Module Specification

Language, Power and Gender

Version: 2027-28, v1.0, Approved

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Language, Power and Gender

Module code: UPNB7J-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Arts

Partner institutions: None

Field: Linguistics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This optional module critically explores how language is loaded with different cultural and ideological values and constructions of different social categories, with a focus on gender.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Students will be introduced to a range of analytical methods in critical linguistic analysis and learn how to apply these to understand how discourse

(across various genres) reinforces and challenges power relations in society. The module focuses particularly on the use of language through and with the lens of gender, drawing from key theories on gender difference and performance, and students' own experiences, to reflect on and analyse the ways in which gender identities impact our communication and how language use contributes to our gender performances in real-world settings.

Outline syllabus: Topics likely to be covered include power and ideology; critical discourse analysis; critically analysing media, politics and policy; metaphor; non-dominant groups and othering; gender difference and performance; queer theory; language beyond binaries; masculinities; gender and (im)politeness.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Teaching and learning will be delivered through a combination of lecture, workshop, seminar, and tutorial formats, as appropriate. Student learning will also be supported by the university's VLE, where teaching slides, reading lists, weekly preparation, discussion boards and lecture recordings are hosted. Students will also be able to access assessment briefs from the start of teaching and will be offered bespoke assessment advice during scheduled teaching time. In addition, students will have regular opportunities to discuss their teaching and learning with the module teaching team, both in person or online.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Integrate diverse perspectives and ideas from various fields, demonstrating an in-depth understanding of the complexities within their discipline.

MO2 Critically analyse language in context, drawing on theoretical frameworks and lived experiences to examine its role in shaping identities.

MO3 Demonstrate autonomy in planning, managing, and executing projects, demonstrating resilience and resourcefulness in overcoming obstacles.

MO4 Construct and defend well-reasoned arguments, engaging critically with contemporary debates and demonstrating sensitivity to diverse perspectives.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/5BF1AFD5-3DE6-8277-6C66-6BFD96D0A25C.html?lang=en-GB&login=1

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment will be a portfolio. This is designed to test various learning outcomes and areas of the module curriculum. The portfolio tasks will offer students some choice in the topic, language data, and format they use.

The portfolio will comprise three elements, including a critical reaction piece, a blog post or similar creative output, and a critical analytical essay. Each element will test students' understanding of key concepts, issues and debates at the nexus of language, power and gender. Students will be assessed on their ability to critically analyse, evaluate and communicate their findings to target audiences, both academic and non-academic.

Formative feedback: Throughout the year, students will be offered assessment consultations to discuss their plans. Midway through the year, they will have the opportunity to receive feedback on a partial version of their written work.

The students' assessment effort will be staggered, with at least one mini-submission throughout the year.

The resit assessment will match the first sit.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio of 3 elements (equivalent 5000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio of 3 elements (equivalent 5000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

English Language and Linguistics [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26