

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Jan Vaščák

Title: **Portrayal of Women in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales***

Length: 35pp

Text Length: 34pp

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	Admittedly, parts of the thesis digress or go beyond the focus suggested by the title, but they seemed to be a welcome way of putting the <i>Tales</i> into a relevant socio-historical context, which perhaps few students are nowadays aware of and as such, I did not discourage the author from discussing them within the thesis but rather approved of his intention.
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	While the thesis may seem rather conventional or "tame" with respect to the potentially "hot" feminist issue, it should be borne in mind that that its author has not been initiated to the intricacies of literary theory yet...and introducing it in the process of writing his thesis did not seem to be the best occasion ..
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	Outstanding Very good Acceptable	

to follow. Transitions, summaries and conclusions exist as appropriate. The author uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	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	The thesis is littered with errors – in grammar and spelling – and raises the issue of adequate copy-editing of theses. Is this the responsibility of the thesis supervisor, who among other responsibilities will have six or seven other theses to see to submission? Or is it the responsibility of the student? In either case, it is an issue that might be raised at the beginning of supervision of theses.
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	

Final Comments & Questions

The student is to be praised for engaging with such an ambitious subject, but for the reasons outlined above I can recommend no higher grade than **3 (dobře)**.

Reviewer: doc. Justin Quinn Ph.D.

Date: 20 May 2013

Signature:

