



## POSUDEK OPONENTA DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

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Studijní obor: **Anglická a americká literatura (dvouoborové navazující studium)**

Název práce: **The Conception of Time in Virginia Woolf's Novels in Relation to the Narrative Techniques Used by the Author**

Autorka práce: **Bc. Veronika Geyerová**

Vedoucí diplomové práce: **doc. PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, Ph.D.**

Oponent diplomové práce: **Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Ph.D. et Th.D.**

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### Short characteristics of the thesis

Veronika Geyerová's thesis deals with the different concepts of time in Virginia Woolf's novels and links them to the author's narrative techniques. After a short introduction, the thesis progresses chronologically from the discussion of the early novels (*The Voyage Out*, *Night and Day* and *Jacob's Room*) to Woolf's chefs-de-oeuvre (*Mrs Dalloway*, *To the Light*, *Orlando*, *The Waves*) and, finally, the late novels (*The Years* and *Between the Acts*). Veronika's main focus is the tension and the unity of the various concepts of time we find in Woolf's work and the inseparable, organic unity between time and narration in her novels. The thesis is a combination of a thematic study of Woolf's novels and the philosophical questions related to it, esp. the issue of identity, concepts of reality and the relation between subjectivity and objectivity.

### Overall assessment

The topic Veronika has chosen is a challenging one because it includes the discussion of the various conceptions of time and human subjectivity found in the philosophical discourse around the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The thesis thus incorporates analyses of such authors as H. Bergson and W. James, and the late 20<sup>th</sup> century study of "Time and Narrative" written by Paul Ricoeur. Indeed, the issue of time and narrativity is a crucial, defining problem in modernist literature and culture, because of its relation to the concepts of truth and identity.

Veronika's analysis is not just a meticulous, well-prepared and enthusiastic reading of the major works of V. Woolf but also a courageous confrontation with some of the troubling issues of modern identity, such as transience, instability and relativity. As such, the study fulfils the expectations one may have on a M.A. thesis. Indeed, it would be interesting to compare the modernist and earlier concept of time and narrativity as well as the relation between e.g. narrativity and truth in the development of the novel up to the rise of modernism. These questions may serve as suggestions for a discussion at the defence.

I **do** recommend the thesis for defence.

Suggested classification: **excellent (výborně)**

7. 6. 2017

Datum

  
Podpis