

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric
Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: **Tomáš Procházka**
 Title: *Nationalism in Wales*
 Length: 40 pages
 Text Length: 30 pages

Assessment Criteria	Scale	Comments
1. Introduction is well written, brief, interesting, and compelling. It motivates the work and provides a clear statement of the examined issue. It presents and overview of the thesis.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
2. The thesis shows the author's appropriate knowledge of the subject matter through the background/review of literature. The author presents information from a variety of quality electronic and print sources. Sources are relevant, balanced and include critical readings relating to the thesis or problem. Primary sources are included (if appropriate).	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
3. The author carefully analyzed the information collected and drew appropriate and inventive conclusions supported by evidence. Ideas are richly supported with accurate details that develop the main point. The author's voice is evident.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
6. The text is organized in a logical manner. It flows naturally and is easy to follow. Transitions, summaries and conclusions exist as appropriate. The author uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
7. The language use is precise. The student makes proficient use of language in a way that is appropriate for the discipline and/or genre in which the student is writing.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
8. The thesis meets the general requirements (formatting, chapters, length, division into sections, etc.). References are cited properly within the text and a complete reference list is provided.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See comments overleaf.

Final Comments & Questions

This work provides a competent overview of the status of the Welsh language in Wales primarily from a historical perspective. The research might have benefited from a slightly more ambitious approach, venturing beyond statistical data and official government policy in order to investigate more the cultural value of the language for the Welsh people. Of all the Celtic languages spoken in the British Isles, Welsh is by far the most prominent in its respective territory; however, the fact remains that approximately four-fifths of Welsh people do not speak it and, in the context of the author's comments on p. 28, it is perhaps worth noting that not all the hostility comes from the English: Dylan Thomas, for example, arguably Wales's most famous poet, did not hold the Welsh language in high esteem.

Mr Procházka concludes that the Welsh language "has a long and tedious journey ahead with little guarantee of success" (p. 30) but it is not entirely clear in this context what the criteria for assessing success should be – unless, perhaps, the author has in mind ceasing to depend on the "financial dosage" (p. 30) from central government (?). Otherwise an increase amongst the number of young Welsh speakers from 18.8% in 2001 to 23.6% in 2011 (p. 21) should surely provide grounds for cautious optimism.

From the technical point of view the overall impression of the work is slightly marred by the layout, which hardly makes optimum use of the page space available, and the main text could have been improved by a more diligent proof-reading. There is also a minor hiccup in the References, where Chadwick is evidently listed according to the Czech, rather than English, alphabetical order.

Recommended grade: **dobře**

Supervisor: Andrew Tollet

Date: 12th May 2014

Signature:

