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Title: Interactive Prague - Creating Culture Videos for Use with Google Maps

Abstract:

Students often learn a foreign language in a classroom far removed from the country where the language is spoken and frequently do not experience the sights and sounds of both “high” and “popular” culture. How can we more readily facilitate creating an environment in which our students have access to the many interesting physical spaces from the target country?

This poster presentation will demonstrate the map video component of the *Reality Czech*, an openly licensed Czech curriculum developed at the University of Texas at Austin. Various locations of interest throughout Prague have been chosen as important points to present to students of Czech during their language instruction. These include places such as *Národní divadlo* (The National Theatre), *Lenonova zed'* (Lennon's Wall), nightlife at *Náplavka* Riverbank, *Zámky lásky* (Love Locks), the Vietnamese commercial center *Sapa*, art from David Černý, and many others.

Videos include a native speaker of Czech telling stories and relating the cultural importance and interesting points about the sites. These videos contextualize the locations spatially by placing pinpoints on a Google map. By clicking on any of these points, students are able to read a text and see the videos. All videos are available with a full annotated Czech transcript. Since the native speaker narrators can sometimes use more difficult vocabulary and grammatical constructions, videos also are accompanied by short texts in both somewhat simpler Czech, as well as a text English to facilitate utilization of these videos at multiple levels, from very beginners to more advanced students.

All video and written content presented at this poster panel is available on both Youtube and the *Reality Czech* website (<https://realityczech.org>). They have been made available under a Creative Commons Sharealike license, which allows anyone to reuse and remix the content to suit their classroom needs.