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

Thesis Author: Jan Hartman

Title:

Protest in Songs of Bob Dylan from the 1960s

Length:

66

Text Length:

32

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	The intro. Is substantial.	
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 is well researched.	
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	The author is particularly good at close reading of the songs as well as argumentative analysis.	
4.	The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	See above.	
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	Similar to the introduction	
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,	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	There are a number of minor spelling, grammar, and format errors, still the work overall is much to be admired.	

	grammar, and punctuation.		
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 language is suitable academic and at times quite masterful in putting the subject matter into perspective.
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	There is much to be admired in the thesis.

Final Comments & Questions

Though there are some minor format and spelling mistake there is much to be admired in thesis. While I expected to learn about American culture through the biography of Bob Dylan-- probably the greatest mid-20th Century icon of popular music-- I was surprised at how skilled the author was an unraveling the ironies and ambiguities of Dylan's. In effect, the author performs something of a new critical close reading of the songs and this brought a level of detail to the thesis that was quite pleasurable and adds a literary quality to this cultural studies diploma.

Supervisor Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 21.05.2012

Signature:

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