

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Thesis Author: JAKUB TOMAN

Title: AMERICAN ROORS MUSIC LEGACY IN THE SONGS OF BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

Length: 62

Text Length: 38

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.	Acceptable	It is very interesting, but not actually brief. The data, numbers and citations used here would be more appropriate at the beginning of the following content chapter.
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).	Very good	The discussion is based on a vast range of both printed and online sources. Primary sources, i.e. lyrics of Springsteen's songs, play an important role as well.
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.	Very good	The author's voice is evident in his analysis of selected texts.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Very good	
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Very good	
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.	Acceptable	Density of information (text is often packed with names of musicians, writers, songs, with years and other numbers) puts demands on the reader's concentration.
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.	Acceptable	Present perfect is used for actions finished in the past – e.g. ...his fame has spread a long time ago ... (p.1)
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.	Very good	

Final Comments & Questions

The thesis provides many interesting facts from Springsteen's life and musical career without slipping into trivialities.

Nevertheless, the core of the thesis seems to be the profound analysis of his two trilogies.

Recommended mark: excellent / very good (depends on the defense)

Questions:

"Alan Lomax, a famous musicologist, can serve as a great example ..." (p.10) - An example of what?

"He is aware that even he is a descendant of immigrants ..." (p.?) - Aren't all white Americans descendants of immigrants?

Reviewer: Libuše Lišková

Date: 12 May 2014

Signature: