

**SYLLABUS**  
**of**  
**GENDER PSYCHOLOGY OF COMMUNICATION**  
**for Masters Programme in Social Psychology.**  
**2 ECTS Credits**

**Course description**

This course develops and applies skills to understand and analyse a gender dimension of social psychological phenomena and interpersonal relations. The emphasis on social stratification, inequality and power, partitioning of social space and influences within the interpersonal relations based on gender and sexuality are the core elements to develop the skills of understanding the psychology of communications. The students are taught to see the linkage between personal characteristics of men and women and the types of social relations they involved in by means of interpersonal communication. Furthermore, they get the experience of revealing the gender dimension in routine social practices of communication and interaction as well as critical thinking over the scientific and popular texts concerning gender and sexuality. The content of the course is based on author's research.

**Recommended previous knowledge**

Sociology (basic course), Social psychology (basic course): contemporary concepts of social science (social constructionist theory, symbolic interactionism, language as a mean of transformation and reproduction of social structure, discourse nature of society and subjectivity, ethnomethodology, socio-structural analysis), social dimensions of personality (status, role, power as a tool of social behaviour regulation).

**Recommended previous skills and techniques**

To apply the social knowledge for interpretation of empirical data concerning the social interactions and communications.

Critical social thinking, distinguishing the social aspects of human psychic.

**After completing the course, the students are expected to be able to:**

- distinguish classical and non-classical methodologies in gender studies;
- understand the socio-psychological aspects of gender;
- specify the gender dimension of interpersonal relations and communication;
- explain the empirical data of gender differences from different points of view;
- solve the gender sensitive problems of interpersonal communication;
- modify the standard psychological diagnostic and intervention tools in accord with the gender theory.

**Teaching**

The course is mainly based on **interactive and participatory** learning. **Readings** will be drawn from a variety of primary and text sources indicated below. **Problems** (Individual Tasks) will be assigned to be handed in and graded. There will be a **term paper** due at the end of the term, colloquium with **oral presentation** of the paper, and **final exam**. Upon the successful completion, the students will gain 2 credits.

## Course content

№	Subject	Assignments	Duration (in hours)
1.	<b>Socio-psychological aspects of gender</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notion of gender and gender groups</li> <li>• Gender identity on individual and social levels</li> <li>• Gender schemas</li> <li>• Gender socialization</li> <li>• Gender performance</li> </ul>	Individual Task №1	18
2.	<b>Methodologies of gender studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classical methodology</li> <li>• Sex/Gender role model</li> <li>• Non classical methodology</li> <li>• Social constructionist theory</li> <li>• Qualitative and quantitative methods in gender studies</li> <li>• Gender expression in interpersonal communication and interactions</li> </ul>	Individual Tasks №2, №3	18
3.	<b>Gender dimension of interpersonal relations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expression of gender identity in interpersonal communication</li> <li>• Expressive characteristics of gender identity as the barriers of effective communication</li> <li>• Gender identity construction in cyber communication</li> <li>• Gender identity construction in mass media</li> <li>• Psychological diagnostics of gender dimension of interpersonal relations</li> </ul>	Individual Tasks №4, №5	34
4.	<b>Summarizing presentation</b>	Term paper, oral presentation	2

Individual Task grading is intended to show your progress in learning the course material. You are encouraged to seek advice or help from other students and/or to work in study groups. However, the work that you do must be individual and based upon your own research. Individual Task is due at the beginning of class time on the due date. Individual Task will be accepted up to 1 week late, with a 10% reduction in score for each day late. 2/3 of the Individual Tasks approved is minimum for exam admittance.

The Term Paper is meant to be an individual effort. However, you should feel free to discuss your project with your teachers and fellow students. You should acknowledge other sources with proper citations.

## Literature

### Core

1. Sandra L. Bem. *The Lenses of Gender: Transforming the Debate on Sexual Inequality*. New Haven, London: Yale University Press. 1993.
2. *Queer Theory and Communication: From Disciplining Queers to Queering the Discipline(s)* / Gust A. Yep, Karen E. Lovaas, John P. Elia (Eds). Binghamton: Harrington Park Press, 2003.
3. Laurie A. Rudman, Peter Click. *The Social Psychology of Gender: How Power and Intimacy Shape Gender Relations*. NY, London: The Guilford Press, 2008.

### *Additional*

4. Annamarie Jagose. *Queer Theory: An Introduction*. NY: New York University Press, 2002.
5. Michael S. Kimmel. Masculinity as Homophobia: Fear, Shame, and Silence in the Construction of Gender Identity // H. Brad, M. Kaufman (eds.). *Theorizing Masculinities*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, 1994, p. 119-141.
6. Michael S. Kimmel. *The Gendered Society*. NY, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.