

8th Corpora and Discourse International Conference (CAD 2026)

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1 Corpora and Discourse International Conference 2026

- 23-25 June 2026, Lancaster University
- The conference dinner takes place on the evening of the 24th June

The Corpora and Discourse International Conference brings together researchers from across the world who conduct research at the intersections of corpus linguistics and discourse analysis. Our Call for Papers can be found [here](#).

Research presented at the conference might include (but is certainly not limited to) work that identifies as: corpus-assisted discourse studies, corpus-based (critical) discourse studies, corpus-based contrastive linguistics, corpus-based sociolinguistics, corpus-driven discourse studies, corpus-informed discourse studies, corpus stylistics, corpus pragmatics or corpus and discourse work that does not identify with a particular label.

The conference aims to showcase the diversity of research in this area and to give space for important conversations that help to move this varied field forward.

key dates:

- 2 September 2025 – Call for Papers opens
- 16 November 2025 – Deadline for abstract submissions
- Mid-January 2026 – Notifications of acceptance (or rejection)
- 2 February 2026 – Early bird registration opens
- 6 April 2026 – Late bird registration opens
- 1 June 2026 – Registration closes
- 23-25 June 2026 – Conference

2 Submission Information

As this is an in-person only conference, all presenting participants must attend the conference in person.

Oral presentations should present research that is either completed or that is ongoing with some substantial results. Research that is a work in progress and that is yet to yield substantial results is welcome in the form of a poster presentation.

Oral presentations will consist of a 20-minute talk followed by 5 minutes for questions and discussion.

For oral/poster presentations, please submit an unstructured abstract of up to 4000 characters (including references).

All abstracts should be submitted via this form: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/qkm2sqPKA1>.

Please format your in-text references and bibliography in Chicago Citation Style.

2.1 Title

AI Discourses on Climate Change: A Lexical Multidimensional Analysis of LLMs

2.2 Abstract

Please enter an abstract of your paper (max 4000 characters, including references).

Large Language Models (LLMs) have been producing and reproducing text that circulates widely across the social sphere. As they spread, they undergo a process of progressive naturalisation, gradually becoming incorporated into the human discursive repertoire. Understanding discourse as ideologically and culturally driven representations of real-world phenomena that are socially shared, situated, produced within social practice and capable of generating meaning (Biber and Egbert; Berber Sardinha and Fitzsimmons-Doolan), text generated by LLMs may not only reflect or reiterate dominant voices (Hughes; Gillings, Kohn, and Mautner), but also may express, for instance, social identity biases (Hu et al.). Their outputs may compete with, reinforce, or even replace discourses produced by human social groups, thus interfering with the collective construction of meaning on matters of public relevance, such as issues related to climate change. Further exploring the effect of LLMs on climate change discourses, this study looks at (i) which discourses are conveyed in human-authored registers about climate change; (ii) which discourses are produced by LLMs when prompted to generate the same registers; and (iii) what consonances (alignments or reinforcement of meanings) and tensions (divergences, shifts, or discursive resistances) surfaces in the comparison between human-authored and synthetic discourses. The study is fundamentally based on the grounds of Lexical Multi-Dimensional Analysis (LMDA) (Berber Sardinha and Fitzsimmons-Doolan), an extension of the Multi-Dimensional Analysis (Biber) that enables the analysis of latent discursive constructs through identifying lexical dimensions or sets of correlated lexical features. A reference corpus of human-authored texts (before the advent of ChatGPT) encompassing a wide range of registers from the press, governmental, non-governmental, and civil society was designed for the experiment. Several LLMs (ChatGPT, Gemini, and Grok) were prompted to generate corresponding text for each one present in the reference corpus, resulting in comparable target corpora of synthetic texts per LLM. Each target corpus's discursive dimensional profile was identified via LMDA and compared with that of the reference corpus. Overall, the results revealed significant discursive differences between the synthetic registers and the human-authored ones, with variation per LLM, reflecting specific ideological positions towards climate change

embedded in their training data. The dimensional profiles obtained from the analysis will be detailed in the presentation.

(2,612 characters; 359 words)

Keywords: Large Language Models (LLMs), climate change discourse, Lexical Multi-Dimensional Analysis (LMDA), human versus synthetic texts

References

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- Biber, Douglas. *Variation across Speech and Writing*. 1st ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988. ISBN: 978-0-521-32071-9. <https://doi.org/10.1017/CB09780511621024>.
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