

In this unit we will be exploring the way in which language interacts with sex identity. Under the three headings, *Gender Reference*; *Talking and Writing Gender* and *Representing Gender*, we will investigate the powerful and informing influence of language upon our experiences of being men or women, gay or straight. Questions raised by the unit will include: *How does language constitute our subjecthood as gendered? Does language contribute to the positioning of our social identity or even exaggerate the differences between the sexes? Does language play a role in marginalising the experiences and identity of women and gay men, particularly in public life? How do we begin to move away from descriptions of masculine language as "universal"? How do we constantly construct ourselves as men and women through everyday talk and why do we seem to be compelled to do this?* The course is both theory and language-based, and time will be devoted to acquiring linguistic skills and terminology.

Method of Assessment

The course will be assessed by an essay and an independent research project. The essay will deal with theories of language and gender and the second assignment will investigate a particular topic of your choice, using the skills and frameworks acquired on the module and will take the form of a joint presentation which will then be written up as an essay. The first assignment will be worth 40% and the second (presentation and write-up combined), 60%.

Set Texts

Unit Reader (available online)

Cameron, D. (1998 – 2nd ed) (ed) *The Feminist Critique of Language: A Reader*, London: Routledge
Mills, S. (1995) *Feminist Stylistics*, London: Routledge

Further Reading

Baker, P. *Sexed texts: Language, Gender and Sexuality* (London, Equinox, 2008)
Bucholtz, M. et al, eds., *Reinventing Identities: The Gendered Self in Discourse*. (Oxford:OUP, 1999).
Cameron, D. and Kulick, D. *Language and Sexuality*. (Cambridge: CUP, 2003)
Coates, J. *Women, Men and Language*, (London: Longman, 1986/1992)
Coates, J. ed., *Language and Gender: A Reader*, (Oxford: Blackwell, 1998)
Colebrook, C. *Gender*. (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004).
Goddard, A. and Lindsey M. Patterson, *Language and Gender* (London: Routledge, 2000)
Graddol, D. and Swann. J. *Gender Voices*. (Oxford: Blackwell, 1989).
Harrington, K. et al., eds., *Gender and Language Research Methodologies* (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008)
Holmes, J. & Meyerhoff, M. *The Handbook of Language and Gender*. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2003).
Johnson, S. & Meinhof, U. *Language and Masculinity*, (Oxford: Blackwell, 1997)
Litosseliti, L. *Gender and Language: Theory and Practice*. (London: Hodder Arnold, 2006).
Litosseliti, L and Sunderland, J., eds., *Gender Identity and Discourse Analysis*, (Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 2002).
Livia, A. and K. Hall *Queerly Phrased: Language, Gender and Sexuality*, (Oxford: OUP, 1997)
McIlvenny, P., ed., *Talking Gender and Sexuality*. (Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 2002).
Mills, S. *Gender and Politeness*. (Cambridge: CUP, 2003)
Moi, T. *Sexual/Textual Politics: Feminist Literary Theory*. London: Routledge, 1995)
Pichler, P.& Eppler, E. (eds) *Gender and Spoken Interaction*. (Houndsmill: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009)
Speer, S. *Gender Talk: Feminism, Discourse and Conversation Analysis*. (London: Routledge, 2005).
Sunderland, J. *Gendered Discourses*. (Houndills:Palgrave Macmillan, 2004).
Talbot, M. *Language and Gender: An Introduction*, (Cambridge: Polity Press, 1998)
Tannen, D. *Gender and Discourse*, (Oxford: OUP, 1996)
Weatherell, A. *Gender, Language and Discourse*, (London: Routledge, 2002)
Wodak, R., ed., *Gender and Discourse*. (London: Sage, 1997)

