Title: Learning Communities
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In 2011 Layne Pierce and Mila Saskova-Pierce were approached by representatives from umbrella organization Nebraska Czechs Incorporated that represents nine cultural clubs in the state and asked for help with informal instruction of the Czech language outside of university program. Their needs for content areas were identified using a questionnaire.

The combination of internet presentation of themes and their use by learning communities that meet physically without a teacher shows great promise as a viable approach to language acquisition through distance delivery to heritage learners. This outreach effort also constitutes a recruitment tool for regular university students.

The learning communities are expected to develop their own learner centered approaches to the learning of the language using materials and other Internet resources provided for them as well as located by them. They are expected to share their experiences with the available materials with the other groups. In short the students form and run their own sessions. These students, therefore, have to assume more responsibility for their own and their group's learning outcomes than in traditional courses attended physically, where the learning outcomes are defined by the teacher.

Below are some formats of support asked for according to the questionnaire answers.

- Interactive materials are located on the internet and are free of charge.
- The language material is organized in modular format.
- Modules are developed around themes such as genealogy, travel in the country and others, and contain relevant cultural information.
- The supporting lexical and grammatical content is relevant to the themes of the module.
- The language material is in a format that allows active learning, has keys available, and has interactive computer based activities usable in a learning group.
- Supporting exercises for individual learning are available on the internet, and have immediate corrections (keys).