CALL FOR PAPERS

Call for papers on systematic reviews and meta-analyses of CALL studies

About Systematic Review & Meta-analysis Papers

Associate Editor: Yu-Ju Lan

In the last decades, numerous technologies such as video conferencing, computer-mediated communication (CMC), social media, mobile computing, extended reality, artificial intelligence (AI) and recognition technologies have been adopted in language education. In addition to the existing technologies, new ones are frequently emerging.

While the use of technology in language teaching/learning has a long history, the combination of technology and different theories of psychology and language learning have led to investigations from distinct perspectives and have resulted in varied interpretations and outcomes. Yet, how to effectively integrate different technologies into language learning continues to be examined. Current research asks: What are the affordances of particular technologies that make them suitable for different groups of learners, skills, intercultural competence, and learning contexts?

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses can provide insight into such questions by investigating the effects, advantages, and limitations of existing research. In addition, they can identify the potential of technology from different perspectives based on different theoretical foundations, technological developments, and educational paradigms. They can also give an objective assessment of conflicting research by synthesizing evidence for researchers, educators, and policymakers.

In this Call for Papers, we are soliciting high-quality systematic reviews and meta-analyses. The submissions should address the following: (a) consult existing reviews to avoid redundancies, (b) focus on a specific research question, (c) develop a rationale for the review and eligibility criteria, (d) adopt a robust and replicable search strategy, (e) follow explicit and critical screening criteria, (f) extract relevant data, and (g) critically interpret the results.

Although different kinds of reviews will be considered, a meta-analysis that reports effect sizes and includes a critical discussion of a comprehensive coverage of previous research may be better suited for the review of more mature technologies for language learning/teaching, such as mobile technologies, digital games, and so on (see Chun, 2019). Regarding emerging technologies such as intelligent personal assistants, AI, and the like (see the Emerging Technologies Column in Language Learning & Technology; Li & Lan, 2022), for which existing empirical studies are more limited, systematic reviews may be more appropriate. A systematic review may also be suited for mature technologies; however, it then must include a critical discussion of the review results instead of a mere synthesis of shallow data.

Guidelines for Authors

Articles should be limited to 8,500 words. For more information, please refer to the Submission Guidelines under “Review Articles.”
References
