



Faculty of Arts, Bachelor's Thesis

Thesis Reviewer's report

Thesis Title: The Strange Case of Mr Ian Rankin and Detective Inspector John Rebus
Field of Study: FF B-FI AJ kombin. [sem 7, cyk 1]
Department: Department of English and American Studies
Author: Kateřina Adamcová
Supervisor: Stephen Paul Hardy, Ph.D.
Reviewer: Mgr. Vital Voranau

Reviewer's recommendation for overall mark: C

- 1. Evaluation of central idea, thesis, focus and purpose: C**
- 2. Evaluation of organization, logic and arrangement: D**
- 3. Evaluation of topic development, support and evidence: D**
- 4. Evaluation of language, style, standard usage, citation and bibliographic standards: C**

Comments and/or topics and questions for the thesis defence:

This thesis attempts to classify the writings of a contemporary Scottish author Ian Rankin. Mr Rankin draws inspiration from Scottish detective story, gothic dualism and Edinburgh as a place of contrasts to name a few immediate sources. Mrs. Adamcova's thesis is based on a thorough and extensive reading of Rankin which is not lacking in an authentic keenness for the author. However, the thesis statement is too general and this throws a shadow on the whole diploma paper. Showing that Rankin has been influenced by Stevenson and some other Scottish writers is a mere following of John Scaggs and some other commentators, without much original challenge or argument. That is why instead of an in-depth analysis, the thesis reads as a well-written summary of a John Rebus' plot stories with increasingly repetitive references to secondary sources. At one point these arguments become circular assumptions which are adequately rendered but never appropriately explained.

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