

SUPERVISOR'S ASSESSMENT OF A WRITTEN THESIS

Thesis title: Images of Masculinity in U.S. Conservative Politics
Thesis author: Michael Amico
Programme of study: Photography
Programme type: [continuing Master's]

Evaluator's overall summary:

Michael Amico's master thesis explores the masculinity in/of U.S. politics with emphasis on the rearticulation of the image of the cowboy in the late 20th and 21st century presidential campaigns. Chapters 2 and 3 are too sketchy to contribute substantively to his argument but chapters 4 and 5 set the tone with an excellent discussion of the frontier myth and the invention of the cowboy as an icon of masculinity and the remaining chapters analyse the use of such imagery in conservatives' campaigns as well as in general (internet) culture. The thesis is well researched, structured and conveyed and contributes to our understanding of masculinity as a socially constructed set of attitudes, behaviours and roles. I recommend the thesis for oral defence with the grade A.

Questions and topics for discussion at the oral defence: American conservatism invokes the mythologized cowboy-image as defined by classical Hollywood. But we can also witness efforts to redefine and demythologize the cowboy in contemporary culture (including cinema). What might be its implications for the politics of masculinity and masculinity of politics?

..... Tomáš Dvořák

Name of the thesis supervisor

....3.6.2023.....
(date and signature)