

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

Thesis

Author: *Petra Vacková*

Title: Native Americans: History and its Consequences in Modern American Society

Length: 30

Text Length 36

<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Comments</b>
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 <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	The introduction is much to broad and fails to make an 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 <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	The authors has a wide variety of sources and knows a lot about her subject, but she fails to say anything original.
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 <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	The author does very little analysis.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	This is mostly a summary of information.
5. Conclusion effectively restates the argument. It summarizes the main findings and follows logically from the analysis presented.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable <b>Somewhat deficient</b> Very deficient	The conclusion is a summary of a summary and gives us little to think about.
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	Outstanding <b>Very good</b> Acceptable Somewhat deficient	

author uses standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation.	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 <b>Very good</b> 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 <b>Acceptable</b> Somewhat deficient Very deficient	

#### Final Comments & Questions

While the author has done a lot of work and I cannot help but be impressed with the amount of research she has done, but there is no effort to organize her knowledge into an argument. I am particularly confused by the literature portion at the end and how that relates to her thesis. Thematic organization is a problem. The subject is just too big. The author stands on fairly solid ground when writing about prehistoric times but the thesis fall apart when trying to distinguish one tribe or Native American civilization from the other. In short, if the title of the diploma work was *Native Europeans: History and its Consequences*, the work would have been equally too broad. I wish I had more contact with the student during the diploma composition I may have been able to steer her in a more specific direction.

Supervisor/Reviewer: Brad Vice, Ph.D.

Date: 20.06.2012

Signature:

