Applied Linguistics Forum: Call for 2027 Special Issue Proposals

Applied Linguistics Forum is now accepting proposals from interested guest editors to edit thematic issues of Volume 47 (Issues 2 and 3), to be published in August and December 2027, respectively. We welcome proposals addressing topics of interest to the broad applied linguistics and TESOL community, with a special focus on strengthening connections between research and practice.

About *Applied Linguistics Forum*

An international newsletter of the Applied Linguistics Interest Section in the TESOL International Association, *Applied Linguistics Forum* is devoted to examining language as a communication system from both theoretical and practical perspectives, applying research and theory to real-world contexts, and exploring implications for the enhancement of language learning, teaching, and communication. Interdisciplinary and international in nature, *Applied Linguistics Forum* publishes high-quality articles, whether research-oriented or pedagogy-oriented, from contributors across a wide range of (linguistic) disciplines and/or perspectives within and across different contexts. The readership consists of TESOL practitioners and researchers—broadly defined.

Proposal Requirements

A special issue proposal should include the following information in one document:

- A title page including the title of the thematic issue, guest editors' names, affiliations, and email addresses, and the preferred publication slot
- A rationale for the thematic issue (maximum 600 words, excluding references), addressing the theme's significance, important features of the thematic issue, relevance to *AL Forum* readership, and pedagogical implications
- A list of confirmed/potential authors (including names and affiliations)
    - If there are already confirmed authors, please provide abstracts for each confirmed contribution, with each abstract being no longer than 250 words.
- A one-page open call for proposals (if planned)
- Guest editors' bios (maximum 150 words each), highlighting relevant scholarly, teaching, reviewing, and editing experience
- A proposed timeline, including solicitation, manuscript submission, and review and revision deadlines aligned with the special issue production schedule

We ask that each special issue include at least five articles and a guest editorial; potential authors need not have been contacted at the proposal stage. Articles in a special issue can belong to any of the article types published in *AL Forum*, including Keywords in Applied Linguistics, Feature Article, Book Review, and Author/Reader Response. Please consult our previous call for submissions for descriptions of these article types and their submission requirements.

We particularly welcome proposal submissions from graduate students and early-career professionals who would like to develop their scholarly editing expertise and skills with supportive mentoring from the *AL Forum* editors.

Guest Editor Responsibilities

Guest editors are expected to:

- Read recent publications of *AL Forum* to familiarize themselves with its publication scope, article formats, and writing style;

- Solicit and review proposals and full manuscripts;
- Provide developmental and constructive feedback to help authors strengthen their manuscripts;
- Prepare a guest editorial introducing the special issue;
- Maintain and share a tracker documenting the review and revision status of each special issue article; and
- Maintain regular communication with the authors and the *AL Forum* editors.

AL Forum **Review Process**

All *AL Forum* submissions are internally reviewed by editors. The review process is interactive, using marginal comments and tracked changes to support conversations and discussions between editors and authors. Authors are encouraged to treat the editorial feedback critically and express reasoned disagreement. Special issue manuscripts typically undergo two rounds of review and revision over three to four months, coordinated by the guest editors.

Following that, the *AL Forum* editors will review all finalized special issue articles and the guest editorial, providing editorial feedback, if necessary, for the guest editors and authors to address before the final approval for publication is granted.

Special Issue Production Timeline

December 1, 2026	Special issue proposals due by email
December 20, 2026	Notification of proposal decisions
July 15, 2027	Submission of the finalized articles and guest editorial to the *AL Forum* editors for final review and approval (Volume 47, Issue 2)
August 30, 2027	Publication of Volume 47, Issue 2
October 30, 2027	Submission of the finalized articles and guest editorial to the *AL Forum* editors for final review and approval (Volume 47, Issue 3)
December 15, 2027	Publication of Volume 47, Issue 3

Publication Promotion Support

Aiming to broaden the impact of *AL Forum* publications and help all published articles reach a wider readership, *AL Forum* editors will design and offer promotional flyers to authors, promote the published articles across their professional circles, and send promotional emails to professional listservs and Google groups. We also strongly encourage guest editors to think of possible ways to expand the impact of their special issues (e.g., hosting an online symposium).

Submissions and Questions

Please submit your special issue proposal and direct questions to the *AL Forum* editors: Andy Jiahao Liu (andyjiahao-liu@uiowa.edu) and Curtis Green-Eneix (Curtis.Green-Eneix@nottingham.edu.cn).