

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Kateřina Cvachová

Title: Nature, Revenge and Love in Hamlet

Length: 43

Text Length: 46

<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 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

The author is to be congratulated on her hard work and the depth of her knowledge. I have a slight complaint about the simplicity of the title and thus the argumentative thesis as well as the conclusion. That the play *Hamlet* is about Love and Revenge is not in dispute. That is obvious, so instead of separating the thesis is two parts, I wish the author could have presented more of a synthesis about how love and revenge work in tandem. Regardless, the author has presented a very convincing close reading, which is a rare accomplishment for a bachelor student, especially when the text is as demanding as Shakespeare. For the most part her eye is faultless, and I will only quibble over one or two points. It seems to me when discussing the ghost of Hamlet's father, you should have really discussed the possibility that the ghost is not as ghost at all but an evil spirit that will lead Hamlet suicide or murder and therefore damn his own soul. Hamlet is worried about this throughout act one. Only when he sees the Murder of Gonzgo is he convinced the ghost is really his father. When the ghost returns to "whet" Hamlet's blunted purpose, it is because he is threatening his mother whom the ghost has ordered to "leave to heaven". At this point in the pay, Hamlet has failed to live out the ghost's two orders: Kill your uncle, leave your mother alone. Most importantly I feel the discussion of the Oedipus Complex is very anachronistic. Shakespeare did not amazingly anticipated the Oedipus Complex three hundred years before Freud. Freud has clearly based the Oedipus Complex on Hamlet and it would have been very helpful if the author had read and incorporated Freud's essay on *Hamlet* in his *Interpretation of Dream*. I would have been interested to learn if the author agrees with Freud that Hamlet sometimes sympathizes with Claudius (such as when he prays in the chapel) because on some primal level they both wanted to kill the king. Otherwise, this was an excellent thesis aside from a few problems with the short quotations and the format of the References page. I recommend the grade of excellent.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice

Date: 13. 05.2016

Signature:

