

## POSUDEK DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE

*Jméno a příjmení studenta:* Bc. Kamila Beníčková  
*Název diplomové práce:* The Animal and Human World in Cormac McCarthy and Jack London's Works/ Svět zvířat a lidí v dílech Cormaca McCarthyho a Jacka Londona  
*Vedoucí diplomové práce:* PhDr. Alice Sukdolová, Ph.D.  
*Oponent diplomové práce:* PhDr. Kamila Vránková, Ph.D.

I. Cíl práce a jeho naplnění:

1. Cíl práce byl stanoven a naplněn v souladu s tématem
- ~~2. Cíl práce byl adekvátní, ale jen částečně naplněný~~
- ~~3. Stanovený cíl nebyl naplněn~~

II. Struktura práce:

1. Logická, jasná a přehledná
- ~~2. Přiměřená~~
- ~~3. Nevhodná~~

III. Práce s literaturou:

1. Výborná: zvoleny a použity vhodné prameny v patřičném rozsahu, přesná práce s citacemi, kritická analýza zdrojů
- ~~2. Velmi dobrá práce s adekvátními prameny v patřičném rozsahu~~
- ~~3. Průměrná práce s literaturou~~
- ~~4. Slabá, chybná nebo nedostačující~~

IV. Prezentace a interpretace dat:

1. Systematická, logická prezentace, originální a důsledná interpretace
- ~~2. Dobrá prezentace dat, úspěšný pokus o jejich interpretaci~~
- ~~3. Neodpovídající prezentace, nedostatečná analýza výsledků~~

V. Formální stránka:

1. Odpovídá všem stanoveným požadavkům
2. Obsahuje drobné formální chyby
- ~~3. Nesplňuje některé stanovené požadavky~~
- ~~4. Nesplňuje většinu stanovených požadavků~~

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>VI. Jazyk práce:</u>                  | a) Po stránce stylistické                                                                                                                            | 1) výborná<br><del>2) velmi dobrá</del><br><del>3) nevyhovující</del> |
|                                          | b) Po stránce lexikálně-gramatické                                                                                                                   | 1) výborná<br><del>2) velmi dobrá</del><br><del>3) nevyhovující</del> |
| <u>VII. Náročnost zpracování tématu:</u> | 1. Vysoká<br><del>2. Střední</del><br><del>3. Nízká</del>                                                                                            |                                                                       |
| <u>VIII. Přínosy práce:</u>              | 1. Originální zpracování a názory, předkládá nová zjištění<br><del>2. Průměrné</del><br><del>3. Nedostatečné, práce nemá jasný přínos pro obor</del> |                                                                       |

Vyjádření vedoucí diplomové práce:

In her diploma thesis, Kamila Beníčková decided to explore the theme of the animal and human world in the works of American naturalism of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. She included the works of the contemporary author Cormac McCarthy in the context of her analysis as McCarthy seemed to continue the extensive interest of American writers in nature and the animal-human world confrontation in the 1990s. In the introductory part of her thesis, she offers a detailed characteristics of American naturalism, using relevant and appropriate secondary sources (H. Bloom, Zhang, Binford, Campbell, Kollin). As an integral part of the introduction, Cormac McCarthy is placed in the context of American Western literature which, according to the author of the thesis, reflects on environmental changes and subsequent human responses of the problematics. McCarthy is viewed as an author of post-apocalyptic fiction which is partly relevant also in the interpretation of the so-called border trilogy written by the author in the 1990s.

The following chapters of the thesis focus on selected biographical facts of Jack London and C. McCarthy which are relevant to the literary analysis further on. This part, carefully written with a hint of Kamila's enthusiasm about the topic, is partially based on Irving Stone's fictional biography of Jack London, apart from other sources (Foner, Steffoff, Etulain, Walker), providing appropriate and formally correct citations. Jack London's short adventurous life and extensive literary career is further confronted with the context of American literature and London's life philosophy and literary influences (Kipling). This chapter draws upon a number of secondary sources which will be used as a starting point of the core of the thesis' literary analysis.

The life and works of Cormac McCarthy are divided into three literary periods according to the author's early fiction, studies, the top of his literary career and his attachment to the region of the American West. In the context of American literature, McCarthy seems to be influenced by the tradition of Southern Gothic with an emphasis on masculinity, death, cruelty and violence. The thesis also analyses McCarthy's language and specific literary style, under the influence of W. Faulkner. The core of the thesis offers a carefully written literary analyses of Jack London's works *The Call of the Wild* and a short story *To Build a Fire* with respect to the tradition of American naturalism, concentrating namely on the theme of the

occurrence of animals accompanying humans in wilderness. These postulates are further compared with Cormac McCarthy's approach to the topic in his novels of the "border trilogy," including an ecocritical reading of McCarthy's works (Dash).

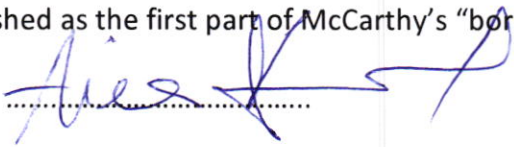
Kamila Beníčková showed overall and thorough knowledge of both primary and secondary sources, using appropriate level of English both in the form, content and academic style of the thesis. Her own original analyses are well-written and cover the themes in an appropriate length with respect to the specific field of interest.

Práce splňuje všechny požadavky kladené na tento typ prací, a proto ji doporučuji k ústní obhajobě.

Navrhovaná klasifikace: 1. výborně

Otázky k obhajobě:

1. How does McCarthy respond to the environmental changes and ecological matters through his literary works? Would it make a difference had we considered such dramatic changes in Jack London's works in the beginning of the 20th century?
2. Which of the works of the two authors seems to be the one that explores the topic of the disappearance of the traditional understanding of the American Wild West and the Frontier most intensively?
3. When was *The Crossing* published as the first part of McCarthy's "border trilogy"?

Podpis vedoucí diplomové práce: 

Datum: 21. 7. 2022