

GO Czech Reflection Course

A. Andes

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Thursday, 7–8:27 PM, 1st seven weeks, Steele 008

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ATTENDANCE POLICY One absence allowed. Other absences lower the course grade by 10%.

DISABILITIES Students requiring an accommodation for a disability should notify the instructors as soon as possible. See <http://www.susqu.edu/academics/academic-resources/disability-services/disability-accommodations>

ACADEMIC HONESTY It's students' responsibility to be academically honest when preparing assignments. Follow this general rule if in doubt: when using any external material, provide a full citation. Anything less is plagiarism. See <https://www.susqu.edu/campus-life/student-and-campus-services/student-handbook>

PHONES/DEVICES Use of phones and related devices is not permitted. If a phone rings during class, it incurs a penalty of 2/3 letter grade from the student's end-of-semester grade. Students using phones will incur the same deduction. Students in situations that require external contact must alert the instructors ahead of time.

GRADING Students write a final journal entry, present a creative project, write a reflective essay, and participate in class discussions.

CREATIVE PROJECT 50%

REFLECTIVE ESSAY 15%

FINAL JOURNAL ENTRY 15%

CLASS PARTICIPATION 20%

LEARNING GOALS

Upon completion of the course, students will:

- Demonstrate a complex understanding of culture, including the ability to
 - Define and recognize ethnocentrism and ethnocentric assumptions
 - Develop a critical working definition of culture
 - Articulate awareness of differences and similarities between their culture of origin and the one in which they are/were immersed
 - Demonstrate critical awareness of their own cultural values and identity
- Recognize how their attitudes, behaviors, and choices affect the quality of their cross-cultural experience
- Reflect on personal growth, social responsibility, and the value of active participation in human society.

CLASS SCHEDULE

September 5 **Reflection on Immersion Experience**

September 12 **Ethnocentrism + Its Assumptions**

September 19 **PROJECTS 1** (if not presenting, Journal due)

September 26 **PROJECTS 2** (if not presenting, Journal due)

October 3 **NO CLASS**

October 10 **Using Your Experience**

October 17 **Wrap-Up + Reflective Essay due**

REFLECTIVE ESSAYS This assignment seeks to bring together what we've studied and experienced in our prep course and GO trip. In a formal 1000-word essay, use the intercultural competence sheet to consider your journey since March. Specifically, select one of the items from each of the knowledge, skills, and attitudes sections on the second page (for a total of three items). Write about each of the selected items in terms of your experience in and with the Czech Republic. Also, for each item, explain how your creative project reflects the insight that you offer about your experience. Grading is based on your willingness to thoughtfully engage with the assignment, coherence, and mechanics.

CREATIVE PROJECTS The assignment consists of a 10-minute presentation in class and a 500-word overview. The project must be something besides a written itinerary or reflective essay and could take many creative forms. The project must be related to the material that you collected or documented while in the Czech Republic. (No copying and pasting online images to make an album.) The material that you use may include photographs, detailed notes on your experiences, and "artifacts" that you brought home with you. Presentations take place in class, during the final two sessions. The written overview must convey the choices that you made in the project.