

# NLP701 and NLP805: Fall 2024

## Assignment 2: Multilingual Characterization and Extraction of Narratives from Online News

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### Abstract

- This is an *individual* assignment.
- This assignment carries 10 points.
- Deadline: December 10, 2023 (23:59 UAE time).
- Deliverables: (i) your code, (ii) a file with your predictions on DEV, (iii) your ID from the SemEval-2025 task 10 leaderboard, and (iv) a report (1-2 pages).
- All required material should be zipped in one folder and submitted on Moodle.

### 1 Multilingual Characterization and Extraction of Narratives from Online News

The assignment involves developing systems to extract narratives, categorize them, or determine the roles of key entities mentioned in news articles. These aspects are essential for supporting analysts and decision-makers in understanding the news landscape and could be used in applications such as examining targeted disinformation campaigns.

### 2 Your Task

You may choose one or more of the following:

- **Subtask A** (Multi-label Classification Task): Given a full text of a news article, an entity mention, the span offsets of the entity mention, label each mention with one or more roles based on a predefined taxonomy provided in the shared task, falling under three main roles: *protagonists*, *antagonists*, and *innocents*.
- **Subtask B** (Multi-label Classification Task): For a given news article and a two-level taxonomy of narrative labels (with each narrative divided into subnarratives) from two different domains: Ukraine-Russia conflict, and Climate Change, assign all relevant subnarrative labels to the article.

- **Subtask C** (Text Generation Task): For a given news article and its identified dominant narrative, generate a free-text explanation (up to 80 words) justifying the selection of this narrative. The explanation should be based on text fragments that serve as evidence supporting the narrative's claims.

### 3 Important Notes

Some important things to consider:

- More details about each subtask can be found on the shared task website: <https://propaganda.math.unipd.it/semEval2025task10/>
- Subtask A is not a sequence tagging task. It is a classification task (i.e., the model you develop does not need to predict span offsets).
- You are **only given a TRAIN and a DEV set**, where the TRAIN set is to be used for training, and the DEV set is to be used for testing. If you need an actual development set, you can split TRAIN into TRAIN-train and TRAIN-dev in some proportion, e.g., 90%:10%; however, you should NOT touch the DEV set, which is to be used for testing in its entirety.
- This time, you should **submit a zipped code base (repository)** (not a Jupyter notebook), as well as your predictions. The file format is described on the webpage of SemEval-2025 task 10; it is the same format as for your required submission to the leaderboard.
- For Subtask A, you are **only required to experiment with English**. However, you are welcome to try your method on the multilingual setup.
- The evaluation measure for Subtask A is Exact Match Ratio, which is a very strict metric.

For Subtask B, F1 is the evaluation metric. Subtask 3 uses BERTScore.

- If you decide to work on only Subtask C, simple prompt engineering is not sufficient, and we expect to see more meaningful experiments.

## 4 Submission

You also need to submit a report describing your approach, results, and analysis (1-2 pages) in standard \*ACL format<sup>1</sup>. The report should include your Leaderboard team name, a detailed description of your features, evaluation results on the development set, and some analysis of how these features affected the performance of your models. Your submission should be zipped in one folder and submitted on Moodle.

## 5 Assessment

This is an individual assignment that carries ten points towards your final grade. Discussing the problems with each other is encouraged, but copying each others' code or report is strictly prohibited. You will be evaluated based on the richness of models and features explored, strength of results achieved, and quality of writing of your report.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.overleaf.com/read/crtcwgxzjskr>