

March 22, 2016

Lehigh in Prague 2016

ORIENTATION CLASS #2: Agenda

(Sign in)

Questions OK as we go along.

1. Forms

- Does anyone have this information to hand in to Katy and Lorraine today before the meeting begins?
 - *Passport copy of picture page to Lorraine or Katy
 - *Flight itinerary (arrival date/time): *email to Katy Rene* (ker415@lehigh.edu)
 - *Medical/Health and Safety form for information about you (<http://www.lehigh.edu/studyabroad/HealthInformationandEmergencycontactform.pdf>): email it to Study Abroad (lmr314@lehigh.edu or ker415@lehigh.edu) or drop off at office at 32 Sayre Drive, Coxe Hall.

2. Flights:

- You should have all received an email with the professors' flight details in/out of Newark. If you would like to arrange to be on the same flight, that is completely up to you and your family.
- Please plan to have your flight arrive in Prague by around noon on 5/26 in order to be able to take the group bus from the airport to the dorm.
 - If you miss the bus, the taxi fare is approximately 500-600 CZK to the dorm. Typically, two people can share a cab and split the fare. Airport taxis will have a fare meter.
 - Have the address for Komenskeho Kolej, Parlerova 6, Prague 6 to show the cab driver
- The next morning, 5/27, there will be a Mandatory Orientation to start 11 AM (sharp) May in Komenskeho TV Room.

3. Dorms

- Check-in
 - Students can check into the dorm (Komenskeho Kolej) starting on 5/26 after 2pm.
 - If you want to arrive early or stay late after the program ends, feel free to contact the dorm directly and inquire about availability outside of the program.
- Roommates and Suitemates
 - If you have not already communicated and roommate or suitemate requests with Kallie Ziltz, please do so as soon as possible

4. Communications in Prague

- Phone options:
 - Your U.S. cell phones
 - Check with your cell phone provider about the availability of coverage in Prague and Europe. Do this as soon as possible so you know the available options and whether you may need a different phone in order to have it

work abroad.

- You can also sometimes buy a Czech SIM card to go in your U.S. phone. US cell phones can be set up with an international plan/connectivity but international roaming very expensive. With an unlocked US phone and a Czech SIM card, you can use a US phone in Prague.
- You also have the option of getting a Czech phone. These are sometimes relatively cheap and also good for local calling.
 - A Czech cell can be good for local calls and inbound international calls. Approximately \$60/ CZK 1000 buys a good used unlocked mobile, plus \$30/CZK 500 for Czech company SIM card with minutes
- Pay phones (3) are available in the dorm. Prepaid phone cards will be available for purchase in Prague.
- Czech prepaid phone cards for pay phones (1 or 2 pay phones in the dorm) or US phone companies' international "800" access numbers (phone card provided at the Study Abroad Pre-departure Orientation); **Collect Calls** are expensive.
- **Not recommended:** International calling card companies based outside of the US or Czech Republic
- Skype/GChat/FaceTime
 - Skype and other voice-over-Internet – very cheap or free if computer-to-computer
 - Good for setting up weekly check-ins with family back in the US.
- Internet
 - Like we discussed last month, there are high speed connections in each bedroom which can be used for Skype. Make sure to bring an Ethernet cable.

5. Money

- The current exchange rate is available online
- Best/easiest way to get Czech cash = ATM and your credit/debit card. Check for your bank's fees.
- Prague ATMs are available but not prevalent in smaller Czech cities. Check which network(s) your card uses.
- Bank/ Credit cards: Visa and MasterCard are common in Prague. Do you have a credit card or a debit card and know what services are available with it? Call the company before you leave the US and tell them exactly what countries you will be in and when.
 - If your bank or credit card has the new (to US) chip-and-pin system, make sure you have the PIN number set up before leaving the US.
 - Also make sure to call your bank and credit card companies to let them know that you will be leaving the US so they don't assume your card has been stolen.
- Czech Republic has no black market in currency; on street con artists will occasionally tempt you. In any country, NEVER exchange money except in an official location such as a bank or exchange office.
- Estimates for meals in Prague and traveling – General ideas to tailor to your tastes and habits:
 - In Prague, fast food meals = about \$10 - \$12 (McDonald's, TGI Friday's, KFC, etc). Modest Czech meals are available for \$15-\$20, based on time of day and the style of pub or restaurant. Cost of weekend travel in Europe varies by location and your

taste. In general for weekend travel, budget a minimum \$125 per day plus transportation. This allows for a modest B&B @ 50 euros per night and 35-45 euros for meals. Certainly, you can travel more cheaply by staying in hostels in smaller towns and by buying food in a shop.

6. Health

- Bring any regularly used prescriptions and over-the-counter medications with you. Contact ISOS before departure for information.
- If you feel ill before departure, seek medical attention/advice before you leave home.
- Transmit any emergency medical information by filling out the health and information form from Study Abroad

7. Essential items to pack

- Personal toiletries (some will be available in local shops)
- Shoes that will be good on cobblestones
- Textbooks and course materials
- Outlet adapter/converter for Europe
- Clothing: *suitable for business meetings or dress-up evening activities (e.g., concerts)*
 - *Will vary by internship company (TBA)*
 - Men - shirt, tie, slacks, jacket; suit for internships
 - Women - blouse/skirt or dress; pants with suit jacket
- To put in your carry-on:
 - Travel documents, tickets, schedules, alarm clock (battery only, medications/prescriptions in original prescription container (bring fully and clearly written prescription), Extra pair of glasses/contact lenses (bring a prescription) , laptop (possibly share with roommate)
- **Optional:** Camera, electronics (check family homeowner's policy for loss/theft while traveling), extra towel

8. Break-out sessions this evening:

- ACCT 315 (Professor Sami): RBC 261
- CSE 252 (Professor Kalafut): RBC 271
- MGMT 372/ECO 371 (Professor Balcar): RBC 101

9. REQUIRED meeting for ALL Lehigh Summer Study Abroad students:

- LU pre-departure info for all summer study abroad students from Study Abroad, Dean of Students, Health Center, & Counseling Services
- 3 options (pick ONE)
 - Tuesday, April 19, 4pm, NV 001
 - Wednesday, April 20, 4pm, NV 001
 - Thursday, April 21, 4pm, NV 001

Next REQUIRED meeting: April 28, 2016; RBC 241