

Communication Strategies 1 (CS1) 2025 Syllabus

Course Description

In this course, students develop their communication skills through a variety of pair, group, and class activities. Emphasis is placed on developing speaking and listening fluency, important conversation structures, and communication strategies. In addition, critical thinking skills, AI use skills, and vocabulary are acquired.

Course Goals and Assessment Content

- [G1] Develop speaking fluency and accurate pronunciation
 - Provide meaningful information in sentences fluently
 - Speak and read aloud with easy-to-understand pronunciation, stress, and rhythm
- [G2] Learn and apply conversation structures and relevant grammar
 - Identify conversation structures and use them effectively
 - Use grammar needed for the conversation structures
- [G3] Develop strategies and higher-level cognitive skills related to communication
 - Apply communication strategies effectively
 - Think scientific and social issues critically and communicate logically
 - Use Artificial Intelligence (AI) effectively and ethically
- [G4] Develop deep knowledge of 2000 word level vocabulary
 - Identify collocations of the most frequent 2000 words

Textbook

Communication Strategies 1. Sixth Edition (2024). Sheppard, C., Fujii, M., Manalo, E., Masuda, H., Sakai, H., Shinohara, Y., Tanaka-Ellis, N., and Ueno, Y. Tokyo, Japan: DTP Publishers.

Course Format Classification: Face-to-face course

Class Modality Category: [On-Campus] Hybrid (over 50% of classes on campus)

Sample Course Schedule

There are five units in the textbook and each unit is covered in two weeks. In addition, three weeks will be used for tests.

We have a short Mid-Term Speaking Test in the middle of the semester (Week 8) and a longer Term-End Speaking Test at the end (Weeks 13 & 14).

Week 1: Orientation
Week 2: Unit 1 – Introductions
Week 3: Unit 1 – Introductions
Week 4: Unit 2 – Answering Questions
Week 5: Unit 2 – Answering Questions
Week 6: Unit 3 – Expressing Opinions
Week 7: Unit 3 – Expressing Opinions
Week 8: Mid-Term Speaking Test
Week 9: Unit 4 – Describing Things
Week 10: Unit 4 – Describing Things
Week 11: Unit 5 – Telling a Story
Week 12: Unit 5 – Telling a Story
Week 13: Term-End Speaking Test-Session 1
Week 14: Term-End Speaking Test-Session 2

Assessment

The assessment of the course is based on a combination of the following.

- Unit Tasks & Assignments

- In-Class Performance
- Tests

The contribution each assessment makes to the final grade is available on the “Student Performance Record Sheet” (SPRS) which can be accessed from the course page on Waseda Moodle.

Passing/Failing

In order to pass Communication Strategies 1, students need to meet **BOTH (1) AND (2)**.

- (1) Attendance: The students must attend two-thirds (2/3) of the 14 classes (10 classes).
- (2) Achievement: The students must achieve three of the four goals (G1 to G4).
 - To achieve each goal, students must obtain 60% of the goal-total in SPRS (Student Performance Record Sheet).

Grading

The final letter grade is determined by adding the points attained in all the assessments and matching the total score (TS) with the letter grade in the table below.

Final Grade	Total Score (TS) Range
A+	$90 \leq TS \leq 100$
A	$80 \leq TS < 90$
B	$70 \leq TS < 80$
C	$TS < 70$
F	Fail: (1) OR (2) above

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 SPRS. Inquiries of this nature can be made until the end of the 7th full day (1 week) after the final grades are released by the Education Office. Once these 7 days have expired, no further grade inquiries will be considered.

Homework and Participation Expectations

Students are expected to complete 100 minutes of homework for this class. The homework includes studying the relevant sections of the textbook, preparing for the next class, learning the vocabulary lists (available through Moodle) as assigned by the teacher. Students should also review the previous class and prepare for tests.

Notes

Academic Honesty Policy (<https://celese.jp/policies/academic-honesty/>)

Students are expected to uphold fundamental standards of academic honesty consistent with Waseda University regulations.

CELESE strives to provide reasonable accommodation to students who require affordances to ensure that all persons have equal access to educational opportunities if such accommodations do not place an unreasonable burden on other students and/or the university. Students are requested to contact the appropriate university office (e.g., Waseda Support Department for Students) if they require accommodation.

CS1 Homepage in CELESE website: <http://www.celese.sci.waseda.ac.jp/year1/cs1>