



Filozofická  
fakulta

PALACKÝ UNIVERSITY IN OLOMOUC  
CHAIR FOR DUTCH STUDIES FACULTY OF ARTS

Prof. dr. Hubert van den Berg

Křížkovského 10, 771 80 Olomouc

Tel.: +420 585 633 270, email: [hubert.vandenberg@upol.cz](mailto:hubert.vandenberg@upol.cz)

Author of the thesis	Barbora Hejdušková
Field of Study	Nizozemská filologie
Title of the work	<i>Het korte leven van Gilbert van Schoonbeke</i> <i>The short life of Gilbert van Schoonbeke</i>
Type of thesis (bachelor, master)	Bachelor thesis – 67 pages
Thesis tutor	Prof. dr. Hubert van den Berg
Thesis reviewer	Prof. dr. Wilken Engelbrecht
<b>BASIC REVIEW CRITERIA</b>	
Ranking (A – B – C – D – E – F)	
The chosen theme of the thesis is in accordance with the content	A (excellent work – výborně): content fully in accordance with the subject indicated in the title and introduction.
<b>Aim of the thesis</b>	
Level of the thesis in comparison with the aim	B (better than average – výborně minus): the thesis elaborates the given aim in a satisfying way from an academic perspective.
In how far is the aim reached?	B (better than average – výborně minus)
Correct interpretation of the problem in the thesis conclusions	B (better than average – výborně minus): The thesis offers in by and large well-structured way a brief account of the life and work of Gilbert van Schoonbeke and his role in the early history of the town of Veenendaal. In some aspects, the focus could be better and irrelevant information is offered. However, the author resolves some dating discrepancies, which compensate these flaws.
<b>Providing of the thesis</b>	
Structure of the thesis and its logical way of presentation	A (excellent work – výborně). The structure of the thesis is well considered and logical both in its division of the argument in four chapters and in the subdivision in paragraphs, all fitting to the argument of the thesis.
Processing of the theoretic premissions	A (excellent work – výborně)
Adequate chosen method and technique of thesis processing	A (excellent work – výborně)
Use of actual literature and sources	C (very good – velmi dobře): The author uses only to a very limited extent recent literature, but draws widely on elder literature devoted to the subject.
Use of literature and sources in foreign languages	A (excellent work – výborně). A substantial part of the used literature is in Dutch and in other languages.

<b>Form</b>	
Linguistic level of the thesis (style, orthography)	D (average – velmi dobře minus): Given the fact that the author is not a native speaker of the Dutch language with a Slavic

	linguistic background and her parallel study of German (causing interferences and false friends in her Dutch), the thesis gives proof of a reasonable command of the Dutch language on B2 level in CEFR terms, though throughout the submitted final version of the thesis before final corrections with frequent avoidable orthographic mistakes/typo's as well as unnecessary inconsistencies
Way of quoting <sup>ii</sup>	A (excellent work – výborně): Hitherto common citation ways are used in a consistent way. As far as the author does not use the recently prescribed standards, her deviations have consistency.
Coherent way of quoting works?	Yes
Adequate graphic layout of the thesis (adherence to recommended writing guidelines) <sup>iii</sup>	A (excellent work – výborně). Layout is adequate and consistent.
Adequate range of the thesis	The range is 67 pages (51 pages own text). The range fulfills the norms a BA thesis.
<b>SPECIFIC REVIEW CRITERIA</b>	<i>Grading (high – average – low)</i>
Contribution to the field of Dutch Studies?	Average. The thesis is by and large a resumé of elder literature on Gilbert van Schoonbeke. As for the local history of Veenendaal, it resolves some dating issues.
Contribution to the practice of Dutch Studies?	Low
<b>OTHER REVIEW CRITERIA</b>	<i>Grading (high – average – low)</i>
Authorial invention (originality in processing the thesis, interest in the problem)	Average. The author has chosen an already well-documented, yet historiographically complex subject, adding a contribution of her own by resolving some dating issues.
<b>GENERAL ASSESSION OF THE THESIS (in words)</b>	
As indicated above, the BA thesis has some flaws, but meets basic standards and might have some relevance for historiography concerning Veenendaal.	
<b>QUESTIONS FOR THE THESIS DEFENSE AND OTHER REMARKS</b>	
<p>1. Gilbert van Schoonbeke was extremely focused on making the highest possible profits, expanding his ventures to the peat trade and the Veenendaal area, since - as the storyline goes - his expenses for peat as fuel were higher than his expenses for wages. To what extent does this decision by Van Schoonbeke say something about the price of peat and to what extent about the way he paid his labourers?</p> <p>2. Veenendaal is nowadays located in the fundamentalist Calvinist Dutch Bible belt; Antwerp was initially one of the major centers of the reformation with a strong Anabaptist leaning. Van Schoonbeke did business with the Habsburg emperor Charles V, who saw himself as defender of Catholicism. Obviously, religion is a major issue in the years, when Van Schoonbeke had his heydays as entrepreneur. You mention these religious issues in the sideline, but weren't they relevant for Van Schoonbeke's ventures as well?</p> <p>3. You point at discrepancies in the historiography of Veenendaal concerning the actual years, in which the so-called Rijn- and Zuiderzee-octrooi were signed. Regarding years found in historical literature, this literature seems to be univocal, according to your thesis. But - as it comes discrepancies to the so-called Easter style (used in the 16th century and before) and our</p>	

current-day New Year style - aren't there more years in dates found in historical literature on the subject you dealt with, which might need a correction?		
<b>CONCLUSION</b>		
I RECOMMEND the thesis for defense. I would like to propose the grade: <b>B (better than average – výborně minus)</b>		
In Olomouc, 15.05.2018	Sign: <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="height: 40px; width: 100px;"></td></tr></table>	

<sup>i</sup> Ranking scale: the marks A, B, C, D, E, F are corresponding with the Study Code of Palacký University. Expressed in words: A (*excellent work – výborně*), B (*better than average – výborně minus*), C (*very good – velmi dobře*), D (*average – velmi dobře minus*), E (*below average – dobře*), F (*failed – nevyhověl*).

<sup>ii</sup> The citation norm as used at the Chair is decisive.

<sup>iii</sup> Recommended layout: Editing opening pages, keeping font size and type, editing spreadsheets and graphs, interactive content, list of attachments, pictures, graphs in the final part of the work, etc. See *Dutch Style sheet*