Czech (CZCH)

CZCH 110 Czech Through Film
This course has two separate but related components: a series of Czech films, shown with subtitles and open to the entire University of Pennsylvania community, and a Czech language class which relies on the films for content. Each film screening will be preceded by introductory remarks and followed by a discussion, with optional reading material made available in advance. In this way, the film series can but need not also be offered as a for-credit course, cross-listed through REES and Cinema and Media Studies. The films will be sequenced chronologically through Czech history, as opposed to film history, so that the series will double as a survey of Czech history. For example, we will begin with films set in the medieval period, such as Marketa Lazarova (dir. Frantisek Vlacil, 1967) and Cisaruv pekar-Pekaruv cisar (Emperor’s Baker-Baker’s Emperor, dir. Martin Fric, 1955). Eventually we will progress to recent films that deal with the current moment. Classic and contemporary films will be intermingled to simultaneously present a variety of important historical eras and cinematic techniques. Concurrently, students enrolled in the language course will learn basic Czech using custom-made materials drawn from the films. As their vocabulary and grasp of grammatical concepts increases, we will be able to work with longer and more complex sections of the film-texts. The films will provide the material for listening and reading exercises, and the students’ oral and written work will be anchored by their responses to the films. We will advance from picking out simple statements to analyzing dialogue and identifying irony in film and composition, developing skills of intercultural communication and competence. By the end of the course, students will be able to read about Czech cinema using authentic materials, and discuss the films’ aesthetic, historical and political importance.
Taught by: Weil
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit

CZCH 120 Czech through Short Stories
A conversational Czech language course integrated with an introduction to Czech short fiction. The selection of texts can be tailored to suit students’ interests. All texts will be available in English translation; students with advance knowledge may choose to read in the original. Through examples of short fiction, students will be introduced to important Czech authors such as Alois Jirasek, Jan Neruda, Bozena Nemcova, Karel Capek, Jaroslav Hasek, Eva Kanturkova, Daniela Fischerova, and Daniela Hodrova.
Taught by: Weil
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Seminar
1.0 Course Unit

CZCH 530 Elementary Czech I
An introduction to the fundamentals of the Czech language, acquisition of conversational, reading and writing skills. Offered through the Penn Language Center.
For BA Students: Language Course
Two terms. student may enter either term.
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Offered through the Penn Language Center.

CZCH 531 Elementary Czech II
Continuation of SLAV 530. Offered through the Penn Language Center.
For BA Students: Language Course
Taught by: Stejskal
Two terms. student may enter either term.
Prerequisite: SLAV 530
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Offered through the Penn Language Center.

CZCH 532 Intermediate Czech I
Emphasis on vocabulary building, conversation and reading skills. Grammar review. Offered through the Penn Language Center.
For BA Students: Language Course
Taught by: Stejskal
Two terms. student may enter either term.
Prerequisite: SLAV 531
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Offered through the Penn Language Center.

CZCH 533 Intermediate Czech II
Continuation of SLAV 532. Offered through the Penn Language Center.
For BA Students: Last Language Course
Taught by: Stejskal
Two terms. student may enter either term.
Prerequisite: SLAV 532
Activity: Lecture
1.0 Course Unit
Notes: Offered through the Penn Language Center.