

## **Summary of my research**

**Tentative title:** Female Attachment in Contemporary Fiction in English

The main objective of my doctoral dissertation is the analysis of complex female characters and their relationships in a selected corpus of novels, potential choices being Mona Awad's *Bunny* (2019), Eliza Clark's *Boy Parts* (2020), Ottessa Moshfegh's *Eileen* (2015), or Melissa Broder's *Milk Fed* (2021).

Specific objectives include an in-depth study of the tradition of fiction where psychologically complex female characters and relationships represent are central to the story, the analysis of a corpus of contemporary novels of this kind and the detailed study of the theoretical and critical perspectives chosen for the textual analysis.

As critical framework, I am using feminist psychoanalyst Jessica Benjamin's theory of intersubjectivity, which revolves around the process of mutual recognition and is based on the concepts of *recognition* and *destruction*, and her interpretation of the dynamics of domination. Furthermore, I am carrying out my analysis from a gender perspective and therefore will link it with the dynamics of the patriarchal society.