

The diploma thesis „Cognition and Ritual: Application of the divergent Modes of Religiosity Theory to the Jewish Ritual Praxis of the Community Bejt Praha” presents the application of the divergent Modes of Religiosity theory to the Jewish ritual praxis. The thesis is based on the method of textual analysis and ethnographic data collection. The theory by anthropologist Harvey Whitehouse seeks to explain ritual dynamics of the doctrinal mode and of the imagistic mode in terms of underlying cognitive mechanisms. I show the limitations of Whitehouse’s cognitive model with regard to the application of the theory to the ethnographic data. The main goal of the thesis is the critical evaluation of the divergent Modes of Religiosity argument.