

Elementary Czech Language

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Course Description:

This course introduces students to the basics of Czech needed for everyday communication during their stay in the Czech Republic. While Czech is often considered a challenging language, the course emphasizes practical skills rather than fluency. Students will focus on essential topics such as ordering food and drinks, grocery shopping, restaurant interactions, asking for directions, telling time, and describing daily routines and life in Prague.

The course also develops foundational pronunciation and grammar skills that enable students to express themselves in common situations. By the end of the semester, students will reach approximately the midpoint of the A1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), equipping them to handle simple interactions and make the most of their time abroad.

Teaching Methods:

The course is taught using communicative methods, with an emphasis on real-life tasks and practical use of the language. Classroom activities are varied to address different learning preferences and provide opportunities to practice Czech in multiple ways.

Several field trips are integrated into the course, including visits to a restaurant, a supermarket, and the city centre, where students can apply what they have learned in authentic contexts. Homework assignments support individual practice and often involve autonomous tasks that make the material personally meaningful, for example, preparing a shopping list, describing routes to frequently visited places, or creating a short video about experiences in Prague.

Throughout the term, students complete regular assignments, give a short presentation on a topic of their choice in the second half of the semester, and work on a final project, presented in the final class.

Optional extracurricular activity:

1. The language tandem with a Czech student
2. Volunteering at a local school

Contact your teacher for more information.

Grading Policy:

- Coursework (active participation, homework, presentation) **30 %**
- Three graded quizzes, **30 %**
- Midterm oral exam **20 %**
- Final project – video **20 %**

The use of electronic devices is not permitted during class, except when explicitly required for learning activities.

Mandatory Completion Policy

Note that all mandatory assignments and exams must be completed to the best of your ability in order for your final grade to be issued. Failure to complete a mandatory assignment or exam may result in a failing grade.

Letter Grade	Percentage	Description
A+	97-100	Excellent Work
A	93-97	Outstanding Work
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	Good work
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Acceptable Work
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Work that is significantly below average
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work that does not meet the minimum standards for passing the course

AEP Academic Integrity Policy

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are not tolerated. The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the development of knowledge and learning is encouraged at many stages of the learning process. While we value technology for educational purposes, we also value originality and the retainment of knowledge, and thus using AI for assignments and examinations, even if rephrased, is strictly prohibited and considered an academic integrity violation, unless the instructor explicitly allows for it in the context of evaluated work

AEP Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy

The AEP program in Prague promotes a diverse learning environment where the dignity, worth, and differences of each individual are valued and respected. Discrimination and harassment, whether based on a person's race, gender, sexual orientation, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, or other legally protected characteristics, are repugnant and completely inconsistent with our objectives. Retaliation against individuals for raising good faith claims of harassment and/or discrimination is prohibited.

AEP Diversity Policy

AEP is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming community that values diversity in all its forms. We believe that one of the most meaningful lessons of studying abroad is learning to navigate and appreciate differences with curiosity and an open mind. While engaging across differences can sometimes be challenging or uncomfortable, these moments are essential for growth and learning. We recognize that every member of our community, even with the best intentions, may occasionally make missteps. Our commitment is to provide a supportive environment where respectful and honest dialogue helps us learn from these experiences, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive and broaden their perspective.

Weekly Schedule

Orientation Sept 14-17	Introduction, pronunciation Food and drinks Restaurant, supermarket, numbers
Wk 2 Sept 21	Who is it? What is it? (verb to be + gender)
Wk 3 Sept 28	Directions I. Quiz 1
Wk 4 Oct 5	Directions cont.
Wk 5 Oct 12	Time (regular verbs) Quiz 2
Wk 6 Oct 19	My things (verb to have)
Wk 7 Oct 26	Mid-term
Nov 2-6	SEMESTER BREAK

Wk 8 Nov 9	My family
Wk 9 Nov 16	My week (verbs)
Wk 10 Nov 23	What did you do? Quiz 3
Wk 11 Nov 30	My trip Final Review
Wk 12 Dec 7	Project Preparation Project presentations
Wk 13 Dec 14	Individual consultations
The exact dates of quizzes and tests will be announced in the first week of class.	