

CZE1131: Introduction to Czech Language & Culture 2

Spring 2025

Course no. 20726, 5 credits,
Hybrid format (2 days F2F + 3 days online)
F2F meetings in MW4 in Turlington 2350

Instructor: Holly Raynard, hraynard@ufl.edu, (352) 294-7150

Tentative office hours from Jan. 13-April 23 (to be confirmed by Jan. 18): Mon. 12:00-1:30 pm;
Fri. 3:00-4:30 pm & by appointment.

- I limit all students to an initial 15 minutes if other students are waiting (but you're welcome to return).
- Feel free to stop by even if you don't have questions; we can go over homework or chit-chat in Czech!

Course website: elearning.ufl.edu/ (then use Gatorlink ID & password to log in to Canvas)



Course description: *Vítám vás na kurzu češtiny!* Welcome to Czech class! Whether your interest in Czech is social, academic or professional, knowledge of the Czech language will enrich your interaction with Czechs and Czech culture. This course aims to develop your communicative abilities in Czech—reading, writing, listening and speaking—while acquainting you with various aspects of Czech culture. This is the second course in a two-semester sequence. After this sequence, you'll be able to communicate on an elementary level about yourself; your family; college life; daily activities; and your interests, plans, and preferences. You will also be able handle basic social transactions related to leisure time and chores, academics, schedules and daily routines, travel & more.

Prerequisites: **CZE1130 or equivalent** (to be determined by instructor). This class is intended for beginners. If you've had previous exposure to the language (e.g. formal study or significant time abroad, interaction with Czech-speaking family, etc.) please contact the instructor ASAP for placement.

Required texts & materials: You will need a reliable computer & internet connection, a microphone, headphones or earbuds, and a computer camera. Since our textbook, *Reality Czech*, is a web-based, open educational resource, there are no books to buy! ☺ Check the Unit Overview pages on Canvas if you'd like to print out a hard copy of any grammar explanations or vocabulary lists.

Course fee: N/A

Course requirements¹ (explained in detail further below)

Class Participation – 13%
Homework – 24%
Quizzes and Tests – 60%
Oral Final – 3%

¹ **This syllabus is tentative.** While I don't anticipate any major changes, I reserve the right to make adjustments as needed to ensure quality of instruction or to comply with (evolving) UF policies. Any changes—whether due to extreme weather, pandemic, or other reasons--will be announced on Canvas and (emergency permitting) in class.

Active Class Participation (Aktivní účast na hodině) – 13%



What do team sports, music ensembles and communication all have in common?

They require your brain, your body and other people! And the more you practice, the better you perform. While you can practice some elements at home alone, to “play” well, you also need to practice together. Accordingly, active participation in this class is vital and required!

👍 To encourage daily practice & good habits, I will award participation points for:

- Attentiveness during class and overall engagement in course materials;
- Being a responsive partner during pair/group work;
- Preparation for class as demonstrated by readiness for class activities (Did you read about and practice new concepts in HW prior to class? Can you produce topical vocab without much delay?)
- **Consistent use of Czech in class.**

👎 I deduct participation points for the opposite behaviors:

- Inattentiveness, lack of engagement: texting, Facebooking, doing work for other classes, etc.
- Being disruptive: late & loud entrances, loud wrappers, cell phones not on silent, etc.
- Being an unresponsive partner in pair/group work, failure to engage in assigned pair/group task.
- Being unprepared for class activities.
- **Defaulting to English**; unwillingness or inability to communicate in Czech.

*Don't be afraid of making mistakes!
The goal is to exchange ideas. Perfection is not required!*

****Absence policy**:** If you don't attend, you can't participate so I expect you to arrive prepared and on time every Monday & Wednesday! If you *must* miss class due to an excused absence (family emergency, illness, religious holiday or participation in an approved academic / athletic event), please let me know (in advance when possible) and be prepared to provide follow-up documentation. Note that it is *your* responsibility to find out what you missed while absent and to make up any missed work.

Unexcused absences will be reflected in course grade as explained below:

1 absence – everyone gets 1 “freebie” (use it wisely : -)
2-3 absences – proportionate % subtracted from <i>Class Participation grade</i>
4+ absences -- 4% subtracted from <u>overall</u> course grade per absence
Arriving 10 minutes late on 4 occasions = 1 absence.

I don't subtract points for excused absences, but they will still affect your performance so please contact me if you are gravely ill or expect to miss multiple classes so that I can try to help you catch up!

Homework (Domácí úkoly) –24%

All homework assignments are contained in our Canvas lesson modules. You can access all Lesson modules from our Canvas Home page. If you did not take CZE1130 with me last fall, please visit the “**Start here/Welcome Module**” which will show you how to navigate our website.

Homework assignments vary in type and will be weighted differently as described further below.

3 Přehled lekce 3.5

Chtěla bych čaj s citronem. Moje kamarádka si dá kávu s mlékem. Ordering food & drinks.

In this lesson you will learn to order foods in a restaurant, using phrases like *Dám si ...* 'I'll have ...' and *Chtěla bych ...* 'I would like ...' and the accusative case—which you will have more opportunities to practice. You will also learn the preposition 'with' and recognize the instrumental forms that follow it.

Instructions: How to Proceed?

You should proceed through the table below, working left to right and then top to bottom. Concepts or vocabulary are introduced in the left-hand columns below; they are reinforced with practice activities to their right. After completing the topics in the table, there will be a final assignment that integrates all these components.

This lesson will probably take you about 2 hours to complete.

Concepts or Vocabulary to Learn	Now Practice & Apply
Read: ☞ Coffee with milk, tea with lemon - Instrumental Forms after 'with' ↓	Review food vocabulary with Quizlet flashcards practice Instrumental Singular - 'with' . Read these phrases (s + foods) aloud as you study them!
Read: ☞ Ordering food and drinks ↓	Quizlet Flashcards: Dám si ... Read words aloud as you study them! Cvičení - Dám si and 2nd position Cvičení - Ordering types of drinks
Read: ☞ Chtěla bych ... ↓	Cvičení - Chtěla bych ... I would like ... Practice conditional form of <i>chtít</i> along with accusative and instrumental forms of food and drink words.
Listening: Reality Czech - Pijete kávu nebo čaj? ↻	Reality Czech - Pijete kávu nebo čaj?
Listening: Reality Czech - Radši pijete víno nebo vlnu? ↻	Reality Czech - Radši pijete víno nebo vlnu?

Integrated Assignments

These assignments apply multiple components from above:

- [Dialog: V restauraci](#). (You will record yourself in Part 3.)
- [Domácí úkol 3.5](#)

1. Left-hand column: Here you'll find short Readings or Videos. They introduce new vocabulary and grammar concepts.

2. Right-hand column: These are the Discrete drill-type exercises. You usually get two attempts. Reread items in Step 1 above if you have many errors.

^ Steps 1 & 2 should be done **before class**. They'll help you prepare for interaction.

3. Bottom of the page: Integrated assignments combine skills from the top of the page. Feel free to leave questions/comments for me here!

1. Readings or Videos: These introduce new or grammar concepts to learn.

- Start with these. They will prepare you for the graded exercises that follow immediately to the right. (See image above.)

2. Discrete Exercises (often computer-graded)

- These exercises are relatively short and assess how well you understood the concepts laid out in the readings and videos. They typically focus on only 1-2 variables so that if you have any trouble, you can refer back to the corresponding explanation or vocabulary list to troubleshoot.
- You will usually be allowed **two attempts** so that if you don't earn a satisfactory score the first time, you can try again. (But first refer back to the related reading so you understand any errors.)
- Most of these exercises are self-graded by Canvas to give you immediate feedback. I will also review these myself. Please feel free to email me if Canvas made a mistake & I haven't fixed it within 1-2 days!
- To mitigate any Canvas grading glitches, **if you average at least 87%** on these assignments at the semester's end, **I will convert your score to 93%** in the Canvas Gradebook. (This should hopefully relieve some anxiety if you don't understand the nature of an error right away.)
- These exercises are worth a bit less overall since the work is less independent.
- FYI: although these exercises use the Canvas "Quizzes" tool, each exercise is considered "Homework" in terms of your course grade, not an actual course quiz.

3. Integrated Assignments (always evaluated by instructor)

- These assignments are located at the very bottom of each Lesson Module page.
- They integrate a variety of components from the current lesson as well as past topics.
- I grade work with a plus-check-minus mindset: If work is very good (but not perfect), you will still earn 100% or close to it. (If you earn 98-99% rather than 100, that is usually a signal for you to recheck something.) I will downgrade (80%, 60%, 40%, etc.) if I see excessive or repeated errors, not using the requested vocab or structures, missing work, etc.
- If work is dramatically incomplete, you may be asked to resubmit it and will earn 0% until then.
- This assignment category is worth a bit more overall as it involves more independent work.

When is Homework (HW) due?

- For best results, homework should be completed **daily**, Monday-Friday, according to the schedule found on our Canvas Home page. That said, there are **three “hard” deadlines each week** to ensure you are prepared for in-class interaction. (When you click on the lesson modules for the days we meet F2F, you will further find assignments divided into “pre-class” and “post-class” components.)
- If you miss a “hard” deadline (see list below), you’ll lose 50%:
 - **Before our Monday class meeting:** You must complete the Monday “pre-class” homework
 - **Before our Wednesday class meeting:** You must complete the Wednesday “pre-class” homework, plus the previous homework from that week (Mon. post-class + Tues.).
 - **By Saturday at 12 noon:** Remaining weekly homework (Wed. post-class + Thu. + Fri.) is due.
- Unless special permission is granted, homework submitted more than 1 week late will earn **no credit**.

Will I get a notification when each assignment is due?

No! Since each lesson module contains numerous short exercises, **you will not get a Canvas notification for each and every assignment.** (You will soon see that since daily modules can easily contain 8-15 short, finite components, you would thus have some 8-15 daily alerts – and would likely kill me!) Rather, you should plan on submitting about 1 lesson module per day (M-F).

It’s not due yet: why did I get a “zero”? Please don’t be alarmed if you earn a zero on an assignment before the due date. Because of how Canvas assigns grades, I give all non-submitted work a “zero” grade the *first* time I pass through—even if it isn’t due yet. Please ignore that & don’t worry: you can still submit work on time for full value or late for reduced value. (Experience tells me that students find the alternative—a string of zeroes given at the end of the unit / when it’s too late to make them up—less helpful and more stressful.)

Quizzes & tests (Kvízy a testy) – 60%

Timeline: There will be a quiz nearly each week and five unit tests this semester. Quizzes will typically be announced in advance (see lesson modules) though I may give an occasional “pop” quiz to keep you on your toes. : -) See schedule further below for unit exams. I will **drop your lowest quiz grade** at the end of the term (**or two** if we have 8 or more quizzes).

Technology: Quizzes will usually be given in class. Exams may be given in class or proctored online (e.g., by Honorlock or a similar app). Please review the proctor policies and technology requirements (on Canvas) before the first exam. Most exams will have a listening and/or speaking component; online exams will require a mic, headphones/earbuds, and camera.

Content: Exams and quizzes will generally cover content introduced in homework and weekly meetings though the contexts or formats may be somewhat different. (For example: homework may ask you to describe a past trip whereas a test may ask you to entice your Czech friend to visit FL over break.) Quizzes tend to focus on discrete items (vocabulary or grammar). While exams may include some discrete items, they focus on more integrated skills. I grade these two types of assessments differently:

- **Discrete assessments** focus on specific objectives like grammar points or vocabulary items. These are graded discretely, based on the number of correct vs. incorrect items. Grammar and vocabulary mistakes count as 1 point each; spelling mistakes count as ½ point each.
- **Performance-based tasks**, in contrast, will require you to integrate many skills in order to handle a social transaction (i.e., to persuade, get directions, gather information to reach a decision, etc.). These sections are graded more holistically--based on how successfully you execute a given task. (You can see some example assessment rubrics on Canvas.) Exams will often include an oral/aural component, whereby you do a role-play or solve a problem with another student. Since you will be required to perform (to speak and comprehend, not just memorize information), **the best practice is regular participation in weekly meetings and nightly homework!**

Review opportunities: The lesson module before the unit exam is typically dedicated to unit review.

Make-ups: If you miss a test or quiz for an [excused reason](#), you should contact me to schedule a make-up. Make-up privileges might be granted in the case of a non-medical, non-emergency or non-university-approved event, but advance notice is typically required for such consideration.

****Good student bonus**:** Students who satisfactorily complete *all* unit homework on time **and** have *no* synch meeting absences in a given unit can self-correct that unit's exam for **extra credit**, allowing students to regain up to 50% of the points they missed. (For ex: 70% will be raised to a max of 85%, provided all corrections are accurate.) Open-book exams or oral assessments cannot be self-corrected.

Oral Final Exam – 3% (TBA - between Mon. April 28 and Wed. April 30)

You will schedule a 30-minute meeting with me (F2F or on Zoom) during finals week (ideally before 5 PM on Wednesday, April 30). The exam will take the form of an informal discussion (est. 25 minutes): you can expect to be interviewed on topics from Units 6-10 and also to pose related questions. (It will echo our in-class activities. You may also be asked to engage in a short role-play. The See Canvas for more details.

Grading Scale: Letter grades are based on the percentages shown in the table below:

97-100%	A (No A+s at UF)	87-89.99%	B+	77-79.99%	C+
93-96.99%	A	83-86.99%	B	73-76.99%	C
90-92.99%	A-	80-82.99%	B-	etc.	C-

Last Day to change grade to S/U basis: Friday, January 31

S/U grading means that you would earn a “Satisfactory grade” (S) for a “C” grade or higher and an “Unsatisfactory” (U) grade for a “C-“ grade or lower; neither would count in your GPA. If you are taking this course to fulfill a college foreign language requirement or as an elective, S/U grading should be fine, but S/U grades are typically not allowed for required coursework in a specific major, minor or certificate. I encourage you to talk to your major or college advisor if you are interested and have questions.)

More UF grade info can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>:

Course Policy on Absences, Make-up Work

F2F meetings:

- If you must miss a F2F meeting, it is *your* responsibility to find out what you missed and make it up. Note that exams could include class content or echo class activities.

Quizzes/Exams or Homework Delays

- You may make up a missed quiz or exam if you have an *excused reason* (due to illness/trauma, serious family emergencies, religious holidays, participation in special curricular requirements or official university activities (see more [examples in the UF catalog](#)).
- Please contact me as soon as you are aware of the conflict or problem. If you are sick or have an excused absence, you will be given enough time to make up accruing homework and exams. Missed work should generally be made up within two weeks of your return; all missed work should be completed before the last week of instruction.
- If you have a time conflict with a synchronous meeting, quiz or exam for another reason, I *may* be able to offer you a makeup opportunity if you reach out to me in advance!
- You are expected to provide official documentation of an excused absence. Note that UF offers [telehealth visits](#) if you need a medical note.

Tentative Weekly Course Schedule:

The following schedule outlines the main topics we will cover during the semester as well as dates for unit exams. We will cover units 6-10 in *Reality Czech* this semester (spending some 10-15 instructional days on each unit), with a test at the end of each unit. Exam days are marked with an asterisk below as dates

are tentative; we may deviate 1+/- day as needed. For detailed unit goals and individual lesson modules), please see Canvas.

Week & Unit	Topic
Week 1 / Unit 6	Leisure time activities and chores; introduction to verbal aspect
Week 2 / Unit 6	Making your "to do" list: nuances of verbal aspect, modal verbs
Week 3 / Unit 6	Intro to future tense, new year's resolutions
Week 4 / Unit 6-7	Unit 6 exam School subjects, accusative review, intro to genitive case
Week 5 / Unit 7	Discussing academics from application to admission & more
Week 6 / Unit 7	Student & university profiles; review of locative case Unit 7 exam
Week 7 / Unit 8	Where & when: intro to "going," talking about time in Czech
Week 8 / Unit 8	Daily routines (personal hygiene verbs, reflexive verbs)
Week 9 / Unit 8	Recap: times of day, days of week, every month Unit 8 exam
<i>March 17-21: Spring break - No modules or meetings this week 😊</i>	
Week 10 / Unit 9	Holidays: dates, gift giving, indirect objects & dative case
Week 11 / Unit 9	Going to someone's house, cultural etiquette & generalizations: passive voice with "se," discussion of selected holidays
Week 12 / Unit 9-10	Unit 9 Exam Travel destinations & activities, verbs of motion (going by ground transport)
Week 13 / Unit 10	Travel by flight & itineraries, travel supplies
Week 14 / Unit 10	Czech & Florida travel sites, transit timetables
Week 15 / Unit 10	Review. Unit 10 exam (Wed. April. 23)
Finals Week	Oral Final to be scheduled by 5:00 PM on Wed. April 30.

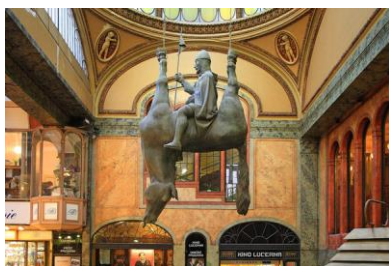
Spring 2025 Holidays & Other Important Dates

Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday: **Monday, January 20.**

Deadline to change grade to S/U basis (vs. a letter grade): **Friday, January 31.**

Spring break: **Monday - Friday, March 17-21**

Reading days: **Thursday-Friday, April 24-25**



ADDITIONAL NOTES

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Honesty & UF Honor Code

All students are bound by the Honor Pledge: "[o]n all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied: On my honor, I have neither given nor

received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." Violations of the code (including acts like cheating, plagiarizing, multiple submissions, etc.) will not be tolerated. Before submitting any work for this class, please familiarize yourself with the Honor Code (especially pp. 11-13) and consequences for violating it: <https://regulations.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/UF-Regulation-4.040.pdf>

Related: Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Machine Translation (MT)

AI and MT tools are like training wheels on a bicycle: they offer balance when we're starting out, but relying on them too much can hinder our ability to ride unassisted. While AI can be a fantastic aid for brainstorming ideas, proofreading drafts, or even interactive role-plays, it's important to use these tools judiciously. While they're tempting to use due to their ease and speed, relying on them can prevent deep engagement with the language, leading to weaker grasp of vocabulary and grammatical structures, and generally poorer outcomes on exams and other assessments.

To ensure tools like ChatGPT and Google Translate (GT) enhance -- rather than undermine -- learning, **you are required to disclose their use in your submissions. Please indicate in your homework document the specific tool used and explain how / for what purpose you consulted it.** (E.g., did you ask it for essay ideas, to translate lines, to proofread text, etc.?)

Additional Considerations:

- **Understanding and Accountability:** Make sure you fully understand any language sourced from AI. If you use an expression in homework, be prepared to use it in other contexts (class, an exam, etc.).
- **Communication with Classmates:** Since your classmates won't know all the expressions you've learned via AI or MT, be ready to explain what they mean (in Czech) or use appropriate alternatives.
- **Data Security & Privacy:** Be aware that your interactions with AI tools like ChatGPT are not private. Avoid disclosing personal or sensitive information as it could be inadvertently repeated in future outputs. (UF offers [AI tools for free to students using the UF VPN and claims data won't be retained or used to train LLMs...](#)but it's always good to be cautious.)
- **Assignments Using AI:** You may be asked to use AI on some assignments or assessments. If you object to using these tools (e.g., ethical reasons), please let me know.

This section was authored with the assistance of ChatGPT. :-)

Online Course Evaluations

At the end of the semester, you are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Evaluations are typically open for you to complete during the last 2-3 weeks of the semester. Students will be notified when the evaluation periods opens, and they can complete evaluations through the email they receive on GatorEvals or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>.

Counseling and Wellness Center (CWC)

The CWC teaches students skills to cope with anxiety and to support mental health and personal wellness. CWC services include traditional, group, and couples' therapy as well as consultation, crisis services, workshops, biofeedback, and more. Contact the CWC at: (352) 392-1575, 3190 Radio Road or counseling.ufl.edu/. Call the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Check the "Campus Resources" tab on Canvas to explore other student services.



Opportunities & Deadlines

- **Foreign Language and Area Studies grants. Deadline: February 7.** FLAS grants provide tuition and a stipend to help you continue Czech at UF during the 2025-26 academic year or to study intermediate Czech intensively overseas this summer (tuition, flight, housing & living stipend are provided). <https://ces.ufl.edu/funding/student-funding/foreign-language-area-studies-fellowships-flas/>
- **Study abroad! UF in Prague deadline: March 1.** Contact Dr. Ingrid Kleespies (iakl@ufl.edu) for info about Summer 2025 (6 weeks). UFIC's scholarship deadlines are usually a bit earlier than March 1 so visit their [website](#) for details. They also have an annual study abroad fair (usually in January) where you may learn about other (non-UF) programs. There are many ways to make degree progress while studying in Czech Republic, and I'm happy to talk to you about options, so please reach out!
- **Add a Czech-related track to your degree!** Interested in a **B.A. degree** in International Studies? Czech language and area studies course can fulfill tracking requirements for the major's European track. **Minor & Certificate** programs in Central European Studies allow you to combine your interest in Czech with a number of disciplines. Visit the CES website for more info (or ask me since I am the advisor for European Studies): <https://ces.ufl.edu/academics/undergraduate-degreesprograms/>

Questions or concerns?

Please contact me: hraynard@ufl.edu

I am on campus M-F and am happy to answer short questions whenever I'm around—before or after class, in a quick email message, phone call, etc. Longer questions or complicated concerns are better discussed in office hours or a separate meeting. If office hours are not accessible to you, I am happy to meet at other times. If you'd like to schedule a meeting, please let me know!