Barack Obama's identity-building in the health care debate: A corpus-assisted discourse study

AUTHOR
Katherina Riesner

Summary, in English

In this study, I demonstrate that identity-building is an important discursive strategy for President Barack Obama in the seven-year long debate surrounding the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The data for the study comes from a 6-million word corpus of speeches that were held by Obama between January 2009 and January 2016, all published by the White House. The speeches are classified according to genre, audience, topic and date of delivery. Throughout the paper, I adopt the notion that identity is intentionally constructed by the speaker and strategically exploited for his communicative goals. With the help of two methodological approaches, I investigate what kind of identities Obama builds. The purely qualitative part of the study deals with three central corpus speeches from a discourse-analytic perspective. In the second, more quantitative part, I use a group of seven verbs with epistemic meaning to trace the usage of two predominant discursive identities in the ACA debate. The results suggest that President Obama repeatedly constructs the identities of father and teacher to persuade his audience. I argue that his use of these identities constitutes an attempt to reach the argumentative goals of effectiveness and reasonableness.

Department/s
Master's Programme: Language and Linguistics

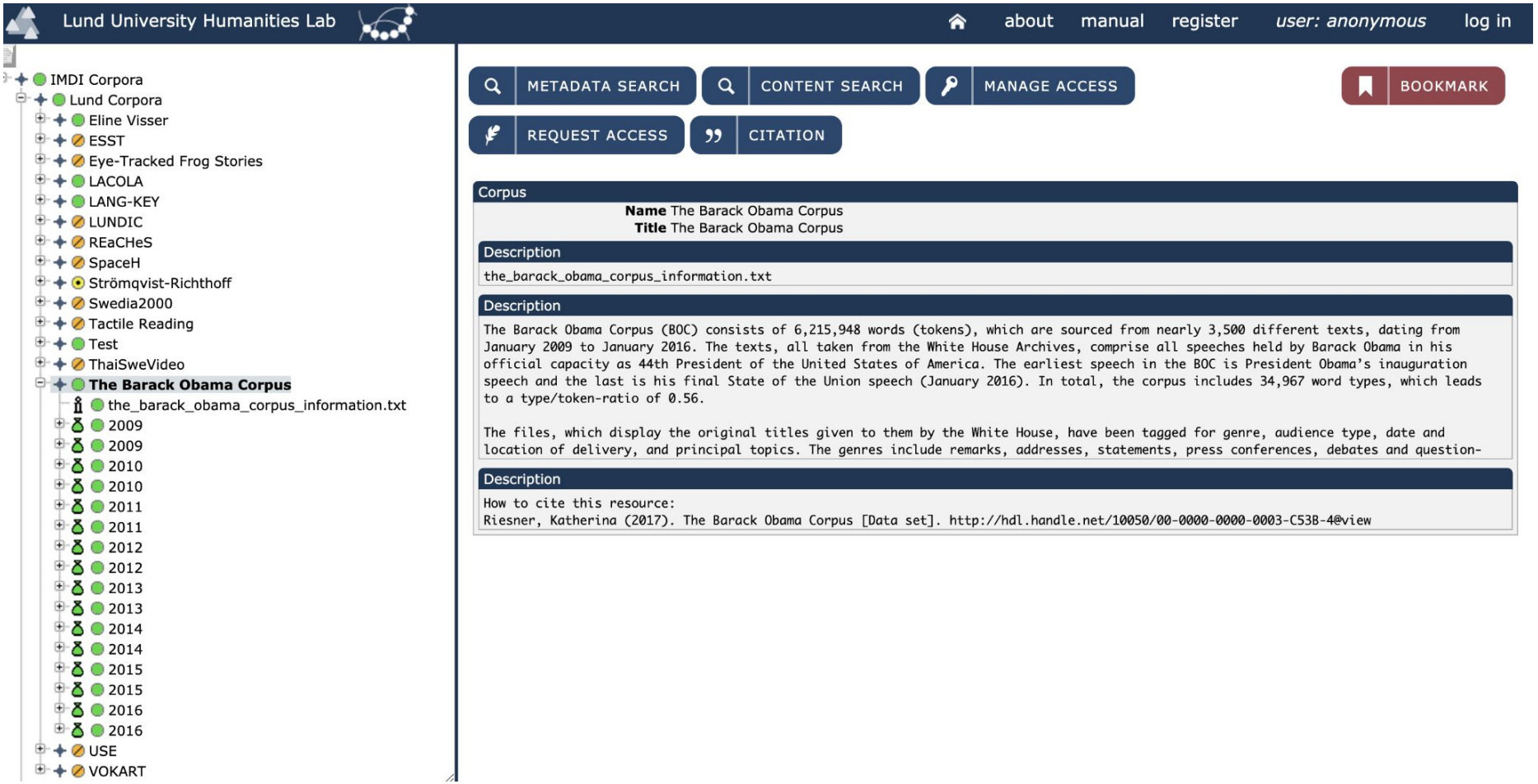
Publishing year
2016

Language
English

Full text
Available as PDF - 2 MB
Download statistics

Document type
Student publication for Master's degree (two years)

Topic
Languages and Literatures



Riesner, Katherina (2017). The Barack Obama Corpus [Data set].
http://hdl.handle.net/10050/00-0000-0000-0003-C53B-4@view

Virtual Language Observatory Search Contributors Help CLARIN

VLO / Faceted search / Search results

obama

Showing 5 results for obama

Results per page: 10

Use the categories below to limit the search results to those matching the selected value(s).

- Language
- Collection
- Modality

The Barack Obama Corpus

(Part of Lund University Humanities Lab)

the_barack_obama_corpus_information.txt; The Barack **Obama** Corpus (BOC) consists of 6,215,948 words (tokens), which are sourced from nearly 3,500 different texts, dating from January 2009 to January 2016. The texts, all taken from the White House Archives, comprise all speeches held by Barack **Obama** in his official capac…

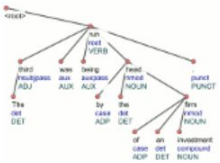
Landing page for this record at *corpora.humlab.lu.se*

SWE-CLARIN

metadati

vlo.clarin.eu

UDPipe



Authors:
Milan Straka, Jana Straková

Description:

UDPipe is an trainable pipeline for tokenization, tagging, lemmatization and dependency parsing of CoNLL-U files. UDPipe is language-agnostic and can be trained given only annotated data in CoNLL-U format. Trained models are provided for nearly all UD treebanks. UDPipe is available as a binary, as a library for C++, Python, Perl, Java, C#, and as a web service. UDPipe is a free software under Mozilla Public License 2.0 and the linguistic models are free for non-commercial use and distributed under CC BY-NC-SA license, although for some models the original data used to create the model may impose additional licensing conditions.

Project home Run

Language Resource Switchboard Upload Tool Inventory Help

Tool Inventory

Constituency Parsing

- WebLicht Const Parsing DE
- WebLicht Const Parsing EN

Coreference Resolution

- Concraft -> Bartek

Dependency Parsing

- Concraft -> DependencyParser
- MaltParser
- Spacy (hosted by D4Science) - DE
- Spacy (hosted by D4Science) - EN
- UDPipe
- WebLicht Dep Parsing DE
- WebLicht Dep Parsing EN

switchboard.clarin.eu

Esercizio 1

- Andate sul sito clarin.eu
- Cercato il VLO
- Cercate i testi di Robert Louis **Stevenson**
  - Cosa avete trovato?
  - In quale formato è disponibile il corpus?
  - dove sono ospitati/depositati?
- Nella sezione “Links”, cliccate su “**(...)**” per attivare la funzione Switchboard:
  - Esplorate con **Voyant**
  - Procedete con **UDpipe**