

Fall 2026, KECNY Korean Language Course Syllabus

1. Course Information

- Course Title: **[In-Person] Let's Speak Korean**
- [ACTFL® Proficiency Level](#): Novice Low – Novice Mid
- Course Description: This conversation-focused course aims to assist novice learners in developing practical Korean speaking and listening skills applicable to everyday situations. The absence of a fixed textbook allows instruction to focus on communicative activities, role-plays, and guided dialogues using instructor-developed materials, enabling students to build confidence in spoken Korean and fundamental cross-cultural communication.
- Learning Outcomes: By the conclusion of this course, students will be capable of greeting individuals and introducing themselves, posing and responding to basic everyday inquiries, engaging in brief dialogues in common scenarios such as shopping, dining, and requesting directions, and effectively communicating fundamental needs in Korean with increased fluency and confidence.

2. Instructor Information

- Instructor: Yang Hwan Choi, Ed.D.
- Email: YC2616@tc.columbia.edu
- Instructor Bio: Dr. Yang Hwan Choi possesses an Ed.D. in International Educational Development and Adult Learning & Leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University. Additionally, he holds master's degrees in Korean Language and Literature from Kyunghee University and Sociology from Queens College, CUNY. He is a certified Korean language instructor, holding the Korean Teaching Certificate Level 3 issued by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea. Dr. Choi has accumulated over ten years of teaching experience in Korean as a second language at prestigious institutions such as New York University, Rutgers University, Ramapo College, SUNY New Paltz, and DePaul University. His pedagogical approach emphasizes communicative and learner-centered methodologies, as well as transformative learning. His research interests encompass Korean language pedagogy and contemporary Korean culture.

3. Class Schedule and Location

- Time: 7:35–9:00 PM every Monday
- Location: Korean Consulate General, 5th Floor, 460 Park Avenue, New York, NY

4. Textbook and Course Materials

- Required Textbook: None. Instructor-developed conversation materials and handouts will be provided.
- Sample Pages: Not applicable (no required textbook). Sample materials available upon request.

5. Course Schedule (Tentative)

WEEK	DATE	CONTENT / CONTENTS	NOTES
Week 1	9/14	Orientation & Greetings Function: Greeting, basic classroom Korean, exchanging names Grammar: 이에요/예요, N은/는, 이름이 뭐예요? Culture: Korean greetings and bowing etiquette	
Week 2	9/21	Self-Introduction Function: Introducing yourself (name, country, job); meeting people Grammar: 이/가, 은/는 vs 이/가, 만나서 반갑습니다 Culture: Formal vs. informal first encounters	
Week 3	9/28	Daily Life & Wants Function: Describing daily activities; saying what you want to do Grammar: -아/어요 (present), 을/를, 안 (negation), -고 싶다 Culture: A day in Seoul – everyday life	
Week 4	10/5	Locations & Directions Function: Asking and giving directions; using transportation Grammar: -부터 ~까지, 에서/에, -아/어 주세요 Culture: Korean public transportation (지하철, 버스)	
Week 5	10/12	Shopping & Dining Function: Ordering food, shopping, asking prices Grammar: -(으)세요, counters (개, 명, 잔), 얼마예요? Culture: Korean food culture and table manners	
Week 6	10/19	Past Experiences Function: Talking about what you did; sharing experiences Grammar: -았/었어요 (past), -아/어 보다 (try) Culture: Korean history through places (museums, palaces)	
Week 7	10/26	Mid-Course Review & Role-Play Function: Integrated speaking practice; situational role-plays Grammar: Review of Weeks 1–6 (요-form, particles, tenses) Assessment: Oral conversation check-in	
Week 8	11/2	Reasons & Suggesting Function: Explaining reasons; making suggestions and invitations Grammar: -(으)니까, -아/어서, -(으)니까요?, -(으)십시오	

		Culture: Korean values and gatherings (효 문화)	
Week 9	11/9	Ability & Permission Function: Talking about ability; asking and giving permission Grammar: -(으)ㄹ 수 있다/없다, -아/어도 되다 Culture: K-pop and fandom culture (응원 문화)	
Week 10	11/16	Feelings & Comparing Function: Expressing feelings; comparing and describing Grammar: -겠- (guess), -지 않다, -보다 더, -처럼/같이 Culture: Emotions in K-drama; Korea's regions and specialties	
Week 11	11/30	Plans & Future Hopes Function: Talking about future plans and hopes Grammar: -(으)ㄹ 거예요, -(으)려고 하다, -었으면 좋겠다 Culture: Korean traditions in modern life	
Week 12	12/7	Final Speaking Project & Wrap-Up Function: Individual/pair presentation; free conversation Grammar: Cumulative review (connectors, tenses, modals) Assessment: Final speaking presentation	

**Please note that the schedule above is tentative and may be adjusted based on class progress and instructional needs.*

6. Reference: Vocabulary and Grammar Covered in the Previous Level

As a conversation-focused course, this class has no fixed prerequisite level. The following vocabulary and grammar points are foundational and expected to be familiar for comfortable participation.

• Key vocabulary topics:

- Greetings and introductions
- Family members
- Daily activities
- Shopping and dining

• Key grammar points:

- 이에요/예요, - 은/는 VS 이/가, - 을/를, - 아/어/해요, - 고 싶어요