

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Michal Votřel

Title: The Life and Times of the Great Sioux Nation

Length: 44pp

Text Length: 38pp

<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	<p>The thesis aims to give a general overview of the history of the Sioux nation. There is no argument. For the most part, he does not take a position on the issues. This is done in a fairly objective way. But a problem arises with sources.</p> <p>While the student does draw on a wide range of of print and electronic sources, often the provenance of the electronic sources is questionable – see, for instance, the four below. One of these, Frank's Realm, assures us that the website has "no bullshit" in it. I would like to know how the student assessed these sources for – to quote Frank – "bullshit".</p> <p>http://www.ilhawaii.net , http://www.theosophy-nw.org http://1onewolf.com/lakota/ www.franksrealm.com/</p>
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	See pt. 2 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	
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	Insofar as this is a chronological account of the Sioux, the organization is logical.
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	Intext references to electronic sources are given incorrectly throughout (often the full website is provided). This doesn't adhere to APA. Also, in the References list, articles are incorrectly italicized. Frequently the punctuation around intext references is incorrect.

Final Comments & Questions

The thesis gives a lively and fairly interesting account of the history of the Sioux nation, but there are serious problems with the academic approach taken by the student, and frequent formal shortcomings. I look forward to hearing the student's response to the points above at the defence.

Supervisor/Reviewer: doc. Justin Quinn Ph.D.

Date: 12 May 2014

Signature:

