Czech (CZEC)

CZEC 110a, Elementary Czech I  Karen von Kunes
A comprehensive introduction to Czech for students with no previous knowledge of the language. Essentials of grammar, with emphasis on oral proficiency, reading, writing, and listening comprehension. Online articles, annotated excerpts from Capek’s R.U.R., Hasek’s Svejk, Kundera’s Joke and Unbearable Lightness of Being, and Havel’s Private View. Audio- and videotapes.  L1  RP  1½ Course cr

CZEC 120b, Elementary Czech II  Karen von Kunes
Continuation of CZEC 110. After CZEC 110 or equivalent.  L2  RP  1½ Course cr

CZEC 130a, Intermediate Czech  Karen von Kunes
Continuation of CZEC 120. Grammar and usage, with emphasis on idiomatic expressions, syntax, and stylistics. Readings in modern Czech history, prose, and poetry; discussion of economic, political, and social issues. After CZEC 120 or equivalent.  L3  RP  1½ Course cr

CZEC 140b, Advanced Czech  Karen von Kunes
Continuation of CZEC 130. Emphasis on writing skills and spoken literary Czech. After CZEC 130 or equivalent.  L4  RP  1½ Course cr

* CZEC 301b / LITR 220b / RSEE 300b, Milan Kundera: The Czech Novelist and French Thinker  Karen von Kunes
Close reading of Kundera’s novels, with analysis of his aesthetics and artistic development. Relationships to French, German, and Spanish literatures and to history, philosophy, music, and art. Topics include paradoxes of public and private life, the irrational in erotic behavior, the duality of body and soul, the interplay of imagination and reality, the function of literary metaphor, and the art of composition. Readings and discussion in English.  HU  TR