AACL 2026

The 5th Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics and the 15th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing

Tutorial Abstracts

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Introduction

Welcome to the tutorial program of AACL-IJCNLP 2026!

This year, we are delighted to accommodate six tutorials that reflect both the rapid evolution and the expanding scope of natural language processing. A prominent theme across the program is the transition from language models as standalone components toward more persistent and interactive systems. Tutorials on agentic deep research and self-improving language agents explore how language models can retrieve information, use tools, maintain memory, verify results, and adapt over extended periods of interaction. Together, they highlight an emerging direction in natural language processing.

At the same time, the program examines some of the foundations and broader implications of this progress. The tutorials address how language model evaluation can be treated as a rigorous measurement problem, how diffusion models offer an alternative paradigm for language generation, and how multilingual language models can better account for code-switching as a natural form of human communication. The program also includes an interactive tutorial on ethical considerations in NLP, emphasizing the importance of reflecting on the societal consequences of our research as NLP technologies become increasingly integrated into real-world applications.

This year, we did a joint call for tutorial proposals with EMNLP 2026 alongside their tutorial co-chairs: Ana Marasović and Goran Glavaš. We received 57 submissions, of which 8 were accepted to AACL (two tutorials were canceled) and 6 to EMNLP. All of the proposals were reviewed by multiple of the tutorial co-chairs before a broader discussion among all. When a tutorial chair has a COI with a tutorial proposal, reviews and decisions are made by other tutorial chairs. As in previous years, it was a highly competitive selection process with many excellent submissions. While the tutorials by no means capture all potentially interesting topics relevant to our research community, we anticipate that they will engage attendees from a wide range of backgrounds and levels of expertise after the main conference closes.

We would like to thank the tutorial instructors for their contributions. Our thanks go to the conference organizers for effective collaboration, and in particular to Ana Marasović and Goran Glavaš (tutorial chairs of EMNLP 2026), Yue Zhang (general chair), Trang Vu and Junxian He (publication chairs), Leyang Cui (handbook chair), Derek F. Wong and Haofen Wang (local organizing chair), and Runzhe Zhan and Zhiwen Xie (local organizing committees).

We hope you enjoy the tutorials.

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