

**CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE**  
**Faculty of Social Sciences**  
**Institute of International Studies**

**PROTOCOL ON DIPLOMA THESIS ASSESSMENT**  
**(Supervisor)**

Name of the student: **Stephanie Marie Shattuck**

Title: **Creating and Preserving Community: Czech Americans in Omaha, Nebraska.**

Supervisor: **Kateřina Králová**

**1. TOPIC AND OBJECTIVE:**

The thesis focuses on the Czech diaspora in Omaha, Nebraska, examining its historical development, cultural preservation, public representation, and future prospects. By utilizing interviews and archival research, Shattuck addresses the evolution of the Omaha Czech community, its strategies for maintaining its ethnic heritage, the image it projects to the public, and the challenges it faces. She argues that generational shifts, conflicts between community organizations, and financial issues pose significant obstacles to the community's vitality.

**2. CONTENT:**

The structure of the thesis is well-organized, incorporating interviews and archival research to construct a fragmented microhistory of the community. The study is grounded in memory and diaspora studies, drawing upon relevant theoretical frameworks to examine the complex dynamics at play. The methodological backing includes interviews with community members as well as the use of other sources to trace the historical trajectory of the community. Overall, the thesis represents a nice contribution to the field, offering valuable insights into the Czech diaspora in Omaha and shedding some light on the broader dynamics of diasporic communities in the United States.

**3. FORMAL ASPECTS AND LANGUAGE:**

Shattuck pays close attention to formal aspects, including the reference style that enhances the scholarly credibility. However, there is some room for improvement in terms of language usage. While the content is clear and coherent, incorporating more sophisticated vocabulary and refining the academic style would further elevate the thesis, ensuring a more engaging and authoritative presentation of the research findings.

**4. STATEMENT ON THE ORIGINALITY OF THE THESIS:**

The thesis was checked by the **Turnitin** anti-plagiarism software (12% similarity) and is fully in accordance with academic standards.

**5. SHORT COMMENTS BY THE REVIEWER:**

The thesis provides a comprehensive analysis with valuable insights into the Czech diaspora in Omaha, NE. The research objective is achieved through a well-structured examination of the community, highlighting generational shifts, organizational conflicts, and financial constraints as key obstacles to its vitality. However, the range of sources somewhat limited, and could have been expanded by going beyond the fragmented community archives (city/regional/national archives, and/or social networks) to provide a more comprehensive and diverse perspective on the subject. Nonetheless, the thesis successfully contributes to the field, shedding light on the dynamics of the Czech diaspora in Omaha and its implications for diasporic communities in the United States.

**6. COOPERATION WITH THE SUPERVISOR:**

Shattuck demonstrated exceptional work discipline and maintained open and effective communication with her supervisor throughout the research process. She reflected on and incorporated feedback and comments, showing a willingness to adapt her original intentions when necessary.

**7. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED DURING THE DEFENCE:**

- Why is it important to study Omaha Czech community?
- Could you bring similar examples of diaspora communities in Nebraska?

**8. (NON-)RECOMMENDATION AND SUGGESTED GRADE:**

The work is a quality piece that would merit a strong **B**.

Date: June 6, 2023

Signature: