

**Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric** (Literature, Cultural Studies)  
 Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia

Author: Lucie Nawaz

Title: British Muslims—Problems of Identity and their Contributions to British Society

Length: 30

Text Length: 37

<i>Assessment Criteria</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Comments</i>
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 <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	While brevity is a virtue this is too brief. It does little to build an argumentative thesis.
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 <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The author seems to have done quite a bit of research, but I wish it had been more fully utilized.
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 <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The author is mostly reporting.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	This is more of a summary of information. It seem page 19 would have been a really good place to tell me what Muslims want me to know as opposed to what the media gives us. Why doesn't the author take on that project?
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	This is a summary of a summary.
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	Outstanding Very good <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient	

author uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	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 <b>Very good</b> 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 <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The References page has many problems with format. While the language is somewhat scholarly I am left wondering, what is the author's point.

Final Comments & Questions

While the author seems to have learned much from her project, she relies far too heavily on her own survey which is by her own admission not large enough to make any definitive conclusions. This survey should have served as anecdotal support for the thesis rather than taking up the lion's share of the matter. The thesis fails to make an argument. It is more of a report. On page 19 the author mentions the problems of perception and the way Muslims are depicted in the media. Why does she not tackle this problem herself? How should Muslims be depicted in the media? What does she think the public should know about Muslims? How should the discourse about Muslims change? Should Muslims occupy a more mainstream position in British society? If so, is this in opposition to Muslims who believe in a separate existence from secular Britain. For instance, is there any way Sharia law can exist alongside regular British law? Or must conservative Muslims choose one or the other? Other than Tikka Masala, what are the major contributions to British culture? While I have learned Muslim, like most immigrants, face terrible discrimination in British culture, has this suffering transformed Britain for the better?

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.d.

Date: 20.8.2012

Signature:

