



## CIEE Prague, Czech Republic

<b>Course title:</b>	Beginning Czech Language, I
<b>Course code:</b>	CZEC 1001 PRAG
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Business, Arts and Sciences, Central European Studies, Communication, New Media, and Journalism
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	Czech
<b>U.S. semester credits:</b>	3.00
<b>Contact hours:</b>	45.00
<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2023

### 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 little or no previous knowledge of Czech.

### 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	20%
3.	Video Project	10%
4.	Presentation - Immersion	10%
5.	Homework	10%
6.	Excursion to a Czech School	10%
7.	Active Participation in Class	20%
	TOTAL	100%

## Course Requirements

### **Midterm Exam**

*(written 10%, oral 10%)*

### **Final Exam**

*(written 10%, oral 20%)*

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.

### **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 assignments must be turned in on schedule. Late submission will result in lowering the grade.

### **Excursion to a Czech School**

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.

### **Active Participation in Class**

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.

#### 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.

### **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.

### **Attendance**

To encourage engaged learning, regular class attendance is required throughout the program. This includes any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as internship, service-learning, or other required field placement.

An excused absence in a CIEE course will only be considered if approved by a CIEE Center Director/Academic Director (not the Instructor), and:

- it is a self-certified absence for illness (only once per course, requires formal request before or within 24 hours, cannot miss assessment worth more than 5% of final course grade)
- a doctor's note from a local medical professional is provided
- evidence of a family emergency is provided
- it is a pre-approved observance of religious holiday

Unexcused absences include personal travel and/or travel delays, as well as missing more than 25% of a single class period (including tardiness and early departure). Assessments missed due to unexcused absences will be marked as zero. Students with over 10% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff. Students with over 20% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff, receive a formal warning letter (shared with their home institution) and lose 10% of the final course point total (e.g., a final A grade of 93% will be lowered to a B grade of 83%).

For more detail, please consult your CIEE Academic Manual.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is essential to a positive and inclusive teaching and learning environment. All students are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness, respect, and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in grade penalties or disciplinary action. See the CIEE Student Academic Manual for further information on academic integrity.

***N.B. Course schedule and co-curriculars are subject to change. The final duration and distribution of content and assignments will be determined and presented to students at the onset of the course.***

### **Weekly Schedule**

#### **Week 1**

Class: 1.1 Hello - I'm...

Verb TO BE

Class: 1.2 Hello - I'm...

Verbs -OVAT conjugation pattern

Days of the week

#### **Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 1

**Week 2**

Class: 2.1 Food

I like...

Class: 2.2 Food

Verbs -AT, conjugation pattern

Adjectives

**Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 2

**Week 3**

Class: 3.1 My Week

Verbs -ET/-IT conjugation pattern

Class: 3.2 My Week

Verbs - TO GO, TO READ, TO PLAY, TO DRINK, TO WRITE

**Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 3

**Week 4**

Class: 4.1 My Hobbies

I like doing,

Class: 4.2 My Hobbies

I can (I know how to)

**Reading:**

Czech Course

Lesson 4

**Week 5**

Class: 5.1 Family

Family Members

Class: 5.2 Family

Possessive pronouns

**Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 5

**Week 6**

Class: 6.1 Appointment

Would you like to go

Class: 6.2 Appointment

I can't, I must

Prepositions DO, NA, K

**FRIDAY: Visit to a Czech School**

**Readings:**

Czech course

Lesson 6

### **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 My Semester in Prague

Past tense - he / she / it / they

Class: 8.2 My Semester in Prague

Past tense - I / you / we / you (pl.)

**Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 7

### **Week 9**

Class: 9.1 Weather

The weather was nice.

Class: 9.2 Weather

It's a nice day.

It is supposed to be nice tomorrow.

**Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 8

### **Week 10**

Class: 10.1 Plans, Europe

Future tense

Class: 10.2 Plans, Europe

Travelling

European countries

**Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 9

**Week 11**

Class: 11.1 Holidays

Months

Class: 11.2 Holidays

Czech holidays and traditions

**Reading:**

Czech course

Lesson 10

**Week 12**

Class: 12.1 Life in the CR x Life in the USA

Presentations

Class: 12.2 Life in the CR x Life in the USA

Review

**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 – semestrální kurz / Czech Course* (CIEE internal published material), Praha 2019.
- Czech-English, English-Czech Dictionary

Recommended:

- Tahal, Karel. *A Grammar of Czech as a Foreign Language*. at <http://www.factumcz.cz/K.Tahal-Grammar.pdf>
- <http://www.kurzycestinyprocizince.cz/cs/e-learning.html>
- Malá, Zdeňka. *Hry a aktivity pro výuku češtiny pro cizince*. 2013.

Supplementary:

- Handouts