



## **CIEE Prague, Czech Republic**

<b>Course Name:</b>	Advanced Czech Language I
<b>Course Number:</b>	CZEC 3001 PRAG
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	CES, CNMJ
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	Czech and English
<b>U.S. Semester Credits:</b>	3 credits
<b>Contact Hours:</b>	45
<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2019

### **Course Description**

This course develops knowledge of the Czech language at the advanced level. It aims to facilitate successful communication, both oral and written, in a variety of situations and levels of formality using correct grammatical and lexical structures. Work with authentic texts, audio and video recordings will allow for exposure to different stylistic varieties and contexts, and help expand vocabulary.

### **Learning Objectives:**

Upon the completion of the course, students will acquire the following knowledge and skills

- Listening: Students can follow different regional and individual varieties of spoken Czech on various topics related to everyday life, social, cultural and historical events
- Reading: Students can read and understand texts on a variety of topics
- Speaking: Students use Czech can hold conversation on familiar topics, can answer questions about themselves and can ask for information.
- Writing: Students can write personal and short general texts related to their subject of study, including presentations.
- Vocabulary: Students will acquire vocabulary related to the topics covered in the course as well as their areas of study.

### **Course Prerequisites**

This course is designed for students who meet the following requirements:

- can read and understand both simple and complex newspaper or magazine articles



- can use Czech in a variety of situations and can expand on a variety of topics
- can write one page text on general topics
- have acquired extensive vocabulary
- can understand and use fundamental principles of Czech grammar (conjugation, declension, syntax, etc.)

### **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**

	<b>written</b>	<b>oral</b>
Midterm exam (test and oral exam)	10%	10%
Final exam (test and oral exam)	10%	10%
Presentation – academic	10%	
Presentation – immersion	10%	
Essay	10%	
Active participation in class	20%	
Homework	10%	
<b>Extra work (up to 15% total)</b>		
Tandem Project	up to 8%	
Volunteering Report (volunteering on a regular basis)	up to 8%	
Volunteering Report (one-day volunteering)	up to 3%	
Meet Czech Families	up to 5%	
Extended Immersion	up to 5%	

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Tests, exams**



Students will take a midterm written test and an oral exam and a final written test and an oral exam. Prior to administering tests, students will receive mock tests to learn about the scope and type of exercises included in tests.

### **Presentation – Academic**

Each student is required to prepare a presentation on his/her academic experience, summarizing their study in the U.S and in Prague, comparing the two. 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.

### **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. 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.

### **Essay**

Each student is required to submit a 500-word essay either expanding on a particular immersion experience or reporting on a visit to an event (concert, opera, theater performance, etc.) he/she visited. Students are required to seek an approval from the teacher for the chosen topic.

### **Class Participation**

Students are expected to participate actively in class activities, be pro-active in their language learning (bringing in samples of Czech language texts encountered during their stay in Prague and other similar material) and submit home assignments. Short quizzes will be administered throughout the course checking students' home preparation and assessing progress.

### **Excursions, Trips**

Czech language classes aim to provide basic awareness about Czech culture **through an excursion to a Czech school** and field trips to various places of interest within Prague. Field trips and class excursions are mandatory, they are constituent parts of the course. Missing a trip or an excursion is considered an absence in the course.

### **Extra Work**

Students can improve their final grade through participating in any of the Extra Work activities. The sign up for Tandem, Volunteering and Meet Czech Family program is at the beginning of the



semester, if you wish to submit an extended immersion project, you have to sign up by Week 6. More information will be provided during the first week of the course.

### **CIEE Prague Class Participation Policy**

Assessment of students' participation in class is an inherent component of the course grade. Participation is valued as **meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom**, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Students are required to actively, meaningfully and thoughtfully contribute to class discussions and all types of in-class activities throughout the duration of the class. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared, as directed, in advance of each class session. This includes valued or informed engagement in, for example, small group discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.

Students are responsible for following the course content and are expected to ask clarification questions if they cannot follow the instructor's or other students' line of thought or argumentation.

The use of electronic devices is only allowed for computer-based in-class tests, assignments and other tasks specifically assigned by the course instructor. Students are expected to take notes by hand unless the student is entitled to the use of computer due to his/her academic accommodations. In such cases the student is required to submit an official letter issued by his/her home institution specifying the extent of academic accommodations.

Class participation also includes students' active participation in Canvas discussions and other additional tasks related to the course content as specified by the instructor.

Students will receive a partial participation grade every three weeks.

### **CIEE Prague Attendance Policy**

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and **all absences are treated equally regardless of reason** for any affected CIEE course. Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursions or events, as well as Internship.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.



**Missing classes** will lead to the following penalties:

**90-minute semester classes:**

<i>Number of 90-minute classes</i>	<i>Equivalent percentage of the total course hours missed</i>	<i>Minimum penalty</i>
<b>one to two</b> 90-minute classes	up to 10%	no penalty
<b>three</b> 90-minute classes	10.1–15%	reduction of the final grade by 3%
<b>four</b> 90-minute classes	15.1–17%	reduction of the final grade by 5%; <b>written warning</b>
<b>five</b> 90-minute classes	17.1–20%	reduction of the final grade by 7%; <b>written warning</b>
<b>six and more</b> 90-minute classes	more than 20%	automatic <b>course failure</b> and possible expulsion

**180-minute semester classes:**

<i>Number of 180-minute classes</i>	<i>Equivalent percentage of the total course hours missed</i>	<i>Minimum penalty</i>
<b>one</b> 180-minute class	up to 10%	no penalty
<b>two</b> 180-minute classes	10.1–20%	reduction of the final grade by 5%; <b>written warning</b>
<b>three and more</b> 180-minute classes	more than 20%	automatic <b>course failure</b> and possible expulsion

Persistent absenteeism (students approaching 20% of the total course hours missed, or violating the attendance policy in more than one class) will result in a written warning, a notification to the student’s home school, and possibly a dismissal from the program.

**Missing more than 20% of the total class hours** will lead to a **course failure**, and **potential program dismissal**. This is a CIEE rule that applies to all CIEE courses and is in line with the Participant Contract that each CIEE student signs before arriving on-site.

**Late arrival to class** will be considered a partial (up to 15 minutes late) or full (15 or more minutes late) absence. **Three partial absences due to late arrivals will be regarded as one full class absence.**



**Students must notify their professor and Program Coordinator (PC) beforehand if they are going to miss class for any reason** and are responsible for any material covered in class in their absence.

If missing a class during which a test, exam, the student's presentation or other graded class assignments are administered, **make-up assignment will only be allowed in approved circumstances**, such as serious medical issues. In this case, the student must submit a local doctor's note within 24 hours of his/her absence to the PC, who will decide whether the student qualifies for a make-up assignment. Doctor's notes may be submitted via e-mail or phone (a scan or a photograph are acceptable), however **the student must ensure that the note is delivered to the PC.**

Should a truly **extraordinary situation** arise, the student must contact the PC immediately concerning permission for a make-up assignment. Make-up assignments are not granted automatically! The PC decides the course of action for all absence cases that are not straightforward. **Always contact the PC with any inquiry about potential absence(s) and the nature thereof.**

**Personal travel (including flight delays and cancelled flights), handling passport and other document replacements, interviews, volunteering and other similar situations are not considered justifiable reasons for missing class or getting permission for make-up assignments.**

**For class conflicts** (irregularities in the class schedule, including field trips, make-up classes and other instances), **always contact the Academic Assistant** to decide the appropriate course of action.

Course attendance is recorded on individual Canvas Course Sites. **Students are responsible for checking their attendance regularly to ensure the correctness of the records.** In case of discrepancies, students are required to contact the Academic Assistant **within one week of the discrepancy date** to have it corrected. Later claims **will not** be considered.

CIEE staff does not directly manage absences at FAMU and ECES, but they have similar attendance policies and attendance is monitored there. Grade penalties may result from excessive absences.

### **CIEE Academic Honesty Policy**

CIEE subscribes to standard U.S. norms requiring that students exhibit the highest standards regarding academic honesty. Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment or exam will not be tolerated and may result in a student failing the course or being expelled from the program. Standards of honesty and norms governing originality of work differ significantly from country to country. We expect students to adhere to both the American norms and the local norms, and in the case of conflict between the two, the more stringent of the two will preside. Three important principles are considered when defining and demanding academic honesty. These are related to the fundamental tenet that one should not present the work of another person as one's own.



**The first principle** is that final examinations, quizzes and other tests must be done without assistance from another person, without looking at or otherwise consulting the work of another person, and without access to notes, books, or other pertinent information (unless the professor has explicitly announced that a particular test is to be taken on an “open book” basis).

**The second principle** applies specifically to course work: the same written paper may not be submitted in two classes. Nor may a paper for which you have already received credit at your home institution be submitted to satisfy a paper requirement while studying overseas.

**The third principle** is that any use of the work of another person must be documented in any written papers, oral presentations, or other assignments carried out in connection with a course. This usually is done when quoting directly from another’s work or including information told to you by another person. The general rule is that if you have to look something up, or if you learned it recently either by reading or hearing something, you have to document it.

The penalty ranges from an F grade on the assignment, failure in the course to dismissal from the program. The Academic Director is consulted and involved in decision making in every case of a possible violation of academic honesty.

Class	Topic	Assignment/Reading Due
<b>Week 1: HELLO – I’M ...</b>		
Class 1	Introduction	handout
Class 2	Consolidation - basic terminology Gender, pronouns, form	
<b>Week 2: TRANSPORT</b>		
Class 3	Car – the greatest killer?	Čeština pro život
Class 4	Consolidation	Lesson 5
<b>Week 3: VACATION.</b>		
Class 5	Environment	Čeština pro život
Class 6	Eco-tourism; passive houses; recycling	Lesson 6
<b>Week 4: TRAVELING</b>		
Class 7	Modern technology; alternative	Čeština pro život
Class 8	transport	Lesson 6
<b>Week 5: FROM SPRING TO WINTER</b>		
Class 9	Weather and Seasons	Čeština pro život
Class 10	Expressions related to time Conditional	Lesson 7

**Week 6:**

Class 11 Presentations  
Class 12 Revision

**FRIDAY: Visit to a Czech School**

**Week 7: MIDTERM WEEK**

**Class 13 Midterm Test / Midterm Oral Exam**  
**Class 14 Midterm Test / Midterm Oral Exam**

**Week 8: FREE TIME, SOCIAL LIFE**

Class 15 Small talk Čeština pro život  
Class 16 Invitations Lesson 9

**Week 9: CELEBRATION**

Class 17 Birthday, Nameday, Czech Traditions, Čeština pro život  
Class 18 Public Holidays and Important days Lesson 10  
Famous Czechs

**Week 10: HOUSING**

Class 19 Living in the city x village Čeština pro život  
Class 20 Lesson 12

**Week 11: CZECH REPUBLIC – history and present**

Class 21 UNESCO monuments in the CR Čeština pro život  
Lesson 15  
Class 22

**Week 12: LIFE IN THE CR x LIFE IN THE USA**

Class 23 Presentations handout  
Class 24 Review

**Week 13: Final Week**

**Class 25 Final Test / Final Oral Exam**  
**Class 26 Final Test / Final Oral Exam**





### Required Readings

- NEKOVÁŘOVÁ, Alena. *Čeština pro život: Czech for life = Tschechisch fürs Leben : 15 moderních konverzačních témat*. Praha: Akropolis, 2006. ISBN 80-86903-23-0.
- Czech-English, English-Czech Dictionary

### Recommended Readings

- ČECHOVÁ, Elga, PUTZ, Harry; REMEDIOSOVÁ, Helena. *Chcete ještě lépe mluvit česky?: Wollen sie noch besser Tschechisch sprechen? : (Tschechisch für Fortgeschrittene) = Do you want to speak even better Czech? : (Czech for advanced students)*. Liberec: Harry Putz, 1996. ISBN 80-901119-9-8.
- HOLÁ, Lída; BOŘILOVÁ, Pavla; MALÁ, Zdena. *Česky krok za krokem 2: Czech step by step 2 = Tschechisch Schritt für Schritt 2 = Češskij šag za šagom 2*. Praha: Akropolis, 2009. ISBN 978-80-86903-92-7.
- Tahal, Karel. *A Grammar of Czech as a Foreign Language*. at <http://www.factumcz.cz/K.Tahal-Grammar.pdf>

### Supplementary readings

- Handouts
- Authentic texts and audio/video recordings