

Concept Building and Discussion 2

Course Description

In this course, students will build on the communicative strategies they acquired in Communication Strategies 1 and 2 (CS1 and CS2), and in Concept Building and Discussion 1 (CBD1), through a series of individual and team activities related to science and engineering. Emphasis will be placed on negotiation, discussion and problem-solving in a group setting, and the language skills needed to gather information from a variety of sources, summarize that information, and present results and conclusions to an audience. After completing the course, students should be able to find information on a topic through library and Internet sources, discuss this information in a group, and present findings with proper source acknowledgment to an audience in well-formed sentences with pronunciation and intonation comprehensible to an international audience.

Course Goals

- Work in a group and solve simple problems in English with teacher assistance.
- Present simple findings to an audience in well-formed sentences from a prepared script.
- Prepare and deliver a convincing speech with comprehensible pronunciation and intonation.
- Write three-to-four page reports based on the information discussed/researched.
- Use vocabulary from the first 2000 words and the academic word list effectively.
- Use Internet and library resources to find information on a chosen topic.
- Understand the concepts related to plagiarism, and include proper source acknowledgment in work produced.

Course Schedule

The pace of the course may change based on the level of the students in the class. The schedule below is suggested for an average level class.

- Lesson 1: Course Orientation, Getting Started
- Lesson 2: Group Research Project 1: Unit One (The Research Question)
- Lesson 3: Group Research Project 2: Unit One (The Research Question)
- Lesson 4: Group Research Project 3: Unit Two (Designing Research)
- Lesson 5: Group Research Project 4: Unit Three (Analyzing Data and Drawing Conclusions)
- Lesson 6: Group Research Project 5: Unit Four (Reporting Findings)
- Lesson 7: Group Research Project Presentations and Writing Instruction
- Lesson 8: Group Research Project Presentations and Report Submission
- Lesson 9: Individual Research Project 1: Unit Five (The Research Question)
- Lesson 10: Individual Research Project 2: Unit Five (The Research Question) and Unit Six (Designing Research)
- Lesson 11: Individual Research Project 3: Unit Six (Designing Research)
- Lesson 12: Individual Research Project 4: Unit Seven (Analyzing Data and Drawing Conclusions)
- Lesson 13: Individual Research Project 5: Unit Eight (Reporting Findings)
- Lesson 14: Individual Research Project Presentations and Final Report Instruction
- Lesson 15: Individual Research Project Presentations and Final Report Submission

Lessons will be scheduled according to the university's schedule as well as to the available modes of delivery (e.g. classroom, on-line)

Textbook and Materials

- Textbook: *Concept Building and Discussion: Applications*. DTP Publishing.
- Supplementary materials on-line (<http://www.celese.sci.waseda.ac.jp/year2/cbd2>)
- Supplementary materials supplied by the teacher

Evaluation

Examinations = 20%

Evaluation Details: This course has no final test. However, students will be administered two discussion tests during the semester: one in the first half relating to group projects, and another in the second half relating to individual projects. Each test is worth 10%.

Papers = 30%

Evaluation Details: During the semester, students will need to complete two written reports (each worth 15%) based on in-class discussions and presentations: one for the group project, and another for the individual project.

In-Class Performance = 50%

Evaluation Details: Twice during the semester, students will need to make oral presentations of findings obtained first through a group research project, and then through an individual research project. Each presentation is worth 20% of the final grade. In addition, students will regularly be evaluated on their contributions to discussion and problem-solving tasks assigned in class. This component is worth 10% of the final grade.

Other Requirements Relating to Evaluation

- **Attendance Policy**
Students must attend at least two-thirds of the classes, or they will receive an 'F' for their final grade.
- **Homework and Participation**
Students are expected to complete an average of 90 minutes of homework each week to achieve a passing grade in this class. The homework will include written assignments, undertaking Internet- and library-based research, collecting experimental data, and preparing presentations.

Grading Inquiries

- Students who wish to question their final grades should make inquiries directly to their course teacher who will consider each case based on the student's performance record. Inquiries of this nature can be made until the end of the 7th full day (1 week) after the final grades are made public by the Education Office. Once these 7 days have expired, no further grade inquiries will be considered.

Other

- The majority of students are placed into classes based on an average of their TOEIC-IP scores.
- Information about Concept Building and Discussion 2 is on the CELESE website. Please check this site regularly for updates and information about the course.