

Undergraduate Thesis Assessment Rubric

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

Thesis Author: Jan KLATOVSKÝ

Title: Historical Development of British Conservative Party

Length: 34

Text Length: 31

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	Brief ... but not really much compelling, rather vague ... there may be few sources in Czech – but the thesis is written in English – perhaps unfortunately (on the world, since the present, of the Great Britain) ... so what is the relevance of the remark...?
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 reads more like a chronological survey of the party's development, there is not much critical reading involved.
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	Perhaps this is given by the nature of the topic, it may be a task for a student of political science to analyze the information presented and draw conclusions ... but the the author's voice is not really very significant in this work.
4. The thesis displays critical thinking and avoids simplistic description or summary of information.	Outstanding Very good Acceptable Somewhat deficient Very deficient	
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	Rather brief. What was actually the argument? No re-stating. Unfortunately, the conclusion does not make much sense. And the last sentence of the thesis sounds really rather odd.
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	Admittedly, there is an undeniable logic in chronological re-telling of the party's history, but somehow it does not make it a satisfactory thesis to read.
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	Marred by inconsistant use of capitalization and use of articles, e.g. (the) P/parliament, P/prime M/minister, interference of Czech namely in parts with no sources used.
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	Hardly any sources mentioned have page reference, pagination starts on the contents page, references page does not have the standard form.

Final Comments & Questions

Despite obvious effort involved in the compilation of the thesis, the text presented seems to me rather unsatisfactory both, content-wise and as far as the format is concerned. Suggested grade 3 (dobře) – providing the oral defense sounds convincing.

Reviewer: Magdaléna Potočňáková, Ph.D.

Date: 19. 8. 2013

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'MP' followed by a stylized flourish.