



Master's Thesis Review: Supervisor's Evaluation Form

Student's name: **Bc. Thi Quynh Anh Nguyen**

Thesis title: **Transnational Aspects of Identity: The Vietnamese of the 1.5 and Second Generations in Prague**

Name of the supervisor: **Zdeněk Uherek**

What are the strengths and weaknesses of the thesis? Please give your reasons for the suggested grade in detail below.

1. *Does the author show an understanding of one or more theories, and use theory to generate a hypothesis or to make the problem area more understandable?*

Comments: The author set herself the goal of studying the Vietnamese in Prague and asked the following questions:

1. How do the processes of identity negotiation vary between the second generation and the 1.5 generation, and what factors influence their sense of self?
2. Do life and career trajectories differ between the two generations?
3. How does the life course perspective contribute to the study of identity development of immigrant children and the children of migrants?

Theoretically, she anchored her thesis in Steven Vertovec's and Khachig Tölölyan's concepts of transnationalism and diaspora and the concept of identity and life course perspective. This approach is acceptable. Theoretical foundations are also perhaps unnecessarily overloaded with the concept of ethnicity, which presupposes a type of belonging that is often ascribed from the outside.

Is the research question articulated clearly and properly? Is the research question sufficiently answered in the conclusion?

Comments:

The author answered the research questions satisfactorily. Her answer might have been more convincing if she had concentrated on the uniqueness of the cases she examined. In her thesis, she tends to look for clear patterns in the behaviour of the population under study, which is impossible given the research sample of 12 respondents obtained by purposeful sampling.

2. *Is the thesis based on relevant research and literature, and does it accurately summarize and integrate the information?*

Comments:

The relevant grasp of the topic is mainly in the area of diaspora and transnationalism. Integration and ethnicity are concepts that are frequently abandoned in recent literature. The concept of ethnic identity, in particular, is difficult to capture.



3. *What is the quality of the data or the other sources? Are the methods (sampling, data collection and data analysis) appropriate?*

Comments:

The research project originally envisaged a more extensive sample and a broader methodological scope, particularly involving observations. However, access to field data proved more complicated than the author had originally anticipated. Nevertheless, the sample used is acceptable for qualitative research.

4. *Are the findings relevant to the research question? Are the conclusions of the thesis based on strong arguments?*

Comments:

The findings are relevant. Their argumentative power could have been increased by contextualizing them more with other contemporary literature on persons of Vietnamese descent living abroad or persons with Vietnamese ancestry born outside Vietnam.

5. *Evaluate the progress of the thesis and the innovative and original contribution of the author (e.g., in terms of topic, approach, and/or findings). Was the work regularly consulted?*

Comments:

The thesis was regularly consulted, the author proceeded independently, and the research design and the data processing were entirely her own work. As for the innovative elements, I expected that the author would be able to delve deeper into the question of generational changes in interpersonal relationships within the families, locating what norms and values are modified by influences of the Prague environment in studied personalities and what remains resistant, what does it mean traditional norms, what is behind the concept of tradition, how the family relations change or does not change. Hints of such insights are evident in the references to the linguistic devices chosen by the actors when communicating with the author, in their willingness to share only some themes and the like. However, the author had limited access to the social relations she studied.

6. *Are there any other strengths and weaknesses of the thesis, which are not included in the previous questions? Please list them if any.*

Comments:

7. *What topic do you suggest for the discussion in the thesis defence?*

Comments:

The word “sacrifice” comes up several times in your work. Sacrifice for someone is a relatively expressive term. What do you mean by the “sacrifice”? What does it mean in Vietnamese culture for parents to sacrifice for their children?



8. Declaration that the supervisor has read the result of the originality check in the system: [] Theses [] Turnitin [] Original (Urkund)

Supervisor's comment on the originality check result:

OK

Overall assessment of the thesis:

In her thesis, the author demonstrated the ability to independently identify and research problem, formulate research questions, develop a research design, and analyze the data collected at the master's level in the social sciences. I recommend her thesis for defence.

Proposed grade: B

Date: 16. 6. 2024

Zdeněk Uherek

* **A (Excellent.** The student has shown excellent performance, originality and displayed an exceptional grasp of the subject.), **B (Very Good.** The student understands the subject well and has shown some originality of thought. Above the average performance, but with some errors.), **C (Good.** Generally sound work with a number of notable errors.), **D (Satisfactory.** The student has shown some understanding of the subject matter, but has not succeeded in translating this understanding into consistently original work. Overall good performance with a number of significant errors.), **E (Sufficient.** Acceptable performance with significant drawbacks. Performance meets the minimum requirements.), **F (Fail.** The student has not succeeded in mastering the subject matter of the course.)