HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course Title**
   Advanced Seminar in Language and Gender

2. **Course Code**
   LANG 7650

3. **No. of Units**
   3 units

4. **Offering Department**
   MA in Language Studies Programme

5. **Prerequisite**
   Nil

6. **Medium of Instruction**
   English

7. **Aims & Objectives**
   The course offers an introduction to how gender relates to language in diverse ways and in diverse contexts, and develops students' research skills in this area. A wide range of current issues in the academic field of language and gender will be presented, and different approaches to analyzing the impact of gender in both spoken and written texts will be discussed. Cultural variation will also be in focus. The emphasis will be on developing the students' awareness and critical thinking of gender in their own experiences of language use, as well as applying their knowledge to different social contexts. Besides working on assigned materials, students will be asked to collect and analyze their own data, using the theoretical frameworks from the course.

8. **Course content**
   (1) Introduction: The history of research on language and gender
   (2) Gender and ideology (sexist and homophobic language)

(3) Gender, language and education (language use, gender and power in the classroom)

(4) Gender, socialization and identity (language and identity performance)

(5) Gender and professional communication (male and female leadership, men and women talking in meetings etc.)

(6) Gender and language in the media, gender and political correctness (e.g. portrayal of gender stereotypes)

(7) Cross-cultural differences of gender in language (examples from diverse communities across the world)

(8) Theoretical issues: Causes and consequences (e.g. feminism, queer theory)

9. **Course Intended Learning outcomes (CILOs)**

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Explain the interrelationship between linguistic phenomena and social categories, particularly gender
CILO 2	Evaluate different theories which attempt to account for differences, dominance, and diversity with relation to language and gender
CILO 3	Analyze different social and cultural contexts demonstrating men and women's use of different linguistic and communicative features
CILO 4	Apply their own experiences of language and gender to a critical evaluation of existing studies and theories
CILO 5	Conduct a small research project on language and gender

10. **Teaching & Learning Activities (TLAs)**

CILO No.	TLAs
CILO 1 & 3	• Presentation and discussion of evidence from diverse socio-cultural contexts to demonstrate the interrelationship between gender and language
CILO 1, 2 & 3	• Small-group discussions of authentic data demonstrating gender performance in language
CILO 4	• Class presentations and discussions relating the students' experience of gender differences in language to the

	research findings
CILO 1, 4 & 5	• Observing evidence of how gender may impact language use
CILO 5	• Carrying out a small-scale research project on language and gender

11. Assessment Methods (AMs)

Type of Assessment	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Group presentation and discussion	20%	1, 2, 3 & 4	Small-group discussions, class presentations and discussions, data analysis, short-answer assignments
Short answer assignment	20%	1, 2, 3 & 4	
Analysis of spoken/textual data	20%	1, 2, & 3	
Term paper	40%	1, 2 & 5	Preparing and conducting a small-scale research project on an aspect of language and gender in context