

## Language, Communication, and Gender Spring 2006

### Kirsten Gomard

Aims of the course:

- to establish a scholarly approach to gender issues (as opposed to ‘common sense’, and stereotypes)
- to establish a scholarly approach to connections between gender and language. Get knowledge about the main areas of research and important methods for research:
  - Language by women and men:
    - Dynamics of interaction: Focus: Politicians on tv
  - Language about women and men:
    - The possibilities of language systems and language politics with a special view to Danish, English, and the languages of the participants.
    - Media representations of women (and men).

Other areas to be included: Body language + (according to participants’ choice): Education: Schools + University; Children+young people; The workplace; Sexualities; Cyberspace; Printed Media: Schoolbooks/Newspapers/Magazines; Private situations. (Other suggestions?)  
Empirically, the focus is mainly, but not exclusively, countries in Europe with a special emphasis on material from the Nordic countries.

All information, including guiding questions for your reading, will be posted in the First Class intranet course conference. Please register as a user of FC at [https://humtek.hum.au.dk/stud/index\\_uk.html](https://humtek.hum.au.dk/stud/index_uk.html)

You should specify European Studies as your affiliation.

You will then be able to access a folder named *Euro courses*. The conference *ES Language, Communication, and Gender* is inside this folder

### Exam form:

MA level: (In most cases): Oral synopsis exam (syllabus: 1000 pages = what is covered in the course programme + 250 pages which the students must read on their own).

BA level: Exam form to be decided, probably a 14-day 10-12 page paper on a set subject. (curriculum 750 pages = what is covered in the course programme).

### 10.2. Introduction: lectures “Women, men and language – myths and facts”; “What about gender?”.

Practical issues

### 17.2. Theorizing gender and language

- Otto Jespersen: The Woman. In: Otto Jespersen: *Language. Its nature, origin, and development*. Allen & Unwyn. London 1922, pp. 237-254.
- Robin Lakoff: Language and Woman’s Place. In: Camille Roman (et al., eds.): *The Women and Language Debate: A Sourcebook*. Rutgers University Press. New Brunswick, New Jersey 1994, pp. 280-291. (Reprint from *Language and Society* 1973.)
- Mette Kunøe & Kirsten Gomard: Gender & language, *Nora* vol. 9 2001.2, pp. 75-79.

- Candace West & Don H. Zimmermann: Doing Gender. *Gender & Society* vol. 1 no. 2, June 1987 pp. 125-151.
- Penelope Eckert & Sally McConnell-Ginet: Communities of Practice: Where Language, Gender, and Power All Live. In: Jennifer Coates (ed.): *Language and Gender. A Reader*, Blackwell 1998 pp. 484-494.

### **24.2. Female and male politicians on television**

- Kirsten Gomard & Anne Krogstad (eds.): *Instead of the Ideal debate*. Aarhus University Press 2001. Gomard/Krogstad: Introduction pp.15-32; Gomard: Negotiating competence and gender: an analysis of televised political debates in Denmark pp. 60-96; Krogstad: Image and issue in televised debates pp. 155-184; Krogstad/Gomard: A debate on the debates pp.185-200.
- Helga Kotthoff: The Interactional Achievement of Expert Status: Creating Asymmetries by teaching 'Conversational Lectures' in TV-Discussions. In: *Working Papers on Language, Gender, and Sexism*. Vol. 5, no. 1. 1995, pp. 27-63.

### **3.3. Methods and approaches**

- Norman Fairclough: *Language and Power*, Longman, London and New York 1989, cpt. 2: Discourse as Social Practice pp. 17- 42.
- Deborah Cameron m. fl.: Lakoff in Context. In: Jennifer Coates & Deborah Cameron (eds.): *Women in their Speech Communities*, Longman 1989/1990, pp. 74-94.
- Don H. Zimmermann and Candace West: Sex Roles. Interruptions and Silences in Conversation. In: Barrie Thorne & Nancy Henley (eds.): *Language and Sex. Difference and Dominance*. Rowley, Mass. 1975 pp. 105-129.
- Penelope Brown and Stephen C. Levinson: *Politeness. Some Universals in Language Use*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge etc., (1974) 1987, pp.61-62 and 65-71.

### **10.3. Language systems and language politics (in the following sessions we shall include presentations of the languages that we cover between us.)**

- Guidelines for equal treatment of the sexes in McGraw Hill Book Company publications. In: Marlis Hellinger: *Kontrastive feministische Linguistik*. Ismaning 1990 pp. 140-152.
- Kirsten Gomard & Mette Kunø: Equal before the law – unequal in language. In Marlis Hellinger & Hadumod Bussmann (eds.) *Gender across languages. The linguistic representation of women and men*. Vol. 3 John Benjamins, Amsterdam & Philadelphia 2003 pp. 59-85.  
(NB: The three volumes of Gender across languages (in the library) contain chapters on about 35 different languages.)
- Mykol C. Hamilton: The Huwom race: Sexist language as a tool of dominance. I: Braun & Pasero (red.): *Kommunikation von Geschlecht*. Centaurus, Pfaffenweiler 1997 pp. 147-163.

### **17.3. Non-verbal communication**

- *Feminism & Psychology* vol. 12.3. 2002. Special feature: 'Body Politics: Power, Sex and Nonverbal Communication': A Reappraisal pp. 291-338.
  - Nancy M. Henley: *Body Politics*, Simon & Schuster 1977, p. 181, table 5.
- NB: Concentrate on Nancy M. Henley pp. 295-310 and Hale Bolak Boratav pp. 311-318. (The remaining contributions are meant as background reading)  
(Nancy M. Henley: *Body Politics*, Simon & Schuster 1977 is in the library.)

### **Written half-way evaluation**

### **24.3. Media representations of female and male politicians**

#### The Role of the Mass Media in the (Re)Distribution of Power:

- Denmark (Ulrike Moustgaard, 2004, 62 pages)
- Latvia ( Center for Gender Studies, The University of Latvia, 2004, 64 pages)
- A comparative report ( I Brikse, 2004. Ministry of Welfare of the republic of Latvia, 35 pages).

#### Oral half-way evaluation

#### 31.3. Private situations

- Kerstin Nordenstam: Gossip and gender in a Swedish context. In: *Working Papers on Language, Gender & Sexism* 1996. Vol. 6.2. ISSN 1036-4099: pp. 74-93.
- Jennifer Coates: Gossip revisited: language in all-female groups. In: Jennifer Coates & Deborah Cameron (eds.): *Women in their speech communities* Longman 1989. ISBN 0-582-00969-3. pp. 94-121.
- Jane Maree Maher & Andrew Singleton: I wonder what he's saying: Investigating domestic discourse in your cohabitating heterosexual couples. In: *Gender Issues*. Winter 2003 pp.59-77.
- Elinor Ochs & Carolyn Taylor: The 'Father knows best' dynamic in dinnertime narratives. In: Kira Hall & Mary Buchholtz (eds.): *Gender articulated*. Routledge 1995. ISBN 0-415-91399-3 pp. 97-120.

#### 7.4. Sexualities

- Paul McIlvenny: Normalising gender/sex/sexuality in new media. In: Inge Lise Pedersen & Jann Scheuer (eds.): *Sprog, køn – og kommunikation*. Reitzel, København 1999 ISBN 87-7876-104-2. pp. 19-33.
- Kira Hall & Veronica O'Donovan: Shifting gender positions among Hindi-speaking hijras. In: Victoria L. Bergvall, Janet M. Bing, Alice F. Freed (eds.): *Rethinking Language and Gender Research: Theory and Practice*. Longman. London and New York 1996 ISBN 0582 265738. pp. 228-266.
- Deborah Cameron & Don Kulick: *Language and sexuality*. Cambridge University Press 2003. ISBN 0 521 00969 3. Chapter 4: Sexuality and identity. Gay and lesbian language. pp. 74-105.
- Anna Bredström: 'Love in another country' – 'race', gender and sexuality in sexual education material targeting migrants in Sweden. In *Sexualities* vol. 8 2005: pp. 517-535.

#### 21.4. Gender at work

- Caja Thimm & Heidi Ehmer: Strategic interaction at the work-place: How men and women deal with power differences. In: Friederike Braun & Ursula Pasero (eds.): *Communication of gender/Kommunikation von Geschlecht*. Centaurus 1997, ISSN 0849-4434, pp. 302-319.
- Jann Scheuer: Habitus as the principle for social practice: A proposal for critical discourse analysis. In: *Language in Society* 32:2, 2003 pp.143-175
- Kirsten Gomard: How to position oneself as a scholar: female and male Ph.D.-students in the humanities and chemistry at a university in Denmark. In: Kevin Mc Cafferty, Tove Bull & Kristin Killie (eds.): *Contexts – Historical, Social, Linguistic. Studies in celebration of Toril Swan*. Peter lang 2005. ISBN 3-03910-625-2, pp. 89-106.
- Deborah Cameron: Language, Gender & Globalization. In Kerstin Nordenstam & Kerstin Norén (eds.): *Språk, kön och kultur. Rapport från fjärde nordiska konferensen om språk och kön*. Göteborg den 6-7 oktober 2000. Institutionen för svenska språket. Göteborgs Universitet 2001, pp. 1-17.

#### 28.4. Written Media

- Lesley Stirling: Language and Gender in Australian Newspapers. In: Anne Pauwels (ed.). *Women and Language in Australian and New Zealand Society*, Australian Professional Publications, Sydney 1987, pp. 108-128.
- Katy Day, Brendan Gough & Majella McFadden: "Warning! Alcohol can seriously damage your feminine health". A discourse analysis of recent British newspaper coverage of women and drinking. In: *Feminist Media Studies* vol. 4., nor. 2, 2004. ISSN 1468-0777, pp. 165-183.
- Mary Crawford: Mars and Venus collide: A discursive analysis of marital self-help psychology. In: *Feminism & Psychology*. Vol. 14.1 2004, pp. 63-79.

## 5.5.

### **Gender in Cyberspace.**

- Lindsay van Gelder: The Strange Case of the Electronic Lover. In: Rob Kling (ed.): *Computerization and Controversy*. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed. San Diego: Academic Press 1996, pp. 533-546.
- Janne C.H. Bromseth: Construction of and negotiations on interaction norms and gender on electronic discussion lists in Norway. In: *Nora* no. 2, 2001, pp. 80-88.
- Jenny Sundén: "I'm still not sure she's a she". Textual talk and typed bodies in online interaction. In: Paul McIlvenny (ed.): *Talking Gender and Sexuality*. John Benjamin: Amsterdam/Philadelphia 2002, pp. 289-312.
- Susan C. Herring: Computer-mediated communication and woman's place. In: Mary Buchholtz (ed.): *Robin T. Lakoff: Language and woman's place. Text and commentaries*. Oxford University Press 2004. ISBN 0-19-516757-0, pp. 216-222.

### **Summaries, conclusions**