

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

Thesis Author: *Věra Hrušková*

Title: The Black Slaves in the Antebellum Period

Length: 39

Text Length: 36

<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	The thesis never really rises above summary to argument.
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	It is very well research though sometime the author doesn't reference information that does not appear in quotations.
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	Arguments and conclusions are still a problem for the text.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	It is not simplistic but it rarely rises above summary.
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	I think the author is a very good writer.

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 great.
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

Aside from the fact that the author was never able to mount an argument in the thesis, the work is still rather impressive as a sort of historical report. I expect the overall grade of this thesis will be hotly debated (though certainly passing) as the writing and research is so professional but the deployment of research leaves something to be desired and the student ultimately never provides an argument which is the point of academic writing.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 21.05.2012

Signature:



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