing of a thesis. As may be seen from the listed titles the theses are now usually written in English. The average length of a thesis is 60—80 typewritten pages. In his work on his thesis the student is introduced to research methods and techniques. He learns the process of gathering and preparing material for publication. New results are not required in a thesis on this level, though it does happen that a student in his thesis makes an original contribution to research. Having fulfilled the above requirements the candidate receives the degree *Cand.philol.* In section A below are listed the theses written on American subjects since 1908. The growing

interest in American studies is notable.

Some students work for the *Magister's* degree instead of the *Cand. philol.* degree. The student must then submit a thesis where more of personal and independent research work is required. The work with the *Magister's* degree gives the student a greater opportunity for specialized studies. The theses submitted for the *Magister's* degree (*Mag. art.*) are listed in section B.

The higher degree (*Cand.philol.*) and the *Magister's* degree in *History* correspond to that in English.

The Norwegian *doctorate* does not form part of the ordinary examination system, but is an independent contribution to research. Before presenting his dissertation the candidate must have passed his *Cand. philol.* examination with the mark *laudabilis*. He has to give two public lectures, and he has to defend his dissertation at a public *disputatio*. The few Norwegian doctoral dissertations in American Studies are listed below in section C.

Copies of theses and dissertations are deposited in the University Libraries, at times with a stipulation that the material must not be used without the consent of the author. If no other information is given, the thesis was presented at Oslo. Place and time of publication in print are given where such information was available.

I. Aa. Høgmo

A. Theses for the Degree of Cand. philol.

1930

Rigmor Hedvig Elisabeth Warholm: *Det lyriske drag hos Edgar Allan Poe.* [*The Lyrical Element in the Work of Edgar Allan Poe.*]

1931

Carl Vogt: *E. A. Poe som novellist.* [*E. A. Poe as a Short Story Writer.*]

1934

Karl Henrik Fjelberg: *Frank Norris.*

Odd Bang-Hansen: *John Dos Passos fra U.S.A.* [*John Dos Passos from U.S.A.*] (»John Dos Passos fra U.S.A.,» *Edda*, XXXV. Oslo 1935.)

1936

Wilhelm Aarek: *John Greenleaf Whittier: Some General Characteristics of his Poetry.*

1937

Kristian Strøm: *Thornton Niven Wilder.*

1939

Aslaug Pettersen: *Nathaniel Hawthorne.*

Bjarne Sennels Sørensen: *Eugene O'Neills skuespill.* [*The Plays of Eugene O' Neill.*]

Sven Vea: *Ernest Hemingway.*

Lamrik Sverre Vik: *Sinclair Lewis og »Main Streetu — historisk og litterær bakgrunn.* [*Sinclair Lewis and »Main Street» — Historical and Literary Background.*]

1941

Margarethe Elisabeth Bergh: *Amerikaneren Sherwood Anderson. »Winesburg, Ohio» og »The Triumph of the Egg.»* [*Sherwood Anderson, the American. »Winesburg, Ohio, and »The Triumph of the Egg»*]

Kolbjørn Einar Eide: *Sinclair Lewis' "Babbitt"*

1942

Edvard Hjørnevik: *»The Scarlet Letter, en historisk roman.* [*»The Scarlet Letter, an Historical Novel.*]

Øyvind Hobæk: *Theodore Dreiser — en dikterprofil.* [*Theodore Dreiser — Profile of an Author.*]

1943

Aslaug Tvedt: *The Norwegian-American Regarded through Frontier Literature (with Special Reference to O. E. Rølvaag).*

1945

Eystein Øyen: *Ernest Hemingway.*

1946

Gunnar Abusdal: *Gjennombruddet i Sinclair Lewis' forfatterskap.* [*The Break-through of Sinclair Lewis as a Writer.*]

Arne H. Ebbing: *Babbitism in Business, Science and Religion.*

Halvdan Mesel: *Upton Sinclair's »Oil».*

Reidar Thygesen: *Omkring Ralph Waldo Emersons personlighet og tre av hans »representativemen»:* Shakespeare, Napoleon, Goethe. [*Some Aspects of the Personality of R. W. Emerson and Three of His »representative men»:* Shakespeare, Napoleon, Goethe.]

Otto Nes: *The Poetry of T. S. Eliot.*

1947

Trygve Mong: *Herman Melville 1819 — 1891.*

Reidar E. Teinung: *Sinclair Lewis og småby-Amerika.* [*Sinclair Lewis and Small-town America.*]

1948

Erik T. Dahl-Larsson: *John Steinbeck og hans sociale epos »The Gra-*

pes of Wrath., [John Steinbeck and His Social Epic »The Grapes of Wrath))J

Erling Nilsen: *Willa Cather. A Traditionalist in Modern American Literature.*

Theodor Gustav Rove: *John Steinbeck and »The Grapes of Wrath).*

Björg Margarete Stuland: *Sherwood Anderson og lykkeproblemet. [Sherwood Anderson and the Problem of Happiness.]*

1949

Asbjørn Hansen: *Jack London, an Alaskan Short-story Teller and Novelist.*

Björg Anker Jensen: *Rise and Development of Gothicism in England and its Introduction into American Literature by Charles Brockden Brown.*

Randi Kveim: *The Search for Ullha t e Value and Ways of Expression in the Drama of Eugene O'Neill.*

Peder Simen Odden: *Erskin Caldwell and »Tobacco Road).*

1950

Ivar Grotnæss: *William Faulkner and his Closed World.*

Arne Høyve Hansen: *Edward Bellamy. A Social Dreamer.*

Erling Manger: *The Waste Land of T. S. Eliot's Early Poetry.*

Einar Fr. Wille: *John Dos Passos: Chief Features in his Literary Production in the 1930's.*

Jonnie Aas: *Some Features in the Literay Art of Henry James. Special Reference to »The Ambassadors~.*

1951

Asmund V. Eriksen: *Howard Fast and his Interpretation of the Revo-*

*lution and the Reconstruction Period.*

Johan Rolf Hanssen: *James T. Farrell, his Trilogy and Tetralogy as Social Documents and Social Criticism.*

Didrik Holme: *The Writings of F. Scott Fitzgerald in the Nineteen Twenties.*

Gudmund Hytten: *William Dean Howells, a Social Critic.*

Per-Svein Pettersen [now: Per Sveinon]: *Studies in Ernest Hemingway's Conception of Man.*

Rolf W. Pettersen: *The Treatment of the Verb in Uneducated American English.*

Erik M. Wold: *The Legendary Heroes and American Humour.*

Per Anton Sveaas Andersen: *For-søk på d forklare en amerikansk historie-teoris oppkomst. [An Attempt to Explain the Rise of an American Historical Theory.] (Westward is the Course of Empires. A Study in the Shaping of an American Idea: Frederick Jackson Turner's Frontier. Oslo 1956.)*

1952

Karen Gjørum: *Mark Twain's Attitude towards the Weaker Sex.*

Tormod Skagfjord: *Fear and Courage in Stephen Crane.*

1953

Per Ottar Weng: *On Mark Twain and the Gilded Age.*

1954

Tom Kirkhorn: *Richard Wright.*

1955

Cecilie Helene Johnsen: *Paine, the Pamphleteer.*

Aagot Karner Smidt: *On the Interpretation of Herman Melville's »Billy Budd».*

1956

Liv Reidun Kjørsvik: *Religion in the Life and Poetry of Emily Dickinson.*

Joruld Gudmund Strømme: *The Non-Naturalistic Characteristics of Frank Norris.*

1958

William Dorenfeldt Aubert: *John Steinbeck's Novel »East of Eden».*

Ingeborg Rigmor Wohl Sem: *Loneliness in Sherwood Anderson.*

1959

Berit Spilhaug: *William Dean Howells and Two Contemporary Norwegian Realists.* («William Dean Howells and Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson: A Literary Relationship,» *Americana Norvegica I*, Philadelphia 1968.)

1960

Johannes Kjørven: *Hawthorne and the Significance of History.* («Hawthorne and the Significance of History,» *Americana Norvegica I*, Philadelphia 1966.)

Aslaug Susanne Vinje: *The Gender of Nouns Denoting Animals and Inanimate Objects in some American Children's Books.*

1961

Ola Brattetveit: *Hemingway and Society.*

1962

Richard Wendell Badger: *The Neorationalist: An Examination of Ayn Rand's »Atlas Shrugged».*

Anna Handeland: *Man, the Victim. Ellen Glasgow's Comment on Human Existence.*

Eystein Ansgar Støp: *Willa Cather and the Pioneer Mind.*

Orm Harald Øverland: *The Im-*

*pressionism of Stephen Crane.* («The Impressionism of Stephen Crane: A Study in Style and Technique,» *Americana Norvegica I*, Philadelphia 1966.)

Aslaug Rundhovde: *Pearl Buck and her Novel »Come, My Beloved».* (Bergen)

1963

Sigrud Herlofson: *The Theme of the Life-Lie in Eugene O'Neill.*

Torbjarn Sirevåg: *Institutions as Citizens: A Study of Franklin D. Roosevelt and his Concept of American National Political Institutions.* («Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Use of History,» *Americana Norvegica II*, Philadelphia 1968.)

1964

Gunn-Bjørg Vik: *Religious Aspects in Robert Frost's Poetry.*

1965

Jan Weiberg-Aurdal: *Psykologiske aspekter ved Edgar Allan Poes liv og prosakunst.* [*Psychological Aspects in the Life and Prose Work of E. A. Poe.*]

Sigrud Lassen: *Steinbeck's Picture of Man, Some Points of View.*

Inger Aarseth: *Chaos versus Form. The Structural Principle in Herman Melville's »Billy Budd».* (Bergen)

1966

Tore Magnus Berg: *H. L. Menckens Criticism of American Democracy.*

Odd Heide Hald: *Man and Milieu in the Serious Novels of John P. Marquand.*

Gerd Hermansen: *The Southern Gentlewoman and Other Types of Women in the Works of Tennessee Williams.*

Ragnar Aagard: *Man, Motion and*

- Movement: A Study of Theme in William Faulkner's »The Unvanquished«.*
- Reidun Doris Haukelid: *Social and Moral Values in Edith Wharton's Fictional Treatment of New York Society.*
- Jens Richard Mellvang: *A Literary Analysis of Thornton Wilder's Novel »The Cabalas«.*
- Arne Fjelnseth: *Amerikansk utenrikspolitikk — Det diplomatiske forholdet U.S.A. — Tyskland i 1938. [American Foreign Policy — The Diplomatic Relations between U.S.A. and Germany in 1938.]*
- Erik Folkedal: *Avgjørelsen om å bruke atombomben mot Japan. [The Use of the Atomic Bomb in Japan.]*
- 1967
- Bjørn Hoelseth: *Sinclair Lewis and the American Town.*
- Per Lysvåg: *Subject-Predicate Inversion in Herman Melville's »Moby Dick«.*
- Bernhard L. Nilsen: *Phase and Tense in Time-clauses Introduced by the Conjunction »after«. A Comparison between American and British Usage.*
- Sigmund Ro: *The Vision of Nick Carraway. A Study in Scott Fitzgerald's »The Great Gatsby«.*
- Trygve J. Woxen: *Mark Twain — »The Mysterious Stranger«.*
- Elin Mehlum: *Pearl Harbour. Diskusjon om ansvaret for angrepet. [Pearl Harbour. A Discussion of the Responsibility for the Attack.]*
- Odd A. Jacobsen: *From Romantic Stereotype to Human Being. A Study of Three Faulkner Negroes. (Bergen)*
- Gunnar J. Moldeklev: *A Study of the Functions of the ing-form in Modern American English. (Bergen)*
- Per Samset: *Providence and Individual Character in the Drama of T. S. Eliot. (Bergen)*
- 1968
- Per Haddal: *Some Aspects of News Presentation in »Time« and »Newsweek«. A Comparison between two American Newsmagazines.*
- Ingeborg Aasnæs Høgmo: *Acceptance and Rejection in James Baldwin's »Go Tell it on the Mountain«.*
- Elling Michelet: *»Augie Marchu: A Modern Picaresque«.*
- Torbjørn V. Olsen: *Carl Sandburg: Social Critic, American Patriot, and Controversial Poet.*
- Vidar O. Rodvang: *Animal Imagery in Some Hemingway Novels and Stories.*
- Sverre K. Vargøid: *Trends in Edgar Lee Masters's »Spoon River Anthology«.*
- Olaf Hetland: *Joseph Heller's »Catch-22« — a Study of Black Humour. (»Black Humour«, Vinduet, 23: 2, Oslo 1969.)*
- Brit Jorunn Jordet: *Quest for Identity in Ellison's »Invisible Man«.*
- Jan-Henry Røed: *Hemingway and Spain.*
- Siri Nylander Mæland: *Unity in Multiplicity. A Survey of Critical Opinion on the Structure of Thoreau's »Waldenu«. (Bergen)*
- Sture Pedersen: *Bergens Tidendes syn på New Deal 1933—35. [Attitudes to the New Deal in the Newspaper »Bergens Tidende 1933—35.] (Bergen)*
- 1969
- Fredrik Chr. Brøgger: *E. Hemingway: The Need for Personal Involvement.*

Sigurd R. Johansen: *The World of Thornton Wilder.*

Erik Kjølland Lund: *Robert Frost: Poetry as Dialectics.*

Ulf Lie: *Problems of Meaning — Aspects of Style in Robinson.*

Borghild Lundeby: *The Life of Man Seen in Relation to Heredity and Environment in John Steinbeck's »East of Eden».*

Reidar Nordvik: *The Developing Themes of Guilt and Atonement in the Work of Tennessee Williams, with Reference to »A Streetcar Named Desire», »Suddenly Last Summer, and Other Works by the Same Author.* (Bergen)

B. Theses for the Degree of Mag. art.

1949

Sigurd Rasmussen: *Steinbeck — samfunnsyn og bakgrunnen for »Grapes of Wrath».* [Steinbeck — Social Views and the Background for »Grapes of Wrath».

1950

Thor Oscar Gabrielsen: *Henry James. Hans liv og hans arbeid.* [Henry James. His Life and Work.]

1955

Birgit Henriette Neubaum Borgeren Wiig: *Eugene O'Neill: 5 dramaanalyser med et kapittel om det tematiske som grunnlag i hans dramaer.* [Eugene O'Neill: Analysis of 5 Dramas with a Chapter on the Thematic as a Basic Element in his Dramas.]

1958

Odd Tidemann Andersen: *Et sammenlignende studium i virkninger av noen bakgrunnsstrømninger og ledende tanker som de viser seg i*

*Johan Bojers »Vår egen stamme» og Ole Edvard Rølvaags immigrantserie.* [A Comparison between Some Leading Ideas in Johan Bojer's »Vår egen stamme» and O. E. Rølvaag's Immigrant Novels.]

1964

Helge Normann Nilsen: *The Quest for Reality. A Study of the Thematic Development of Ideas in the Poetry of Wallace Stevens.* (Bergen) (»The Quest for Reality: A study in the Poetry of Wallace Stevens,» *Americana Norvegica* II, Philadelphia 1968.)

C. Doctorate.

1934

Sverre Norborg: *Jesiah Royce. Puritaner og idealist.* [Josiah Royce. A Puritan and an Idealist.] (Oslo 1934. Lutherstiftelsens forlag 441 pp.)

1949

Kristian Smidt: *Poetry and Belief in the Work of T.S. Eliot.* (Skrifter utg. av det Norske videnskapsakademi i Oslo, 1949: II, No. 1. 228 pp.) Completely revised edition 1961 (London, Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd., XIV, 258 pp.)

1950

Ingrid Semmingsen: *Veien mot vest.* Vol. II: *Utvandringen fra Norge 1865 — 1915.* [The Road Westward. II: Emigration from Norway 1865 — 1915.1 (Oslo 1950. Aschehoug, 567 pp., pl., ill.)

1962

Gudrun Hovde Gvhle: *O. E. Rølvaag. Nordmann og amerikaner.* [O. E. Rølvaag. Norwegian and American.] (Oslo 1962. Universitetsforlaget, 436 pp.)

1968

Jan W. Dietrichson: *The Image of Money in the American Novel of the Gilded Age*. (Oslo 1968. Universitetsforlaget. IX, 417 pp.) Publ. of the American Institute.  
Helge Normann Nilsen: *Hart Cra-*

*ne's »The Bridge»*. *A Study in Sources and Interpretation*. (Bergen; mimeographed. VII, 396 pp., pl.)  
Per Seyersted: *Kate Chopin. A Critical Biography*. (Oslo 1968. Universitetsforlaget. 246 pp.) Publ. of the American Institute.