

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

Thesis Author: **Vojtěch Sláma**
 Title: *Falklands War*
 Length: 38 pages
 Text Length: 31 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	

Final Comments & Questions

Mr Sláma has produced a generally well researched and highly readable thesis on a topic which still has repercussions today, given the Argentine refusal to acquiesce in a solution allowing the UK permanent control of the Falkland Islands. The 1982 conflict was significant not only for the military operation itself but also for what subsequently became known as the “Falklands Factor”, a phenomenon which caused a massive turnaround in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher’s popularity ratings and enabled her to win a second term of office in the subsequent 1983 UK general election.

With this in mind, there may be some substance to the suggestion that the British response to Argentine aggression “was shaped by the domestic political and economic situation rather than by the will to protect its citizens” (p. 31). Further on the same page, however, Mr Sláma notes that “the islanders still want to stay British”, which was always Mrs Thatcher’s primary argument for sending a task force to the South Atlantic: as she expressed in a parliamentary speech immediately after the invasion: “The wishes of the islanders must be paramount.”

The question thus remains as to whether Mrs Thatcher’s opting to fight was indeed a last desperate roll of the dice before her despised government disappeared into oblivion ... or the courageous decision of a gut-instinct politician who was determined, no matter how absurd her decision might have appeared to a neutral observer, to “put the great back into Great Britain”.

Recommended grade: **velmi dobře**

Supervisor: Andrew Tollet

Date: 12th May 2014

Signature:

