

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

Thesis Author: Vojtěch Brůha

Title: *The Development of African-American' Status in the Twentieth Century*

Length: 39

Text Length: 44

| 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 | The thesis was well research and shows evidence of wide reading and research. |
| 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 | Many times I felt this was historical journalism rather than argument driven academic writing. |
| 4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information. | Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient | The thinking is not simplistic as the issues are very complicated and complex, but as stated above the writing is rarely argumentative. |

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|---|---|---|
| 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 | Again, the conclusion is functional but doesn't really bring new insight. It is indeed logical and summarizes but not more. |
| 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 | There are still some problems with syntax, verbs conjugation, etc. |
| 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 his effort. The thesis is long and substantial and shows great depth of research and hard work. The history of the African-American plight is rendered in great detail. But the author's writing is not really argumentative. I felt the author could do a lot more explaining about the historical and social context of racism and even more with the gaining of equality, perhaps focusing on the "legality" of slavery, racism, etc. Since racism was legally enshrined in American law this was eventually the means by which racism became not only "illegal" but also "unconstitutional". Still one can't help but admire the hard work and dedication this author has put into this undertaking and for this he deserves praise.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 21.05.2012

Signature:



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