



National Seal of the Czech Republic

Dear Student,

Thank you very much for your interest in the FIU Study Abroad Program to the Czech Republic. This program is one of the longest-running university programs to this part of the world, having been in existence since 1991, just two years since the country threw off the horrific yoke of communism. Of course, the country that you would see today looks very little as it did just after more than 50 years of enforced domination but, by living among the people for four weeks, you will have the opportunity to dig more deeply beneath the surface to understand what has happened to this area of the world, not only in the past decade but during the past millennium as well.

Students will be taught by professors from Charles University, one of the oldest universities in Europe (1348) in subjects ranging from literature to history, film studies, linguistics, politics, Jewish studies, art history, architecture, women's studies. While some of the information will be presented in the classroom, the philosophy of this program is to involve the students in learning through their experiences in becoming part of the culture for the period they are there. Thus, a great deal of time will be spent on field trips, walking tours, trips to various regions of the country. The study abroad experience means less classroom walls and more interactive learning---the way we see it, you learn something about the politics of the Czech Republic by seeing the vast housing projects built by the communists of days past, or by recognizing the simplicity of life for the women who live in the countryside. Wandering through castles instructs us on the medieval rift between the church and the people who supported the Hussite movement. I guess what I'm trying to say is that formal instruction is not as valuable as what you learn through our ventures in Prague and to other regions of the Czech Republic. If you like, after the Program ends on July 23, you are free to travel to a close by city such as Berlin, Vienna, Budapest, Salzburg, etc (remember, the Czech Republic is actually the geographic

center of Europe!) or you can remain in Prague to explore the never-ending excitement of this magnificent city before returning home.

We will depart for Prague on **June 21, 2013** and the program will finish on either **July 23 2013**:

You may register for 3, 6, or 9 credits—depending on YOUR needs and your major. Non-FIU students will register as “Non-Degree Seeking Students” and will be able to have their transcripts sent to their home institution. Out-of-state students DO NOT pay out-of-state tuition. **All students will participate in the same overall courses** in Prague and around the country and will then be able to explore their particular interests with the guidance of Czech experts in the field. All students, no matter which credits you sign up for, will attend the few classes in the basic background information (see itinerary) so that all participants will have knowledge about what they are experiencing in this new and unique environment.

If you would like to join this Study Abroad Program, please notify me as soon as possible so that I can send you an application which you will send back with a \$300.00 deposit to secure a place.

Hope to have you join us.

Sincerely,

Barbara S. Weitz

Prof. Barbara S. Weitz
Director, FIU Czech Abroad Pgm

<http://www.facebook.com/PragueStudyAbroad>

www.fiu.edu/~weitzb/Prague-Study.htm

<http://www.czech.cz/>

<http://iffkv.cz>

<http://www.A-Zprague.cz/>

http://www.hrad.cz/index_uk.html

<http://www.mzv.cz/washington/>

www.praguepost.cz

