

Czech 102A, Fall 2008

Advanced Czech (Prerequisite: one year of Czech language study or the equivalent)

In Fall Quarter the course will be based on two primary texts: Peter Sís' recent publication *Zed' : Jak jsem vyrůstal za železnou oponou* (*The Wall: Growing up Behind the Iron Curtain*) and Chapters 10-12 of the textbook *Čeština hrou* (continuing from Czech 101ABC). The textbook chapters cover primarily expressions of modality (imperatives, conditionals, *at'* , *aby*, and verbs of wanting, need and request), a grammatical theme that will intertwine with the subject matter of *The Wall*. Songs, including those of the *písničkáři*, the *Plastic People*, and various contemporary groups, will supplement the content of the course and provide an overview of Spoken Czech. Students will present reports on various topics raised in *The Wall*, such as the politicization of the arts (especially music), the loosening of censorship during the Prague Spring, the Young Pioneers, and so on. Guest speakers from the Czech heritage community will provide students with the opportunity to ask Czechs about their own experiences and to compare them with those depicted by Sís.