

KATEDRA ANGLISTIKY A AMERIKANISTIKY FF UP V OLOMOUCI
Hodnocení bakalářské práce

Autor: Michal VAŠEK

Název práce: Impact of James Fenimore Cooper's work on the work of Karl May and Zane Grey

Vedoucí práce: Prof. PhDr. Michal Peprník, Dr.

Oponent: PhDr. Matthew Sweney, Ph.D.

	Hodnocení A, B, C, D, E, F (nevyhovující)	Poznámky
1/ Cíl - záměr: vymezení	B	Good topic
splnění	D	Mostly described are characters and plot – not so much themes and bigger questions: namely, how they deal with the American West.
2/ Argumentace (schopnost formulovat východiska a závěry, logická koherence, schopnost generalizace a konkretizace)	D	Not much argumentation here, the candidate describes the characters and plot, but there is an obvious lack of theory here
3/ Znalost primární literatury	A	The candidate seems very familiar with the novels
4/ Znalost sekundární literatury (rozsah, adekvátnost)	E	There is a sorry lack of theoretical material on the American West and the genre of Westerns (although a certain Olomouc expert on JFC is quoted).
5/ Samostatnost (schopnost odborné polemiky, kritický úsudek), originalita	B	This clearly represents the author's own work and conclusions.
6/ Formální úroveň (dodržování zvolené bibliografické normy)	A	
7/ Jazyková a stylistická úroveň práce	B	
8/ Jazyková a stylistická úroveň resumé	N/A	
9/ Typografické provedení, úprava		No problems
10/ Poznámka k práci		See below

Připomínky a otázky k obhajobě:

The candidate has chosen three classic examples of the Western, two from American sources (19th and 20th century) and one from European sources: Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*, May's *Winnetou*, and Grey's *Riders of the Purple Sage*.

Mr. Vašek does a good job at describing the major characters and plots of the novels, but not at analyzing them: i.e. why are their differences important?

What is missing here, most of all, is the historical context – in all its facets. For example, the timeline in terms of publication is not discussed at all. When were these books first published (not stated in the text)? What was happening at that time? –i.e., placing the books into the period (and place!) in which they were written.....

In addition, the candidate does not discuss the themes he himself brings up – especially, race, in the case of Cooper; and religion, in the case of Grey. The way genre fiction deals with such issues is of major importance to cultural studies.

Nor is reader response mentioned – these three are all best-selling authors, whose writing was not much appreciated by critics. They obviously knew their readers and what their readers wanted – which was...?

1. What was the date of the first German publication of *The Last of the Mohicans*? What do you make of this fact?

2. On page 13, you quote Nina Baym's article "The Women of Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales", but you do not go into any details – !. What is her view of Cooper's women? And as a follow-up, the Western is considered a "male" genre: what do feminist critics have to say about it? (And do you care?)

3. On page 23, you state that *Riders of the Purple Sage* has no Native characters. What do you make of that?

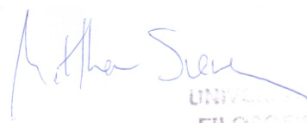
4. The three authors were all rather extraordinary men – how do you think their own characters influenced their writing?

Závěr:

Práce je ~~není~~ doporučena k obhajobě.

Navržený klasifikační stupeň: D

V Olomouci dne 9. 5. 2019


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~~Vedoucí~~ – oponent bakalářské práce