

UNIVERZITA KARLOVA V PRAZE
Fakulta sociálních věd
Institut mezinárodních studií

PROTOKOL O HODNOCENÍ BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE
(Posudek oponenta)

Práci předložil(a) student(ka): **Filip Kubeš**

Název práce: **Vývoj afroamerické menšiny v Atlantě**

Oponoval (u externích oponentů uveďte též adresu a funkci v rámci instituce):

Doc. PhDr. Francis D. Raška, PhD.

1. OBSAH A CÍL PRÁCE (stručná informace o práci, formulace cíle): The purpose of this B.A. dissertation is to discuss the factors that led African-Americans to want to live in Atlanta and how these factors came about. This can be determined by means of a thorough analysis of Atlanta's development as a city. The factors need to be placed in context as some factors facilitated the development of others.

2. VĚCNÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (náročnost, tvůrčí přístup, argumentace, logická struktura, teoretické a metodologické ukotvení, práce s prameny a literaturou, vhodnost příloh apod.): This work has been properly researched and analyzed. The logic and argumentation are sound and the sources consulted are adequate for a B.A. dissertation. However, there is too much description and too little analysis throughout the work.

3. FORMÁLNÍ A JAZYKOVÉ ZPRACOVÁNÍ (jazykový projev, správnost citace a odkazů na literaturu, grafická úprava, formální náležitosti práce apod.): The language used is acceptable and sources are properly cited. I only wish that the author had used double-spacing. Also, the chapters could be better and more imaginatively organized.

4. STRUČNÝ KOMENTÁŘ HODNOTITELE (celkový dojem z bakalářské práce, silné a slabé stránky, originalita myšlenek, naplnění cíle apod.):

Filip Kubeš has selected the topic of Atlanta and the place of African-Americans in the city as the topic of his B.A. dissertation. The work contains an Introduction, six main chapters, and a Conclusion. Filip has made use of both printed and online sources, all of which are aptly cited in the treatise. The subject is very interesting and thought-provoking, even though I wonder whether it is completely appropriate for the Institute of International Studies. However, this in no way detracts from the capabilities of the author. It is not my place to question what is appropriate and inappropriate at the Institute of International Studies.

In the Introduction, Filip refers to Atlanta as the "Black Mecca" of the United States. This is despite the fact that Jim Crow laws existed in the state of Georgia until the 1960s. Filip provides some basic demographic information and he states that the work is chronological. He even evaluates some sources, which is a good thing. What is lacking in the Introduction, unfortunately, is a breakdown of the following chapters. This is a weakness, but not a fatal one for the work.

Chapter 1 provides a very brief history of the city of Atlanta and the growth of the African-American population in the city. The chapter is very brief and I wonder whether this information could not have been placed in the Introduction.

Chapter 2 discusses the era of Reconstruction and its impact on Atlanta. Here, Filip also mentions the universities founded in Atlanta only for African Americans. Though such universities were also established in other cities, nowhere do they appear in such numbers as in Atlanta. He mentions Northern philanthropy as the source of the financing. As is the case with the first chapter, I wonder whether it would not be better to include this information elsewhere. Though the facts presented are surely accurate, this chapter (like Chapter 1) reads like some high school report.

Chapter 3 bears the title "The First Half of the Twentieth Century." Filip rightly points to Atlanta's growing economic importance. He also describes the way official segregation worked. He mentions the African-American entrepreneur, Alonzo Herndon, on the one hand, and white KKK-affiliated politicians on the other. Also, the NAACP was located in Atlanta and the city was home to Martin Luther King, Jr. and his family. By 1933, though African-Americans made up a third of all people in Atlanta, only six percent of registered voters in the city were black. This gave rise to the establishment of other African-American interest organizations.

In Chapter 4, Filip analyzes the 1940s and 1950s and calls these two decades the era of gradual changes. Basically, a coalition of wealthier white Atlantans and liberal-minded (opportunistic) politicians forced moderation. Worthy of mention are Mayor William Hartsfield (who was quite opportunistic) and Coca Cola CEO Robert Woodruff.

Chapter 5 deals with the “stormy 1960s.” Basically, the federal courts ordered Atlanta desegregation in the early 1960s. The African-American population became more bold and Hartsfield’s mayoral successors were careful not to ignore black voters. Filip is right when he cites the fear of business leaders that continued discriminatory policies in Atlanta could have damaged its economic standing among cities.

In Chapter 6, Filip scrutinizes the massive changes that befell Atlanta in the 1970s. First of all, the election of Jimmy Carter as governor of Georgia ushered in a new era. This was followed by the election of Atlanta’s first African-American mayor, Maynard Jackson. This ushered in a new era of blacks being in positions of power and Atlanta’s population becoming predominantly African-American thanks to the departure of whites to the suburbs. Since then, the city has undergone ups and downs and has attracted African-Americans from elsewhere due to good job opportunities.

The Conclusion represents a recapitulation of the main points and it gives credit to Mayor Hartsfield and his liberal ideas to opening up Atlanta politically.

I must say that this dissertation has been both interesting and disappointing. It is obvious that Filip conducted plenty of research and knows his facts. Unfortunately, he has not analyzed his data sufficiently and shown its relevance. The overall organization of the work leaves much to be desired. I recommend a mark between **velmi dobře (2) and dobře (3)** depending on the oral defense.

5. OTÁZKY A PŘIPOMÍNKY DOPORUČENÉ K BLIŽŠÍMU VYSVĚTLENÍ PŘI OBHAJOBĚ (jedna až tři):

1. Is Atlanta really a model for other American cities?
2. What has the impact of other minorities been on Atlanta?

6. DOPORUČENÍ / NEDOPORUČENÍ K OBHAJOBĚ A NAVRHOVANÁ ZNÁMKA

(výborně, **velmi dobře, dobře**, nevyhověl): **VELMI DOBŘE až DOBŘE**

Datum: 6.6.2014

Podpis:

Pozn.: Hodnocení píše k jednotlivým bodům, pokud nepíšete v textovém editoru, použijte při nedostatku místa zadní stranu nebo příložený list. V hodnocení práce se pokuste oddělit ty její nedostatky, které jsou, podle vašeho mínění, obhajobou neodstranitelné (např. chybí kritické zhodnocení pramenů a literatury), od těch věcí, které student může dobrou obhajobou napravit; poměr těchto dvou položek berte prosím v úvahu při stanovení konečné známky.