

2007/2008

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### Doctoral Course

#### 28031 - Gender, Sex and Identity: The expression of love/sex

Number of credits: 3

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME: 155-F (ORALITAT I ESCRIPTURA: LLENGUATGES ESPECIALITZATS EN FILOLOGIA ANGLESA I ALEMANYA)

#### PROGRAMME

Language and gender is a growing field of research which has recently enjoyed an extraordinary academic and popular appeal. Different disciplines contribute to it –from psychology to linguistics, from feminism to pragmatics. All of them contribute to illuminate the role of language in establishing and regulating gender divisions.

This course consists of two parts:

- 1) In the first we will review popular stereotypes of women and men's speech; cultural and sociolinguistic differences; the way women or men use language; the concept of identity; sexual discourse as power; etc. Students are recommended to read at least one of the reference books on List A.
- 2) In the second part, we will specifically concentrate on the construction of identity. Beyond gender differences in ways of speaking (turntaking, topics in conversation, communicative styles, etc.), we are interested in analysing how gender(ed)/sexual stereotypes are produced, sustained and/or challenged. This year's emphasis will be placed on the construction of gender(ed) and sexual identities and, more particularly, through the expression of love/sex in romance fiction and in romance/erotic fiction.

#### Evaluation

- 1) **Oral presentation** of 3 articles from List B. Class participation will also be taken into account (**40%** of final grade).
- 2) **Paper** (**60%** of final grade): Carefully read one romance/erotic novel assigned by the lecturer (+ translation into Spanish), and:
  - briefly summarize its plot and its most important structural traits.
  - copy, compare and contrast the relevant passages where love/sex is expressed. Particularity important/revealing are: character description; love/sex scenes; agency of characters; metaphors of desire; etc.
  - analyze how gender(ed)/sexual identities are constructed. Comment both on linguistic issues and on socio-ideological issues (gender(ed)/sexual stereotypes, social roles, etc.).

In the final session of this course, there will be a short oral presentation and discussion – students shall try to link their material with the general field of gender and language, with the references in List B and –where possible– with their own research interests.

#### Bibliography

(Students are expected to read at least one book from List A, and all the items from List B)

#### List A (Gender and Language: General)

- Cameron, Deborah (1992) *Feminism and Linguistic Theory*. London: Macmillan.
- Cameron, Deborah & Don Kulick (2003) *Language and Sexuality*. Cambridge: C.U.P.
- Coates, Jennifer (1986) *Women, Men and Language: A Sociolinguistic Account of Sex Differences in Language*. London: Longman.
- Eckert, Penelope & Sally McConnell-Ginet (2003) *Language and Gender*. Cambridge: C.U.P.
- Graddol, David & Joan Swann (1989) *Gender Voices*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Lakoff, Robin (1975) *Language and Woman's Place*. Harper & Row.
- Romaine, S. (1999) *Communicating Gender*. Mahwah, N.J.: Erlbaum.
- Smith, Philip M. (1985) *Language, the Sexes and Society*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Talbot, Mary (1998) *Language and Gender: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Tannen, Deborah (1990) *You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation*. London: Virago Press.

### **List B (Gender, Sex and Identity: The expression of love/sex)**

- Cameron, Deborah (2003) "Gender and Language Ideologies". In Janet Holmes & Miriam Meyerhoff (eds.) *The Handbook of Language and Gender*. Oxford: Blackwell. 447-467.
- Deignan, Alice (1997) "Metaphors of Desire". In Keith Harvey & Celia Shalom (eds.) *Language and Desire: Encoding Sex, Romance and Intimacy*. London/New York: Routledge. 21-42.
- Fairclough, Norman & Ruth Wodak (1997) "Critical Discourse Analysis". In Theun Van Dijk (ed.) *Discourse as Social Interaction*. London: Sage. 258-284.
- McIlvenny, Paul (2002) "Critical reflections on performativity and the 'un/doing' of gender and sexuality in talk". In Paul McIlvenny (ed.) *Talking Gender and Sexuality*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins. 111-149.
- Patthey-Chavez, G.G., L. Clare & M. Youmans (1996) "Watery passion: the struggle between hegemony and sexual liberation in erotic fiction for women." *Discourse and Society* 7(1): 77-106.
- Sánchez Leyva, M. José & Asun Bernárdez Rodal (1997) "La prisión rosa: representaciones del amor y relatos sentimentales". *Revista de Occidente* 190 (marzo 1997): 71-84.
- Sánchez-Palencia Carazo, Carolina (1996) "Mujer y discurso sentimental". In Laura P. Alonso, Pilar Cuder & Zenón Luis Martínez (eds.) *La mujer: del texto al contexto*. Huelva: Universidad. 47-57.
- Santaemilia, José (2001) "Some Linguistic Facts and Formulae in Erotic Subliterature: John Cleland's *Fanny Hill*." In A. Ballesteros & L. Mora (eds.) *Popular Texts in English: New Perspectives*. Cuenca: Ediciones de la Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha. 287-297.
- Stokoe, Elizabeth H. & Janet Smithson (2002) "Gender and sexuality in talk-in-interaction: Considering conversation analytic perspectives". In Paul McIlvenny (ed.) *Talking Gender and Sexuality*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins. 79-109.
- Talbot, Mary M. (1997) "'An explosion deep inside her': Women's desire and popular romance fiction". In Keith Harvey & Celia Shalom (eds.) *Language and Desire: Encoding Sex, Romance and Intimacy*. London/New York: Routledge. 106-122.
- Talbot, Mary M. (2003) "'Women Rule as a Matter of Fact': Reproducing and Challenging Gender Stereotypes". In José Santaemilia (ed.) *Género, Lenguaje y Traducción*. Valencia: Universitat de València/Dirección General de la Mujer. 26-41.

### **Sessions (Thursdays 11.00 – 14.00 h.)**

May 9	Introduction to the course
May 15	Stereotypes (Cameron 2003) (Talbot 2003) Main approaches to analysis: CA (Stokoe & Smithson 2002) – CDA (Fairclough & Wodak 1997) – Performativity (McIlvenny 2002)
May 22	The expression of love/sex: erotic fiction vs. romance fiction (Patthey-Chavez <i>et al</i> 1996) (Santaemilia 2001) (Deignan 1997) (Sánchez-Palencia 1996) (Sánchez Leyva <i>et al</i> 1997) (Talbot 1997)
June 26	Final session – oral presentations.