

PROFESSOR ELENA SEMINO – CURRICULUM VITAE

SUMMARY

I am an applied linguist who combines qualitative and quantitative methods to study communication on sensitive and urgent topics, including cancer, mental illness, climate change and Covid-19. I have been awarded over £3 million in research grants, including 5 years of funding for the ESRC Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science (2018-23), which I direct. I have (co-)authored over 90 publications, including monographs with Cambridge University Press and articles in major journals outside my discipline (e.g. *The Lancet*). I am frequently invited to speak at international conferences and at practice/policy-oriented events. My research has had an impact on communication practices in healthcare settings, and is regularly cited in the national and international media. I was Head of Department for six years, hold a Visiting Professorship in China, sit on the REF2021 English Language and Literature sub-panel, and am a Fellow of the RSA and of the Academy of Social Science.

CURRENT POSITIONS

- 2017- Director of ESRC Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science, Lancaster University
- 2011- Professor of Linguistics and Verbal Art, Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University

- 2019- Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences
- 2016 - Fellow of the RSA
- 2010 - Visiting Professor in the Faculty of Foreign Languages, Fuzhou University, China

PREVIOUS POSTS

- 2003-2011 Senior lecturer, Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University
- 1991-2002 Lecturer, Department of Linguistics and Modern English Language, Lancaster University
- 1988-1990 Italian Language Assistant, Department of Modern Languages, Lancaster University
- 1987-1988 Italian Language Assistant, Department of Modern Languages, Napier Polytechnic, Edinburgh

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- 1994 Ph.D. Degree in Linguistics, Lancaster University
- 1990 MA Degree in Language Studies (with Distinction), Lancaster University
- 1988 BA Honours Degree in Foreign Languages and Literatures (English and German), I10/I10 *cum laude*, Università di Genova (Italy)

RESEARCH

Research areas - Applied Linguistics, Health(care) Communication, Medical Humanities, Corpus Linguistics, Cognitive Linguistics, Metaphor Theory and Analysis, Narratology, Stylistics.

Main research topics - Communication about cancer, the end of life, chronic pain, mental illness; Narratives of autism and schizophrenia; Metaphors and Covid-19; Media representations of social care and disabilities; Young people and climate change; Language and the transition between primary and secondary school.

Interdisciplinary collaborations and activities – As well as working with other linguists, I collaborate and co-publish with healthcare researchers, clinicians, psychologists, cognitive scientists, educationalists and artists. Amongst others, I have hosted a session on ‘Language and cancer’ at the Conference of the National Cancer

Research Institute (2016) and spoken at an event on ‘Explain pain through art, language and movement’ at the Royal Society of Medicine (2019).

PUBLICATIONS

Citations – 7,101 total citations; h-index: 38; i10 index: 73 (googlescholar, August 2020).

Monographs

2018	Semino, E., Demjén, Z., Hardie, A., Rayson, P. and Payne, S. <i>Metaphor, Cancer and the End of Life: A Corpus-based Study</i> . New York: Routledge.
2013	Deignan, A., Littlemore, J. and Semino, E. <i>Figurative Language, Genre and Register</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2008	Semino, E. <i>Metaphor in Discourse</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (translated into Arabic)
2004	Semino, E. and Short, M. <i>Corpus Stylistics: Speech, Writing and Thought Presentation in a Corpus of English Writing</i> . London: Routledge.
1997	Semino, E. <i>Language and World Creation in Poems and Other Texts</i> . London: Longman.

Edited collections

2017	Semino, E. and Demjén, Z. (eds) <i>The Routledge Handbook of Metaphor and Language</i> . London: Routledge. (being translated into Korean)
2002	Semino, E. and Culpeper, J. (eds) <i>Cognitive Stylistics: Language and Cognition in Text Analysis</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins. (translated into Korean)

Articles in peer-reviewed journals

2020	Deignan, A. and Semino, E. Translating science for young people through metaphor, <i>The Translator</i> .
2019	Potts, A. and Semino, E. Cancer as a metaphor, <i>Metaphor and Symbol</i> , 34, 3, 81-95.
2019	Demjén, Z., Marszalek, A., Semino, E. and Varese, F. Metaphor framing and distress in lived-experience accounts of voice-hearing, <i>Psychosis</i> , 11, 1, 16-27.
2019	Deignan, A., Semino, E. and Paul, S. Metaphors of climate change in three genres: Research articles, educational texts and student talk, <i>Applied Linguistics</i> , 40, 2, 379-403.
2019	Hendricks, R. K., Demjén, Z., Semino, E. and Boroditsky, L. Emotional implications of metaphor: Consequences of metaphor framing for mindset about cancer, <i>Metaphor and Symbol</i> , 33, 4, 267-279.
2018	Semino, E., Demjén, Z. and Demmen, J. An integrated approach to metaphor and framing in cognition, discourse and practice, with an application to metaphors for cancer, <i>Applied Linguistics</i> , 39, 5, 625-45
2018	Padfield, D., Omand, H., Semino, E., Williams C de C, A., Zakzrewska, J. Images as catalysts for meaning-making in medical pain encounters: a multidisciplinary analysis, <i>BMJ Medical Humanities</i> , 44, 2: 74-81.
2017	Semino, E., Zakzrewska, J. and Williams. A. How images change the dynamics of pain consultations, <i>The Lancet</i> , 389, 1186-1187.
2017	Semino, E., Demjén, Z., Demmen, J., Koller, V., Payne, S., Hardie, H. and Rayson, P. The online use of ‘Violence’ and ‘Journey’ metaphors by cancer patients, as compared with health professionals: a mixed methods study, <i>BMJ Supportive and Palliative Care</i> , 7, 1, 60-66.

2017	Potts, A. and Semino, E. Healthcare professionals' online use of Violence metaphors for care at the end of life in the US: A corpus-based comparison with the UK, <i>Corpora</i> , 12, 1, 55-84
2016	Bortoluzzi, M. and Semino, E. Face attack in Italian politics: Beppe Grillo's insulting epithets for other politicians, <i>Journal of Language Aggression and Conflict</i> , 4, 2: 178-201.
2016	Demjén, Z., Semino, E. and Koller, V. Metaphors for 'good' and 'bad' deaths: A health professional view, <i>Metaphor and the Social World</i> , 6: 1-19.
2015	Demmen, J., Semino, E., Demjén, Z., Koller, V., Payne, S., Hardie, H. and Rayson, P. A computer-assisted study of the use of Violence metaphors for cancer and end of life by patients, family carers and health professionals, <i>International Journal of Corpus Linguistics</i> , 22, 2, 205-31.
2015	Demjén, Z. and Semino, E. Henry's voices: the representation of auditory verbal hallucinations in an autobiographical narrative, <i>BMJ Medical Humanities</i> , 41, 57-62.
2014	Semino, E., Demjén, Z. and Koller, V. 'Good' and 'bad' deaths: Narratives and professional identities in interviews with hospice managers, <i>Discourse Studies</i> , 16, 5, 667-85.
2014	Semino, E. Pragmatic failure, mind style and characterization in fiction about autism, <i>Language and Literature</i> , 23, 2, 141-58.
2013	Semino, E., Deignan, A. and Littlemore, J. Metaphor, genre and recontextualization, <i>Metaphor and Symbol</i> , 28, 1, 41-59.
2011	Semino, E. Deixis and fictional minds, <i>Style</i> , 45, 3, 418-40.
2011	Semino, E. Rethinking inferred thought presentation, <i>Style</i> , 45, 2, 296-300.
2011	Semino, E. The adaptation of metaphors across genres, <i>Review of Cognitive Linguistics</i> , 9, 1, 130-52.
2010	Semino, E. Descriptions of pain, metaphor and embodied simulation, <i>Metaphor and Symbol</i> , 25, 4, 205-26.
2010	Semino, E. Unrealistic scenarios, metaphorical blends and rhetorical strategies across genres, <i>English Text Construction</i> , 3, 2, 250-74.
2007	Semino, E. Mind Style 25 years on, <i>Style</i> , 41, 2, 153-73.
2007	Pragglejaz Group. MIP: A method for identifying metaphorically used words in discourse, <i>Metaphor and Symbol</i> , 21, 1, 1-39.
2006	Semino, E. Blending and characters' mental functioning in Virginia Woolf's <i>Lappin and Lapinova</i> , <i>Language and Literature</i> , 15, 1, 55-72.
2005	Semino, E. The metaphorical construction of complex domains: the case of speech activity in English, <i>Metaphor and Symbol</i> , 20, 1, 35-69.
2004	Semino, E. Representing characters' speech and thought in narrative fiction: A Study of <i>England, England</i> by Julian Barnes, <i>Style</i> , 38, 4, 428-451.
2004	Semino, E., Heywood, J. and Short, M. Methodological problems in the analysis of metaphor in a corpus of conversations about cancer, <i>Journal of Pragmatics</i> , 36, 7, 1271-1294.
2002	Short, M., Semino, E. and Wynne, M. Revisiting the notion of faithfulness in discourse presentation using a corpus approach, <i>Language and Literature</i> , 11, 4, 325-55.
2002	Semino, E. A sturdy baby or a derailing train? Metaphorical representations of the euro in British and Italian newspapers, <i>Text</i> , 22, 1, 107-39.
2002	Semino, E. Stylistics and linguistic variation in poetry, <i>Journal of English Linguistics</i> , 30, 1, 28-50.
2002	Heywood, J., Semino, E. and Short, M. Linguistic metaphor identification in two extracts from novels, <i>Language and Literature</i> , 11, 1, 35-54.
2001	Semino, E. On readings, literariness and schema theory: A reply to Jeffries, <i>Language and Literature</i> , 10, 4, 345-55.

2000	Culpeper, J. and Semino, E. (2000) Constructing witches and spells: Speech acts and activity types in Early Modern England, <i>Journal of Historical Pragmatics</i> , 1, 1, 97-116.
1999	Semino, E., Short, M. and Wynne, M. Hypothetical words and thoughts in contemporary British narratives, <i>Narrative</i> , 7, 3, 307-334.
1997	Semino, E. Short, M. and Culpeper, J. Using a corpus to test a model of speech and thought presentation, <i>Poetics</i> , 25, 17-43.
1996	Semino, E. and Swindlehurst, K. Metaphor and mind style in Ken Kesey's <i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i> , <i>Style</i> , 30, 1, 143-166.
1996	Semino, E. and Masci, M. Politics is football: metaphor in the discourse of Silvio Berlusconi in Italy, <i>Discourse and Society</i> , 7, 2, 243-269.
1996	Semino, E. Possible worlds in poetry, <i>Journal of Literary Semantics</i> , 25, 3, 189-224.
1995	Semino, E. Schema theory and the analysis of text worlds in poetry, <i>Language and Literature</i> , 4, 2, 79-108.
1992	Semino, E. Building on Keith Green's "Deixis and the Poetic Persona": Further reflections on deixis in poetry, <i>Language and Literature</i> , 1, 2, 135-140.

Book chapters

In press	Deignan, A. and Semino, E. Metaphors and meaning-making in young people's talk about climate change. In Colston, H., Matlock, T. and Steen, G. (eds) <i>Metaphor in Language, Cognition and Communication</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
In press	Semino, E. Language and images in pain consultations. In Padfield, D. and Zakzrewska, J. (eds) <i>Encountering Pain: Hearing, Seeing, Speaking</i> . London: University College London Press.
In press	Demjén, Z. and Semino, E. Metaphor, Metonymy and Framing. In De Fina, A. and Georgakopoulou, A. (eds) <i>The Cambridge Handbook of Discourse Studies</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
In press	Demjén, Z. and Semino, E. Stylistics: Mind style in an autobiographical account of schizophrenia. In Brookes, G. and Hunt, D. (eds) <i>Analysing Health Communication: Discourse Approaches</i> . London: Palgrave.
In press	Semino, E., Collins, L. and Demjén, Z. Silences in first-person accounts of voice-hearing: A linguistic approach. In Woods, A., Alderson-Day, B. and Fernyhough, C. (eds) <i>Voices in Psychosis: Interdisciplinary Perspectives</i> . London: Palgrave.
2020	Demjén, Z. and Semino, E. Communicating nuanced results in language consultancy: The case of cancer and the Violence metaphor. In Mullany, L. (ed.) <i>Communicating in Professions and Organizations</i> . London: Palgrave, 191-210.
2020	Semino, E., Hardie, A. and Zakzrewska, J. M. Applying corpus linguistics to a diagnostic tool for pain. In Demjén, Z. (ed.) <i>Applying Linguistics in Illness and Healthcare Contexts</i> . London: Bloomsbury, 99-128.
2020	Demjén, Z., Marszalek, A., Semino, E. and Varese, F. "One gives bad compliments about me, and the other one is telling me to do things" – (Im)Politeness and power in reported interactions between voice-hearers and their voices. In Demjén, Z. (ed.) <i>Applying Linguistics in Illness and Healthcare Contexts</i> . London: Bloomsbury, 17-43.
2020	Anderson, W. and Semino, E. Metaphor. In Adolphs, S. and Knight, D. <i>The Routledge Chapter of English Language and Digital Humanities</i> . London: Routledge, 125-42
2019	Semino, E. Afterword: Some reflections on MIPVU across languages. In Nacey, S. et al. (eds) <i>Metaphor Identification in Multiple Languages: MIPVU Around the World</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 313-21

2019	Semino, E. Metaphorical descriptions of pain on a Trigeminal Neuralgia Forum: Pushing the Boundaries of Cognitive Linguistics. In Hart, C. (ed.) <i>Cognitive Linguistic Approaches to text and Discourse: From Poetics to Politics</i> . Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 73-92.
2017	Demjén, Z. and Semino, E. (2017) Using metaphor in healthcare: physical health. In Semino, E. and Demjén, Z. (eds.) <i>The Routledge Handbook of Metaphor and Language</i> . London: Routledge, 385-99.
2017	Semino, E. and Demjén, Z. The Cancer Card: metaphor, intimacy and humour in online interactions about the experience of cancer. In Hampe, B. (ed.) <i>Metaphor: Embodied Cognition & Discourse</i> , Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 181-99.
2017	Semino, E. Corpus linguistics and metaphor. In Dancygier, B. (ed.) <i>The Cambridge Handbook of Cognitive Linguistics</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 463-76.
2016	Semino, E. A corpus-based study of 'mixed metaphor' as a metalinguistic comment. In Gibbs, R. W. Jr (ed) <i>Mixing Metaphor</i> . John Benjamins, pp. 203-20.
2014	Semino, E. Language and autism in Mark Haddon's <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i> , In Fludernik, M. and Jacob, D. (eds) <i>Linguistics and Literary Studies</i> . Berlin: de Gruyter, 279-303.
2011	Semino, E. Metaphor, creativity, and the experience of pain across genres. In Swann, J., Carter, R. and Pope, R. (eds) <i>Creativity, Language, Literature</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave, pp. 83-102.
2010	Deignan, A. and Semino, E. Corpus techniques for metaphor analysis. In Cameron, L. and Maslen, R. (ed.) <i>Metaphor Analysis: Research Practice in Applied Linguistics, Social Sciences and the Humanities</i> . London: Equinox.
2009	Semino, E. (2009) The language of newspapers. In Culpeper, J., Katamba, F., Kerswill, P., Wodak, R. and McEnery, T. (eds) <i>English Language: Description, Variation and Contexts</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave, 439-53.
2009	Semino, E. and Koller, V. Metaphor, politics and gender: A case study from Italy. In: Ahrens, K. (ed.) <i>Politics, Gender and Conceptual Metaphors</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave, 36-61.
2009	Koller, V. and Semino, E. Metaphor, politics and gender: A case study from Germany. In: Ahrens, K. (ed.) <i>Politics, Gender and Conceptual Metaphors</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave, 9-35.
2009	Semino, E. (2009) Text worlds. In Brône, G. and Vandaele, J. (eds) <i>Cognitive Poetics</i> . Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter, 33-71.
2008	Semino, E. and Steen, G. Metaphor in literature. In Gibbs, R. W. Jr. (ed.) <i>Cambridge Handbook of Metaphor and Thought</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 232-46.
2007	Semino, E. and Short, M. Evaluation and stylistic analysis. In van Peer, W. (ed.) <i>The Quality of Literature: Studies in Literary Evaluation</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 118-38. ²
2007	Heywood, J. and Semino, E. Metaphors for speaking and writing in the British press. In Johnson, S. and Ensslin, A. (eds) <i>Language in the Media: Representations, Identities, Ideologies</i> . London: Continuum, 25-47. ¹
2006	Semino, E. Metaphor and fictional minds. In Benczes, R. and Csábi, S. (eds) <i>The Metaphors of Sixty</i> . Budapest: Eötvös Loránd University Press, 227-35.
2006	Semino, E. A corpus-based study of metaphors for speech activity in British English. In Gries, S.T. and Stefanowitsch, A. (eds) <i>Corpora in Cognitive Linguistics: Conceptual Metaphors</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 35-60.
2006	Semino, E. Cognitive Poetics. In Goodman, S. and O'Halloran, K. (eds.) <i>The Art of English: Literary Creativity</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 37-44.
2003	Semino, E. Discourse worlds and mental spaces. In Gavins, J. and Steen, G. (eds.) <i>Cognitive Poetics in Practice</i> . Routledge, 83-98.

2002	Semino, E. and Culpeper, J. Foreword. In Semino, E. and Culpeper, J. (eds.) <i>Cognitive Stylistics: Language and Cognition in Text Analysis</i> , John Benjamins, ix-xvi (with Jonathan Culpeper), ix-xvi.
2002	Semino, E. A cognitive stylistic approach to mind style in narrative fiction. In Semino, E. and Culpeper, J. (eds.) <i>Cognitive Stylistics: Language and Cognition in Text Analysis</i> , John Benjamins, 95-122.
2000	Short, M., Semino, E. and Culpeper, J. Language and context: Jane Gardam's <i>Bilgewater</i> . In Bex, T., Burke, M. and Stockwell, P. (eds.) <i>Contextualized Stylistics</i> . Amsterdam: Rodopi, 131-51.
1999	Short, M., Wynne, M. and Semino, E. Reading reports: Discourse presentation in a corpus of narratives, with special reference to news reports. In Diller, H-J. and Stratmann, E.O-J. (eds.) <i>English Via Various Media</i> . Heidelberg : Winter, 39-65.
1998	Wynne, M., Short, M. and Semino, E. A corpus-based investigation of speech, thought and writing presentation in English narrative texts. In Renouf, A., (ed.) <i>Explorations in Corpus Linguistics</i> . Amsterdam: Rodopi, 233-47.
1996	Short, M., Semino, E. and Culpeper, J. Using a corpus for stylistics research: speech and thought presentation. In Thomas, J. and Short, M. (eds.) <i>Using Corpora in Language Research</i> . London: Longman, 110-131.
1995	Semino, E. Deixis and the dynamics of poetic voice. In Green, K. (ed.) <i>New Essays in Deixis</i> . Amsterdam: Rodopi, 145-160.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Year	Role	Title	Funder	Amount
2020	Principal Investigator	<i>Questioning Vaccination Discourse: A Corpus-Based Study</i> (NB: embargoed until October 2020)	ESRC	£964,328.97
2018	Principal Investigator and Director	<i>ESRC Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science</i>	ESRC	£938,632
2018	Co-investigator	<i>The challenges of the transition from primary to secondary school</i>	ESRC	£615,212
2018	Principal Investigator	<i>The representation of 'social care' in the UK press</i>	Camphill Village Trust	£2,000
2018	Principal Investigator	<i>International networking for Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science</i>	ESRC	£35,000
2018	Principal Investigator	<i>Linguistics and the private sector</i>	ESRC	£50,000
2015	Principal Investigator	<i>Big data media analysis and the representation of urban violence in Brazil</i>	Newton Fund/ESRC	£47,750
2014	Co-investigator	<i>Translating Science for Young People</i>	AHRC	£180,000
2012	Principal investigator	<i>Metaphor in End-of-Life Care</i>	ESRC	£218,000
2006	Co-investigator	<i>Extending a semantic annotation tool for research on metaphor in discourse</i>	British Academy	£6,749
2006	Principal investigator	<i>Metaphor in discourse</i>	AHRC	£22,000
2004	Principal investigator	<i>A corpus-based study of metaphors for speech, writing and thought in British English</i>	British Academy	£15,455

2003	Principal investigator	<i>Developing a procedure for metaphor identification in language</i>	British Academy	£11,500
2001	Co-investigator	<i>A corpus-based study of speech, thought and writing presentation in spoken English</i>	AHRB	£109,000
2000	Principal investigator	<i>Metaphors for European Monetary Union in British and Italian newspapers</i>	British Academy	£3,400
1996	Co-investigator	<i>A corpus-based study of speech and thought presentation in fictional and non-fictional narratives</i>	HRB	£17,500
Total				£3,236,526.97

OTHER INDICATORS OF RESEARCH ESTEEM

- 40 invited talks at Universities in the UK and internationally.
- 37 plenary lectures at conferences/symposia (including in France, Spain, Italy, China, Hong Kong, Australia).
- Over 40 international Visiting Scholars supervised.

RESEARCH USER ENGAGEMENT

- Collaborations with charities (e.g. *Change, Rethink Mental Illness, Trigeminal Neuralgia Association, Camphill Village Trust*) and private companies (*Health Unlocked*) in the healthcare and social care sector.
- Blogs (e.g. for the European Association for Palliative Care) and article for *The Conversation*.
- Invited talks at charities in the healthcare sector (*Cancer Research UK, Macmillan Cancer Research, Trigeminal Neuralgia Association*) and events on social care in the UK (e.g. 'Reframing Social Care', London, 2018)
- Training sessions in hospices: St. Joseph's Hospice, London; St. John's Hospice, Lancaster.
- Media reports on research in UK (e.g. *Independent, The Times, Daily Mail, BBC Radio 4*) and internationally (e.g. *El País, New Scientist, Vancouver Sun, New York Times blog, Washington Examiner, Huffington Post, TIME magazine, Der Spiegel*).

INFLUENCE AND IMPACT OF RESEARCH

- The Trigeminal Neuralgia Association UK reversed its decision to close down their patient online forum as a result of a commissioned report I produced on the beneficial function of the forum for users.
- The findings of a commissioned study I led on representations of social care in the UK have been cited in the 2019 King's Fund report 'Social Care 360'.
- The findings of my research on cancer and the end of life have informed communication practices in NHS hospitals (e.g. Lancaster Royal Infirmary) and hospices (e.g. St. John's Hospice, Lancaster, and training provided by Hospices UK).
- A resource for cancer patients based on the research (the 'Metaphor Menu for People with Cancer') has been included on the list of readings recommended by Cancer Research UK.

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

I have over 25 years' experience of Higher Education teaching in the areas of Stylistics, Discourse Analysis and English Language, at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and both face-to-face and in distance mode. Each year, I supervise 4-7 undergraduate dissertations and 2-4 MA dissertations. I have supervised 21 PhD students to completion and been External Examiner for 24 PhD theses in the UK and internationally.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE (selected)

- Director of ESRC Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science (from 2017) – I took on the Directorship at the end of the Centre’s first five years of funding and obtained a further five years of funding (2018-23) by developing a new research programme on health(care) communication.
- Head of Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University (2011-14 and 2015-18) – I appointed 23 academics, resulting in the UK’s largest Linguistics department. During my tenure, the Department entered the top 10 in the QS World University rankings and has been in the top 20 since.
- Reviewer for national and international research bodies, e.g.: AHRC, ESRC, MRC, Israel Science Foundation, Dutch Academy of Science, The Academy of Finland, The National Science Centre, Poland.
- Member of the sub-panel for English Language and Literature for REF 2021.