

**CZE2201**  
**Spring 2023 - 3 credits**  
**MWF 7 (1:55-2:45 pm) in Matherly 108**

**Instructor:** Holly Raynard, hraynard@ufl.edu

**Office:** 3326A Turlington Hall, (352) 294-7150

**Website:** <http://elearning.ufl.edu> (Log in to e-learning using your Gatorlink ID & password.)

**Office hours (Jan. 9-April 26):** Mon.12-1 PM, Wed.3-5 PM & by appointment (F2F or on Zoom)

While not required, I recommend students reserve one or two 15-blocks on Calendly to avoid waiting. I will help students without an appointment on a first-come, first-served basis, limiting meetings to an initial 15 minutes if others are waiting (but you can always wait & come back again).



**Course description:** This course is intended for students who have studied Czech at the college level for three semesters or who have spent a significant amount of time interacting in Czech (i.e., with family members in the U.S. or while living abroad). In this class you will increase vocabulary, solidify knowledge of Czech grammar, and refine all four skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) while exploring central issues of Czech culture. Our topic this semester will be **Czech cultural production, focusing on the arts, entertainment & media**. You will be introduced to the standards of both written and colloquial Czech. We will use traditional textbooks and prepared materials as well as a great deal of authentic materials (internet, film, print sources) to sharpen your communicative abilities as well as your cultural proficiency; moreover, you will interview Czechs as part of your assigned work.

After completing the second-year sequence, you will be able to communicate comfortably in Czech about various topics, read numerous authentic materials like news articles, literature and understand many song lyrics and dialogue from contemporary film. See page 4 below to learn about scholarship opportunities or how to apply your language skills to other disciplines and study abroad!

**Prerequisites:** CZE2200 or equivalent or consent of instructor.

**Required Materials:** A notebook or binder for the many handouts you will print or receive in class. There are no other materials to purchase; all required materials will be made available free of charge. Most materials will be available on Canvas; other materials will be provided by instructor in hard copy.

**Optional Materials:**

1. Susan Kresin et al., *Čeština hrou (Czech for Fun)*. Textbook and CDs – New York: McGraw-Hill Primis Custom Publishing, 2000. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. (ISBN: 9780072455472; new edition has a red cover.)
2. Michael Heim, *Contemporary Czech*. Columbus, OH: Slavica, 1973/1982. Available for purchase from [www.slavica.com](http://www.slavica.com)
3. Townsend, Charles E. *A Description of Spoken Prague Czech*. Columbus, OH: Slavica, 1990.

**Note:** This is a tentative syllabus. While I do not expect to make any major changes, I reserve the right to make adjustments as needed (due to extreme weather, pandemic, or more mundane reasons) to ensure we meet our curricular goals. I will announce any changes in class and will post them on Canvas.

**Course grade will consist of the following components** (discussed in more detail below):

- Class Participation & Attendance – 10%
- Homework – 23%
- Quizzes and Exams – 50%
- Research & Reports -- 15%
- Oral Interview – 2%

***Class Participation – 10%***

You are expected to arrive on time each day, ready to participate. Please come to class prepared to engage the daily topic **in Czech**. (This closely hinges on your regular attendance and homework record.) While you may feel rusty after the break, your abilities will return soon enough if you are patient with yourself and consistent. The challenge in the upper levels of Czech is not to rest on your laurels: you will need to work to maintain what you have learned and improve!

Communication is also a two-way street, and your classmates depend on you. Help them (and yourself) by being a committed interlocutor. When you are unprepared, it affects their progress, too.

**I award participation points for the following performance:**

- Arriving prepared: you are familiar with vocab and concepts covered in previous HW, you can produce & understand routine expressions without long delays;
- Being attentive during class and engaged in course activities;
- Consistently striving to communicate **in Czech** (and never English)!  
As always, don't be afraid of making mistakes! They are a natural part of learning.

**I deduct participation points for these ignominious behaviors:**

- Being un- or underprepared for class activities (unfamiliar with vocab/concepts covered in recent HW, excessively slow/unable to understand or produce expressions due to poor preparation);
- Hampering your partner during pair/group work: not listening, not responding, not communicating;
- Persistent use of English in class. Reluctance or inability to use Czech as your default language;
- Texting, using Facebook, doing work for other courses (etc.) during our class;
- Being disruptive (talking about unrelated topics in English during class, late loud entrances, etc.).

**\*\*Absence policy\*\*** -- If you *must* miss class due to an **excused** absence (family emergency, illness, religious holiday or participation in an approved academic or athletic event), please let me know (in advance whenever possible) and be prepared to provide follow-up documentation. Note that it is *your* responsibility to find out what you missed while absent and make up any missed work. While I won't penalize you for excused absences, they will affect your performance.

**Unexcused** absences will be reflected in your course grade as follows:

**1 absence** – no penalty; everyone gets one freebie ☺

**2-3 absences** – proportionate % subtracted from *Class Participation grade*

**4+ absences** – ½ grade drop from overall course grade per absence (ex. from A- to B+)

If you are **10+ minutes late** to class on 4 occasions, you will be marked as having missed 1 class. If you *must* be late, please enter class quietly & limit disruptions so that your classmates are minimally affected.

***Homework – 23%***

Homework is the next step to succeeding in this course. It's an excellent opportunity to practice concepts presented in class and receive feedback on your work penalty-free. If you do a little each night—and do it thoughtfully, exams shouldn't offer any surprises.

Assignments can be found on Canvas. Please do work when it is assigned. All late work received more than **1 class** after the original due date will be downgraded by **half**; **no** late work will be accepted after the respective unit exam. Incomplete assignments may receive a zero until completed in full.

In some cases I may assign HW which has not yet been submitted a preliminary zero grade even if not yet overdue; if this happens, please don't worry: you can still submit HW for full credit by the due date! (Due to Canvas's grading system, I prefer to assign all students *some kind* of grade on my first run through as this reduces gradebook errors later, but I will be sure to adjust the grade as needed after work has been submitted.)

### Quizzes & Exams –50%

There will be several scheduled quizzes and thematic exams during the semester as well as a few pop-quizzes, as needed, to keep you on your toes. Most unit exams contain both written and oral components: grammar and vocabulary sections are graded discretely, based on the number of errors; oral skills and writing are graded more holistically, based on how successfully you execute a given task. In discrete sections, spelling errors count as a 1/2 point, and grammar and vocabulary mistakes count as 1 point. Grading criteria for oral sections will be provided prior to the first exam. There is no midterm.

**Make-ups:** If you miss a test or quiz for an *excused* reason (see "Absences"), you should contact me to schedule a make-up. Advance notice is required for make-up privileges in the case of a non-medical, non-emergency or non-university-approved event. Missed work should ideally be made up within two weeks after your return to class; all work must be made up before finals week!

**\*\*Good student bonus\*\*:** Students who have completed *all* unit homework and have *no* unit absences can self-correct their unit exam and then submit their corrections for extra credit. In this way students can regain up to 50% of the points they originally missed (ex: a 70% will be raised to a max of 85%, provided all corrections are accurate). Quizzes, oral, and take-home or open-book exams cannot be self-corrected or resubmitted for additional points.

### Research & Reports – 15% (Research –5%, Oral Presentation –5%, Paper --5%)

1. **Research:** You will independently research a topic related to arts, entertainment and/or media and their role in shaping or contesting culture. "Culture" is to be understood broadly—high culture, popular culture, political culture or identity politics, official communist culture vs. alternative cultural circles, etc.—as are "arts, entertainment & media." You might study traditional cultural venues like the National Theater or newer phenomena like social media or reality TV. Communist-era censorship would be a rich topic to explore. There are also dozens of noteworthy individuals from past or present cultural scenes—those we will study in class or their colleagues; the legendary singer Karel Gott; the reactionary, the sensationalist, anti-immigrant band Ortel; or the famous conceptual artist David Černý—whose works you've likely seen (or will see) somewhere in Prague. You should use multiple (3 or more) quality Czech-language sources (internet OK if reputable).

The research process will be divided into phases:

- **Fri. Week 6:** Send me your topic. 1 pt
  - **Fri. Week 9:** Send me your bibliography (3-5 sources) 1 pts
  - **Mon. Week 12:** Send me a short **summary** of each source in English and Include an initial **list** of 10-15 high-frequency terms you encountered while reading that were not previously in your active vocabulary. 3 pts.
2. **Oral Presentation (Week 15):** You will report orally on what you have learned. You should plan to speak for about 6-10 minutes and should prepare PowerPoint slides or other visual aids to accompany your presentation, featuring relevant **headings** or **questions** to guide or preface your talk, essential **vocabulary** that your classmates will need to understand your talk (please use dictionary format!), and relevant images or **visual** media. (See rubric on Canvas for more info.)  
While you may use an outline to assist you, you should **not read** lengthy text (sentences) verbatim and will be downgraded for doing so! You should also aim to use an oral style of language (shorter sentences, simpler syntax, familiar vocabulary) rather than a written style which can be difficult to digest when presented orally.

3. **Written (Wed. May 3):** You will submit a written draft (approx. 2-4 pages typed, double-spaced with 1-inch margins), related to your presentation topic(s). You are encouraged to submit a rough draft in advance (ideally at the time of your oral presentation) so that I can give you feedback before your final submission during Finals Week.

**Assessment:** Your oral presentation and final written draft will be evaluated for both form and content. You can find assessment criteria for both on Canvas. You should also:

- **Post a copy of your PPT slides** to the **Discussions** forum on Canvas.
- **Email me** a .docx version of your final draft & also **post a copy to Assignments** area on Canvas.

**Note on Google Translate** (and similar aids)

- **For reading/research:** They can be useful tools—and you *should* practice using it occasionally in order to learn how it can be useful and where it is & isn't unreliable. That said, they should never be your first (or even second) step in making sense of target-language materials. Many argue we learn language best when we use it as a *tool* or *medium in context*; using GT as a crutch is thus a waste of a learning opportunity. When used excessively (i.e., not as a last resort or out of linguistic curiosity), it becomes an "unauthorized aid," violating the Honor Code.
- **For writing/language production: DO NOT USE GOOGLE TRANSLATE** (or similar)! It is an Honor Code violation. (And it is usually obvious when students use GT!)

**Oral Final / Interview – 2%** (Exam block: Wed. May 3 @ 3-5 PM; another time OK if available)

You will schedule a 40-minute meeting with me (Zoom OK) during Finals Week when we will do a proficiency-based exit interview. While this interview is required, since it is proficiency-based, no preparation is required. More details to be provided.

**Grading.** Grades are based on the following point system:

100%	A+	87-89.99%	B+	77-79.99%	C+
93-99%	A	83-86.99%	B	73-76.99%	C
90-92.99%	A-	80-82.99%	B-	etc.	

Last Day to change grade to S/U basis: **Friday, January 27**. More UF grade info can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>:

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### **\*Tentative\* Course Schedule**

Below are selected themes & grammar points we will cover this semester. You can find daily homework assignments posted on Canvas (like last semester):

- Weeks 1-2: Vocab & grammar review; conditional mood
- Weeks 2-3: The historical role of theater in Czech culture; passive voice with *se*
- Weeks 3-4: Czech TV: historical overview & issues; advanced *spojky*
- Weeks 5-6: Print media; past passive participles, features specific to written language  
**By Fri Wk 6: Send me your research topic.**
- Weeks 7-8: Forman: "Film truth" in Czech new wave; intro to Prague Spoken Czech (SPC)  
**By Fri Wk 9: Send me your bibliography (3-5 sources)**
- Weeks 9-11: Cz. "living room" theater (Havel's play "Audience") continuation of SPC<sub>SEP</sub>
- Weeks 12-14: **TBA (may change):** Film on gender & consumption: *Ženy pro měny*;  
subordinate mood with *aby*  
**By Mon of Wk 12: Send me a summary of each of your sources**

- Week 15+ Catch up.  
**Mon or Wed: Oral Presentation/Referát in class**
- Finals Week Final draft of papers due & Final Oral Interview  
**Wed. May 3 is our official time slot; another due date may be agreed upon**

### 2023 Holidays & other important dates (no school)

January 16 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
March 11-18 – Spring Break  
April 27-28– Reading days (last class meets on Wed. 4/25)

### ADDITIONAL NOTES:

**Accommodations:** Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting their Get Started page: <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>

Please share your accommodation letter with me and let me know your access needs as early as possible in the semester. For further information, please call the DRC at (352) 392-8565, email [DRC@ufsa.ufl.edu](mailto:DRC@ufsa.ufl.edu) or visit the DRC web site: <https://disability.ufl.edu/>.

**Academic Honesty:** All students commit to the Honesty Pledge whereby, “[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.” Please familiarize yourself with the Honor Code—and the consequences for violating it—here:

<https://archive.catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/1617//advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>

\*\*\* Again, please note that using Google Translate (or similar tools) to write your assignments constitutes “unauthorized aid” (and is typically quite obvious, even introducing glaring errors)! \*\*\*

**Online course evaluations:** At the end of the semester, you are expected to provide anonymous feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback is available <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified by email when the evaluation period opens and can access the evaluation site from the email notification link, in the Canvas course menu (under “Gator Evals”), or on the webpage <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. I thank you in advance for your input and any comments; they are extremely important in helping me improve my teaching!

### Special programs, dates & deadlines:

- **Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant:** [Apply to CES](#) by **January 27**  
These grants provide tuition and a stipend to support your study of Czech at UF in 2023-2024 academic year or to study intensively overseas this summer (int'l flight, room & board also covered).
- **UF Study Abroad Fair:** **Wed. Jan. 25.** 10 am - 3 pm, Reitz Union North Lawn
- **Study Abroad Scholarships 101:** **Thu. Jan. 25 & Thu. Feb. 2** at 4-5 pm, UFIC (in HUB)
- **UF in Prague:** Summer B 2023. [Apply to UFIC](#) by **March 1**. Contact UFIC for scholarship deadline info (usually earlier than program deadline).
- If you are interested in intensive Czech language summer programs, please come see me for recommendations!
- We also have **Minor** (18 credits) and a **Certificate** (12 credits) [programs in East-Central European Studies](#) and [European Union Studies](#) as well as a **major/B.A. degree** in [International Studies](#) (European track) that will allow you to combine your interest in Czech with a number of disciplines.