

学位被授与者氏名	福江 由美子 (ふくえ ゆみこ)
論文題目	The Crisis of Masculinity in Raymond Carver's Stories (レイモンド・カーヴァーの小説における男性性の危機)
論文審査結果の要旨	<p>Fukue San read widely in sources related to postwar American society, and explained in a clear way a number of key factors affecting perceptions of men and the ways in which key social changes created a disparity between an ideal of the masculine connected to traditional male pursuits (hunting, fishing, drinking) and the realities of working and domestic life in mid and late-twentieth century America. Fukue San argues that it is this discrepancy which leads to an undercurrent of anxiety and sense of frustration in many of Carver's male characters, and which she sees as a key to understanding a wide array of Carver's fiction. Fukue San offered succinct summaries of the stories she analyzed, identified key aspects of Carver's characters, and used quotations in a manner that supported the points she was making. She showed her familiarity with critical discussion of Carver's work, by both American and Japanese critics, and incorporated critical commentary judiciously and in a way that served to highlight the issues she centered on.</p> <p>This is a generally strong thesis which offers a well-argued and well-documented case for seeing Carver's fiction as a reflection of a broader, culture-wide crisis of masculinity in mid and late-twentieth century America. The thesis was clearly written and well organized, and as Fukue San's discussion moved from one story to the next, her argument gained in force and became more persuasive. She focuses, for the most part, on earlier stories, in which, perhaps, Carver's own anxieties and discontents were expressed, and did not attempt to address the considerable controversy which has surrounded the editing of Carver's early work or Carver's later versions of earlier stories, which reflected a more optimistic frame of mind. But to examine these issues would have, in fact, required another thesis.</p>