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LETNÍ ŠKOLA SLOVANSKÝCH STUDIÍ V PRAZE

Filozofická fakulta Univerzity Karlovy



Using the *Reality Czech* Materials – from Formal Classrooms to Self Study

This presentation and workshop will focus on the Open Educational Resource *Reality Czech* (<https://realityczech.org>), which is a freely available textbook and curriculum for learning the Czech language. *Reality Czech* employs a proficiency-based approach to language learning, meaning that the materials are all designed to help students reach a high level of communicative competence in Czech from the very outset. The textbook does so by introducing grammar and vocabulary through various everyday topics primarily through videos filmed and compiled for the program. In these videos, native Czech speakers talk about basic everyday topics such as food, weather, health and illness, hobbies, daily routines, etc. Students learn new grammar and vocabulary so that they are able to answer these questions on their own.

Reality Czech can be used in a number of contexts, from structured courses led by an instructor, to individuals who want to study Czech on their own (or with a tutor). In the workshop portion of this presentation, I will discuss how I, the author of the textbook, use these materials at the university level and work together with participants to look at the ways that they can immediately employ them for their own uses. Both students of and instructors of Czech are welcome to attend.



Christian Hilchey is a professor of Czech language in the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, where he teaches primarily beginner to advanced level Czech courses. His interests include language teaching pedagogy, linguistics and gastronomy in Central and Eastern Europe. In 2020 he published the Open Educational Resource *Reality Czech* (<https://realityczech.org>). He is now exploring the possibilities of gamification and would like to publish a game to practice grammatical forms in the future.

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