

Introduction to Czech Language and Culture

SECTION I: Course Overview

Course Code: CZE100PRG

Subject Area(s): Czech Language and Culture

Prerequisites: None

Language of Instruction: Czech, English

Total Contact Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students who wish to achieve a basic level of Czech. The primary aim of the course is to develop the four basic language skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) through communicative, collaborative, and cultural activities.

The course combines several integrated approaches aimed at developing basic Czech language skills. Classroom time is devoted mainly to speaking and practicing Czech through a combination of group-based and individual activities, focusing on grammatical structures, language functions and vocabulary. Sessions also address a range of contemporary cultural themes and field studies will give students a unique chance to implement their linguistic development and newly acquired intercultural competence.

The course should help students master basic grammar and lexical structures in order to conduct a simple conversation and write short and basic texts with some degree of competency. Students will speak about themselves and their family, introduce people, interact with the host community, and follow short and simple conversations.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Acquire elementary Czech vocabulary essential to everyday life
- Develop basic communication and listening skills to engage in elementary conversations in Czech
- Use basic structures to produce short texts about a simple subject
- Describe essential aspects of Czech culture and society

SECTION II: Instructor & Course Details

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

Name: TBD

Contact Information: TBD

Term: SUMMER

GRADING & ASSESSMENT

The instructor will assess your progress towards the above-listed learning objectives by using the forms of assessment below. Each of these assessments is weighted and will count towards your final grade. The following section (Assessment Overview) will provide further details for each.

Engagement	20%
Writing assessment	10%
Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Oral Presentation	20%
Final Exam	20%

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

This section provides a brief description of each form of assessment listed above. Your course instructor will provide further details and instructions during class time.

Engagement (20%): Engagement in class is expected of all CEA CAPA students. Guidelines for engagement can be found on the list of academic policies.

Writing assessment (10%): There will be two writing assessments that will correspond to topics discussed during our classes. They will check the progress you are making towards understanding the Czech language and its convention in writing. More information about these will be provided in class.

Quizzes (10%): There will be four short quizzes in the course of the semester, which will test your knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and language structures covered to date. The quizzes will also include questions related to the cultural content of reading material provided and discussed in class.

Oral presentation (20%): You will choose a topic relevant to Czech culture that you will investigate over the course of the semester. The topic can explore in greater detail (an aspect of) a cultural theme introduced in class or you can choose another topic with your instructor's approval. Throughout the semester, you will embark upon a cultural experience to explore your selected topic through field studies, interviews, research. You will summarize your findings in an oral presentation which is to be delivered in class. A summary report and a visual presentation are to be submitted electronically the day of the presentation.

Midterm and Final Exams (20% respectively): The midterm and final exams are designed to establish and communicate to you the progress you are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. They are comprised of questions and exercises that test your abilities in three important areas of competency: the amount of information you master; the accuracy of the information you present; and the significance you ascribe to the facts and ideas you have integrated across your study in this course.

ACTIVE LEARNING

CEA CAPA courses are designed to include a variety of active learning component that will take you out of the classroom and allow you to explore your local, host city. This course includes:

- Field study 1: shopping in a supermarket/making typical Czech snacks (salát, jednohubky)
- Field study 2: visiting a restaurant or café, Restaurace/Kavárna
- Field study 3: Old Town's Astronomical Clock

- Field study 4: A. Mucha Museum
- Field study 5: National Museum

REQUIRED READINGS

The reading assignments for this course are listed below. All required readings must be completed according to the due date assigned by the course instructor. You will not need to purchase these readings; the instructor will provide these selected readings to you in class (either in paper or electronic format) and/or through CEA CAPA's online Moodle classroom.

SELECTED READING(S): The selected readings for this course are listed below. You will not need to purchase these readings; the instructor will provide these selected readings to you in class (either in paper or electronic format).

- Holá, L. and Bořilová, P. *Čestina Express*, A1/1, Prague: Akropolis, 2011, pp. 96.

RECOMMENDED READING

The recommended reading is recommended for their insights into contemporary Czech culture. It is not mandatory, but they will assist you with research and understanding Czech culture.

- Szczygiel, M. (2014). *Gottland: Mostly true stories from half of Czechoslovakia*. Melville House.

RECOMMENDED FILMS

The recommended films are recommended for their insights into contemporary Czech culture are available at the Prague Study Center". These recommended films are not mandatory, but they will assist you with research and understanding course content.

- Pelíšky, *Obecná Škola* (The Elementary School), *Hořící Keř* (Burning Bush), *Kolya*

KEY RESOURCES

In order to ensure you success abroad, CEA CAPA has provided the academic resources listed below. In addition to these resources, each CEA CAPA Study Center provides students with a physical library and study areas for group work. The Academic Affairs Office at each CEA CAPA Study Center also compiles a bank of detailed information regarding libraries, documentation centers, research institutes, and archival materials located in the host city

- **UNH Online Library:** As a CEA CAPA student, you will be given access to the online library of the University of New Haven (UNH). You may access the UNH online library [here](#). You must comply with [UNH Policies](#) regarding library usage.
- **CEA CAPA Classroom – Moodle:** CEA CAPA instructors use Moodle, an interactive virtual learning environment. This web-based platform provides you with constant and direct access to the course syllabus, daily schedule of class lectures and assignments, non-textbook required readings, and additional resources. Moodle includes the normal array of forums, up-loadable and downloadable databases, wikis, and related academic support designed for helping you achieve the learning objectives listed in this syllabus. During the first week of class, CEA CAPA academic staff and/or faculty will help you navigate through the many functions and resources Moodle provides. While you may print a hard copy version of the syllabus, you should always check Moodle for the most up-to-date information regarding this course. The instructor will use Moodle to make announcements and updates to the course and/or syllabus. It is your responsibility to ensure

that you have access to all Moodle materials and that you monitor Moodle on a daily basis in case there are any changes made to course assignments or scheduling. To access Moodle: Please log-in to your MyCEA account using your normal username and password. Click on the “While You’re Abroad Tab” and make sure you are under the “Academics” sub-menu. There you will see a link above your schedule that says “View Online Courses” select this link to be taken to your Moodle environment.

- **Online Reference & Research Tools:** The course instructor has identified the resources below to assist you with understanding course topics. You are encouraged to explore these and other avenues of research including the databases available via the UNH online library.

www.ceskatelevize.cz

www.korpus.cz

COURSE CALENDAR
Introduction to Czech Language and Culture

SESSION	TOPICS	ACTIVITY	READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS
1	<p style="text-align: center;">Course Introduction Review Syllabus & Classroom Policies Introduction to Basic Sounds in Czech Who/What it is?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Greetings and Basic Conversations Formal & informal Czech, greeting, thanking Phonetic exercises</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Course Overview Lecture & Discussion <i>walk around the city center</i></p>	<p>Review course syllabus Holá, Lesson 1, p. 6-7 HW: p. 62-63 phonetic exercises: additional handout</p>
2	<p style="text-align: center;">Personal Introductions Conjugating verbs <i>to be, to do; numerals 0-10</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lecture & Discussion Quizlet</p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 1, pp. 8-12 HW: pp. 64-66 Quizlet – vocabulary revision Prepare for Quiz 1</p>
3	<p style="text-align: center;">Getting around: Where is it? <i>Conjugating verbs understand, speak, know, see</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lecture & Discussion Quiz 1 – Lesson 1</p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 2, pp. 14-17 HW: pp. 67-69</p>
4	<p style="text-align: center;">How much is it? <i>Shopping, numerals 0-100</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Shopping</i> Quizlet</p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 2, pp. 18-20 HW: pp. 70-71, Writing 1 Quizlet – vocabulary revision Prepare for Quiz 2</p>
5	<p style="text-align: center;">Food & Drink: In a restaurant <i>Conjugating verbs like, read, eat, drink</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Restaurant</i> Midterm Exam Review Quiz 2 – Lesson 2, 3</p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 3, pp. 22-26 HW: pp. 74-76 Prepare for Midterm Exam</p>
6	MIDTERM EXAM		

7	<p>My family <i>Describing people, using possessives</i></p> <p>Time & Hobbies <i>Conjugating verbs work, study, like</i></p>	<p>Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Old Town</i> <i>Astronomical Clock</i></p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 4 & 5, pp. 30-34, pp. 38-43 HW: pp. 77-81, pp. 82-86, Writing 2 Quizlet – vocabulary revision Prepare for Quiz 3</p>
8	<p>Famous Czechs <i>Professions & Past Simple I</i></p>	<p>Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Mucha Museum</i> Quiz 3 – Lesson 4, 5</p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 6, pp. 46-47 HW: pp. 87-88 Quizlet – vocabulary revision</p>
9	<p>What did you do yesterday? <i>Past Simple II, Adverbs of Time</i> <i>Conjugating verbs know, can</i></p>	<p>Lecture & Discussion</p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 6, pp. 48-51 HW: pp. 89-91</p>
10	<p>Where...? <i>Private & Public Spaces, Countries & Prepositions</i></p>	<p><i>Lecture & Discussion</i> <i>Field Study: National Museum</i></p>	<p>Holá, Lesson 7, pp. 54-58 HW: pp. 95-96 Quizlet – vocabulary revision Prepare for Quiz 4</p>
11	<p>Oral Presentations</p> <p>Course Review</p>	<p>Student Oral Presentations Discussion & Feedback</p> <p>Final Exam Review Quiz 4 – Lesson 6, 7</p>	<p>No new reading/homework assigned Prepare for Final Exam Quizlet – vocabulary revision</p>
12	FINAL EXAM		

SECTION III: CEA CAPA Academic Policies

To see all CEA CAPA academic policies outlined, please follow the following links. Students are expected to review and understand all CEA CAPA student policies, including the academic policies outlined online. CEA CAPA reserves the right to change, update, revise, or amend existing policies and/or procedures at any time.

Class & Instructor Policies can be found [here](#)

General Academic Policies can be found [here](#)