MAAL 6034
Gender and Language
COURSE OUTLINE 2019-2020

LECTURER
Dr. Aditi Jhaveri

OVERVIEW
This course explores the role of gender in relation to the features exhibited in male and female linguistic practices.

OBJECTIVES
This course explores the role of gender as a sociolinguistic variable in female and male speech. Candidates will learn the linguistic features associated with gender-specific speech in different speech communities, and examine the major theoretical and methodological approaches to the analysis of gender representation in language, particularly the role of language in shaping gender identities, and legitimising and contesting gender ideologies. Topics such as sexism and language use in different cultural contexts and gender-based language reforms will also be addressed.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- describe and analyse the features of linguistic patterns/practices in relation to gender;
- derive implications through evaluating various theoretical frameworks/approaches to analysing gendered practices in written, spoken and visual discourses; and
- establish a connection between such implications and linguistic patterns across different languages and speech communities.
SUGGESTED READINGS


**USEFUL JOURNALS:**

- Journal of Sociolinguistics
- Gender and Language
- Sex Roles
- Language and Society

**SCHEDULE**

*(Below is a tentative schedule of the course.)*

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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Past and contemporary theoretical/methodological approaches and critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>Gender, language and feminist theories</td>
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<td>Session 3</td>
<td>Gender and media discourse</td>
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<td>Session 4</td>
<td>Gender and language in children’s literature and the education context</td>
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<td>Session 5</td>
<td>Sexism and workplace language</td>
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<td>Session 6</td>
<td>Presentation of assignment plan + Q&amp;A</td>
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ASSIGNMENT

Write an essay of 2500 words on one of the following questions.

Select one or two extracts from any form of media/English learning material/English literature for children, and give an analytical discussion of how gender identity is represented in your chosen episode(s). The focus of your analysis should be a combination of at least two of the following:

- Written data
- Spoken data
- Visual data

If you would like to propose other topics for the assignment, you are welcome to contact me and arrange a meeting with me at least 2 weeks before the due date of the assignment.

Please note the texts/scenes you choose should be of appropriate length for analysis. Hence, it is strongly recommended you visit the course Moodle site and read past assignment samples.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The university does not tolerate any forms of academic dishonesty and cases of suspected plagiarism will be investigated and taken seriously. Students should bear the responsibility of checking their work carefully to ensure that sources are properly acknowledged and the rules of the APA format of citation and referencing are well adhered to before turning in their assignment.