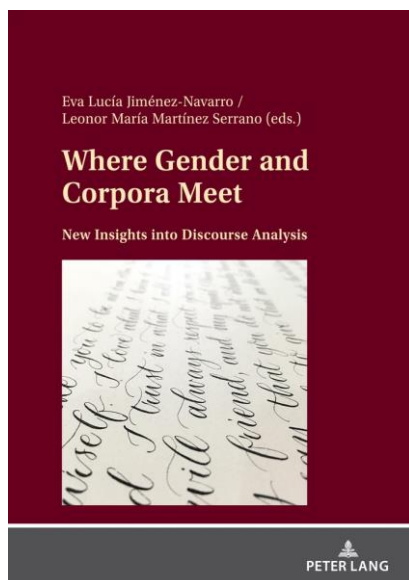BOOK REVIEW

Jiménez-Navarro, E.L., y Martínez-Serrano, L.M. 2024. Where Gender and Corpora Meet: New Insights into Discourse Analysis. Peter Lang. 200 pp. 9783631880357

iD Patricia García Santos[1]

[1]Universidad de Córdoba

Where Gender and Corpora Meet: New Insights into Discourse Analysis, edited by Eva Lucía Jiménez-Navarro (UCO) and Leonor María Martínez Serrano (UCO), is a compelling volume that combines the fields of corpus linguistics, discourse analysis, and gender studies, and claims that language is the medium through which gender is displayed as a social construct. Therefore, all chapters delve into the relationship between language and gender using a corpus-assisted approach, whose goal is to address different types of discourse: from adventure tourism (chapter 1) and social media (chapter 2) to education (chapter 8) and women's literature and writing (chapters 4 and 6).

One of the strengths of this work is its focus on how language reflects and shapes gender. Each chapter applies corpus linguistics techniques to examine language patterns concerning gender and provides new insights into how gender roles are linguistically portrayed across several contexts. For instance, some studies explore how gender-specific structures occur in promotional texts of adventure tourism, while others examine the representation of gender in academic and social media discourse.

The editors have curated a broad range of contributions, which reflects the diversity of perspectives within discourse analysis and gender studies and the influence of corpus linguistics as a model for the characterization of language. The volume is not limited to a single linguistic framework but integrates a variety of methods instead. This interdisciplinary approach makes this book a valuable resource for scholars eager to investigate linguistics, gender studies, and/or discourse analysis.

Moreover, this work is accessible to a wide audience and can then become a great source of inspiration and a roadmap for future research on the fields. Although discourse analysis had already been related to gender studies before, the contributions regarding the combination of corpus linguistics and gender is relatively new, which positions the book itself as a significant contribution highlighting the role of language in perpetuating or challenging gender norms. Finally, it is worth pointing out that the use of cutting-edge corpus management software such as Sketch Engine makes the research methodologically sound. In short, it is a must-read for those interested in how language is a tool to conceptualise the world around us and, in particular, how language deeply influences gender ideologies.

References

Jiménez-Navarro, E., L., Martínez Serrano, L., M. (2024). Where Gender and Corpora Meet. Berlin, Germany: Peter Lang Verlag. Retrieved Oct 21, 2024, from 10.3726/b21797