Thesis Title: Homosexuality and Oppression in Dystopian Writing
Field of Study: FF B-FI AJ [sem 7, cyk 1]
Department: Department of English and American Studies
Author: Martina Gecíková
Supervisor: prof. Mgr. Milada Franková, CSc., M.A.
Reviewer: Mgr. Daniela Šmardová

Reviewer's recommendation for overall mark: A

1. Evaluation of central idea, thesis, focus and purpose: A
2. Evaluation of organization, logic and arrangement: A
3. Evaluation of topic development, support and evidence: B
4. Evaluation of language, style, standard usage, citation and bibliographic standards: A

Comments and/or topics and questions for the thesis defence:
In her Bachelor’s thesis, Ms. Gecíková has examined the role of homosexuality in selected dystopian novels, namely Moore and Lloyd’s *V for Vendetta*, Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale* and Winsorson’s *The Stone Gods*. After a short introductory chapter on the genres of utopia and dystopia in general, the author moves to the analysis of the forms of oppression and violence in the three dystopian worlds with a primary focus directed towards homosexual characters. Where applicable, the thesis draws parallels between the repressive practices presented in the novels and the actual treatment of homosexuals during totalitarian regimes of the 20th century.

The structure of the thesis is clearly organized, and the argumentation is persuasive and easy to follow. While the introductory part of the work is supported by a sufficient number of secondary sources, the following chapters rely almost exclusively on the analysed novels. However, even with a limited number of supportive critical materials, the author manages to argue her points in a clear and convincing manner. Moreover, the thesis includes almost no linguistic or formal mistakes and the text is written in a highly sophisticated and engaging manner.

Overall, Ms. Gecíková has demonstrated strong analytical skills and her text more than satisfies the general requirements for a Bachelor’s thesis. I therefore recommend the mark “excellent”.

In her defence, I would like Ms. Gecíková to elaborate on her assertion that “in the 1980s and 1990s gay people are perhaps simply more visible . . . which therefore also makes them more of a threat in the eyes of the persecutors” (p. 12). I would like her to think about what exactly it might be that makes homosexual people be perceived as threatening. And more generally, what do all these “unwanted” groups that are persecuted in the dystopian novels have in common and what makes them so dangerous for the system that they need to be eliminated.

24th January 2019

Mgr. Daniela Šmardová
Mgr. Daniela Šmardová