CIEE Prague, Czech Republic

Course title: Beginning Czech Language, II
Course code: CZEC 1002 PRAG
Programs offering course: Central European Studies, Communication, New Media, and Journalism
Language of instruction: Czech
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Spring 2021

Course Description

This course is designed to develop students’ practical knowledge of the Czech language, allowing them to function in everyday situations (i.e., restaurants, grocery stores, asking for directions, ticket inspections, housing, etc.) and facilitating a degree of integration into Czech culture and society. The course focuses on correct pronunciation and acquisition of pertinent vocabulary and phraseology. Grammatical topics are introduced and employed as tools allowing for the use of Czech in simple conversational situations. The course also includes topics related to the Czech culture as a basic introduction to the Czech society and customs.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Acquire the following knowledge and language skills:
  - Listening: Students can understand familiar words and very basic phrases, concerning themselves; their family and immediate surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.
  - Reading: Students can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.
  - Spoken Interaction: Students can interact a simple way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at slower rate of speech and help them formulate what they are trying to say. They can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.
  - Spoken Production: Students can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where they live and people they know.
  - Writing: Students can fill in forms with personal details, for example entering their names, nationality and address in a hostel check-in form.

Course Prerequisites

This course is designed for students who have completed the Beginning Czech Language I course.

Methods of Instruction

Classes will combine frontline teaching with interactive tasks, cooperative learning in small groups, pair work and role plays. They will include site visits, a trip to an important city or monument within the Czech Republic and a mandatory class excursion to a Czech elementary school.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Midterm Exam 20%
2. Final Exam 30%
3. Video Project 10%
4. Presentation - Immersion 10%
5. Homework 10%
6. Class Participation 20%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements
Midterm Exam

Students will take a midterm exam assessing their knowledge of the language covered in the first half of the course. The exam consists of an in-class written test and an oral exam.

Prior to administering tests, students will receive mock tests to learn about the scope and type. The written exam is worth 50% of the assessment, that is, 10% of the final grade.

The oral exam will consist of several parts assessing students’ ability to react to questions, list vocabulary related to topics covered in the first half of the course, and their ability to speak independently for 1 minute on a topic covered in class and answer questions related to their speech. The oral exam will be attended by two assessors, students’ teacher, who will ask questions, and an independent assessor who will assess students’ command of the language and communication skills based on a rubric. The oral part of the exam will be recorded to ensure objectivity and a possible secondary assessment of the exam.

The oral exam is worth 50% of the assessment, that is, 10% of the final grade.

Final Exam

Students will take a final exam assessing their knowledge of the language covered throughout the course. The exam consists of an in-class written test and an oral exam.

Prior to administering tests, students will receive mock tests to learn about the scope and type. The written test is worth 50% of the assessment, that is, 10% of the final grade.

The oral exam will consist of several parts assessing students’ ability to react to questions, list vocabulary related to topics covered in the first half of the course, and their ability to speak independently for 1 minute on a topic covered in class and answer questions related to their speech. The oral exam will be attended by two assessors, students’ teacher, who will ask questions, and an independent assessor who will assess students’ command of the language and communication skills based on a rubric. The oral part of the exam will be recorded to ensure objectivity and a possible secondary assessment of the exam.

The oral exam is worth 50% of the assessment, that is, 10% of the final grade.

Video Project

Team work project (2-3 students). Students present a short video of a mini-dialog in Czech, using practical phrases and role-playing everyday situations. The video is to be uploaded on the course Canvas site. Detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of the semester and are published on the course Canvas site.

Presentation - Immersion

Each student is required to present one immersion experience. Students will receive detailed information about the presentation and possible immersion topics at the beginning of the semester and can find them on the course Canvas site. The presentation is to be uploaded on the course Canvas site. If a student fails to deliver his/her presentation as scheduled, he/she will receive an F grade.

Homework

Homework is assigned regularly to ensure students’ preparation for classes, it may have different forms based on the language material covered and skills practices. Assignments must be turned in on time, late submission will not be accepted.

Class Participation

To obtain the highest possible participation grade, students need to come to the class on time prepared. They do not leave the class unless they have a serious reason. Students need to show they are paying attention, demonstrate interest in the material and support their classmates with questions/comments about their work and the class in general. Active participation in Canvas discussions will also contribute to the participation grade.

Attendance

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program.

If you will miss a class for any reason, notify the Program Coordinator and your instructor beforehand via Canvas. You are responsible for any materials covered in class during your absence, and except in the specific cases listed
below, credit will not be granted for missed assessments.

Excessive absences will result in a notification letter, and finally a warning letter, sent to you and your home school, based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of course hours missed</th>
<th>Number of CIEE classes</th>
<th>Minimum penalty</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
<td>One to Three 90-min. classes; or One 180-min. class</td>
<td>No penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% - 20%</td>
<td>Four 90-min. classes</td>
<td>Written notification* to the student, followed by a warning letter to the student and home school; 3% reduction in the final grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Five 90-min. classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two 180-min. classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 20%</td>
<td>Six 90-min. classes; or Three 180-min. classes</td>
<td>Automatic course failure, and possible expulsion with notification to the home school</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

As the table shows, missing more than 20% of any class (e.g., due to undocumented illness, travel delays, flight cancellations, over-sleeping, etc.) results in automatic failure of the course.

If you miss an assessment in class due to an absence, you will be able to make it up in the following instances:

- You provide a relevant doctor’s note from a local medical professional to your Program Coordinator within 24 hours of your absence (a scan or photograph sent via e-mail are acceptable)
- A CIEE staff member verifies that you were too ill to attend class.
- You provide evidence of a family emergency to your Program Coordinator.
- You have an approved absence related to the observance of a religious holiday from the Academic Director based on a request submitted before you arrived onsite.

Please note: Absences incurred due to documented illness, documented family emergency or the observance of a religious holiday approved before arrival onsite do not count towards the total of absences. Students may self-certify one absence due to illness without providing a doctor’s note as long as they notify the Program Coordinator within 24 hours of their absence by e-mail or a text message.

Other attendance-related policies

If you transfer from one CIEE class to another during the Add/Drop period, you will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of the new class provided you were marked present for the first session(s) of the original class.

If you are over 15 minutes late for a class, the instructor is required to mark you absent.

In case of class conflicts (irregularities in the class schedule, including field trips and make-up classes), always contact the Academic Department to decide the appropriate course of action.

Please remember to track your attendance on the Canvas Course Sites and report any errors in the record to the Academic Department within one week of the discrepancy date, as later claims may not be considered.

These attendance rules also apply to any required co-curricular excursion, activity, or event, and to for-credit internships.

CIEE staff does not manage absences at partner institutions providing direct enrollment classes (FAMU, ECES and FSV), but they have similar attendance policies and attendance is monitored there. Grade penalties may result from excessive absences.

CIEE Academic Honesty Statement

Presenting work of another person as one’s own, failure to acknowledge all sources used, using unauthorized assistance on exams, submitting the same paper in two classes, or submitting work one has already received credit for at another institution in order to fulfill CIEE course requirements is not tolerated. The penalty ranges from failure in the course to dismissal from the program. The Academic Director should be consulted and involved in decision making in every case of a possible violation of academic honesty.

N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule
Week 1
Class: 1.1 Food
Food, adjectives
Čeština

Class: 1.2 Food
Verbal Group I&II
Lesson 1

Week 2
Class: 2.1 My Week
My Week
Čeština

Class: 2.2 My Week
Verbal Group III & irregular verbs
Lesson 2

Week 3
Class: 3.1 My Hobbies
My hobbies; Verbs in present - consolidation
Čeština

Class: 3.2 My Hobbies
Verb "moct" - to be able to
Lesson 3

Week 4
Class: 4.1 My Family
My Family; Possessive adjectives and pronouns
Čeština

Class: 4.2 My Family
Video Project
Lesson 4

Week 5
Class: 5.1 Critical Situation
Critical Situation; Theft
Čeština

Class: 5.2 Critical Situation
At the doctor's; verbs "must", "can"
Lesson 5
Week 6
Class: 6.1  Travel
       Weather; Future Tense
       Čeština
Class: 6.2  Travel
       Travel, Prepositions with Movement
       Lesson 6
Class: 6.3  Travel
       Field Trip to a Czech School

Week 7
Class: 7.1  Midterm Week
       Midterm Test/Midterm Oral Exam
Class: 7.2  Midterm Week
       Midterm Test/Midterm Oral Exam

Week 8
Class: 8.1  Europe
       European Countries and Cities
       Čeština
Class: 8.2  Europe
       Adjectives - comparative
       Lesson 7

Week 9
Class: 9.1  Weather
       Months
       Čeština
Class: 9.2  Weather
       Czech Holidays
       Lesson 8

Week 10
Class: 10.1  Prague
       Prague - Places in Prague
       Čeština
Class: 10.2  Prague
       Past tense
       Lesson 9
**Week 11**
Class: 11.1 Presentations / Field Trips

Presentations

Class: 11.2 Presentations / Field Trip

Field Trip

**Week 12**
Class: 12.1 Life in the CR

My Semester in Prague
Čeština

Class: 12.2 Life in the CR

Review
Lesson 10

**Week 13**
Class: 13.1 Final Week

Final Test/Final Oral Exam

Class: 13.2 Final Week

Final Test/Final Oral Exam

**Course Materials**

**Readings**

Required:
- Čeština (CIEE internal published material), Praha 2017.
- Czech-English, English-Czech Dictionary

Recommended:

Supplementary:
- Handouts