

Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague
Department of Photography

Assessment of the Master's Thesis

Author of thesis: Ranaji Deb

Title of thesis: Representation of Suicide Across Media & Cultures

Assessment of the primary advisor

Assessment of the opponent

Author of the assessment (first name, last name, workplace): Tomáš Dvořák, KF
FAMU

Evaluation of the content and final form of the thesis (A/excellent – B/very good –
C/good – D/good with objections – E/satisfactory – F/unsatisfactory – not
recommended for defence)

Suitability of the selected objective and work approach.....	B
Relative completeness of the literature used for the selected topic.....	A
Ability to critically evaluate and use scholarly literature.....	A
Logicality of the thesis structure, connection of its chapters.....	A
Language and stylistic level of the thesis.....	A
Compliance with citation norms (should the text repeatedly contain adopted passages without citing the source, the work cannot be recommended for defence).....	A
Sufficient extent of image attachments, justifiability and suitability of attachments, graphic layout.....	A
Originality of the thesis, contribution to the development of the field of study.....	B
Overall evaluation of the thesis.....	A

Verbal evaluation of the thesis including questions that the candidate must address in
his/her thesis defence:

Ranaji Deb's thesis focuses on the problem of representation of suicide across
different media, periods and cultures. The study outlines the history of the motive of
suicide in visual arts with frequent allusions to mythology and literature, discusses
main sociological and psychological works on the subject, and concludes with an
empirical study of suicide imagery online.

The thesis is highly ambitious in its scope and goals, the author has meticulously
researched both the visual material and scholarly literature and managed to move
beyond mere compilation and description and venture into a demanding data analysis
of the visual representation of suicide in contemporary internet culture. Unfortunately,
the final section (pp. 39-71) remains somewhat open-ended: instead of a conclusion,
which would summarize, critically assess and evaluate his findings, the author
proposes further extensions of his research. A more detailed explanation and

justification of the study is missing – however, I still appreciate the courage to take on such an immense task and the enormous effort that was needed for it. I recommend the thesis for defence and suggest A as the final grade.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DMW' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Date: ..24 August 2020...

Signature:.....