

Bridging Perspectives Program

About CIEE

Founded in 1947, Council on International Educational Exchange is a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to helping people gain understanding, acquire knowledge, and develop skills for living in a globally independent and culturally diverse world. The organization is one of the world's leading operators of international educational exchange programs with its two main divisions. (1) International Study Programs Division, providing academic programs abroad for US students and faculty; (2) Exchange Division, providing work and internships for students going to the United States.

CIEE in Prague

Under the International Study Programs Division, CIEE Study Center at Charles University (CU) brings 70 to 90 students to Prague each semester from colleges and universities across the United States. Our students come from top US schools such as Georgetown, Brown, Cornell, Penn State, UCLA, University of Chicago and many others. Many of our participants study in such fields as political science, cinema studies, history, English, business, economics, art and management.

What is the Bridging Perspectives Program?

Building upon its 10 year tradition at Charles University, CIEE has recently launched its Bridging Perspectives Program under which it offers classes and use of its facilities to regular Charles University students and other non-US (i.e. Erasmus) students free of charge. CIEE courses relate to an overall program theme of "Development and Transition of Culture and Society: Czech Perspective in European Context" and are accredited by Charles University school of Arts (FF UK). CIEE strongly supports and values learning in a diverse environment where lectures and discussion are conducted under the guidance of local experts. One of the program goals is to expand opportunities within international communities in Prague and provide a platform for US/Czech cultural and educational interactions.

Bridging Perspectives Program Opportunities

Within the framework of the CIEE Bridging Perspectives Program, all selected Charles University students may attend classes of their choice at the CIEE Study Center in Vyšehrad. CIEE courses are taught in English, and combine U.S. and European educational and teaching styles. This program is ideal for students interested in pursuing future study or work in an international setting. It is best suited for students of humanities, social or political sciences, international relations, art, history, English translation and interpretation, and general education. Upon successful completion of the program, participants will receive the CIEE Certificate of Completion and may be granted recommendation letters supporting future professional and/or educational pursuits. Throughout the program, students will be able to participate in selected CIEE field trips to various parts of the Czech Republic, and see course-related guest lectures free of charge. Students also have access to the CIEE English library, computer lab and wi-fi network, media room, and extra-curricular activities.

Program Dates:

Fall Semester: Late August – mid-December
Spring Semester: Late January – mid-May
Summer terms: June 10 – June 30 and/or July 1 – July 21

Program Completion Requirements (must be completed within 2 years)

- Successful completion of 2 CIEE area studies courses
- Successful participation in at least 3 guest lectures
- Participation in 2 student extra-curricular activities organized by CIEE staff and buddies

Application Process

- The Program is competitive and based upon academic performance as well as student extra-curricular involvement. Writing and oral English language abilities will be taken into consideration
- All applicants must submit an application and one page motivation letter in English.
- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and selected applicants will be invited for an interview.

Application Deadlines

Deadline to submit your documents and be accepted into the Spring term is January 25th
Deadline to submit your documents and be accepted into the Fall term is August 10th
Deadline to submit your documents and be accepted into the Summer term is May 15th

Bridging Perspectives Program Area Studies Courses and Instructors (subject to change)

- History of the Jews in Bohemia: **Rabbi Hoffberg**
- The Music of the Czech Lands: **Kristin Bostrom**
- The Economics of the EU: **Tomáš Cahlík**
- Czech Cinema: **Petra Dominková**
- Art and Architecture of Prague: **Marie Homerová**
- The Rise and Fall of Totalitarianism: **Alena Hromádková**
- Czech New Wave Cinema: **Pavel Jech**
- Historical Development of Czech Architecture: **Daniela Karasová**
- Psychology of Transition and Transformation: **Daniel Heller**
- Czech Concepts of National Identity: **Peter Moré**
- Czech and Slovak Politics: **Petr Štěpánek**
- Czech and Central European History: **Vladmír Urbanek, Jan Pařez**
- The Theory and Reality of Gender in the Post-Communist Era: **Vanda Thorne**
- Central European Politics: **Jiří Holub**
- The Politics and Economics of the EU: **Jiří Holub, Miloslav Bednař**
- Modern Czech Literature: **Daniel Vojtěch**
- Contemporary Czech Alternative Culture: **Pavla Jonssonová**
- Contemporary Jewish Religious Thought: **Josef Bláha**

Detailed program information or applications may be requested from:

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