

DAY TWO - ALIFE 2026 WORKSHOP

ALIFE 2026

In person workshop!

— IN-PERSON WORKSHOP · AUGUST 2026

Teaching (with) *Artificial Life*

An in-person workshop at ALIFE 2026 in Waterloo, Canada — bringing together educators and researchers to explore pedagogy, curriculum design, and hands-on approaches to teaching about and with Artificial Life.

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Plans/Ideas

Talks

Discussions

Working examples

Interactive Sessions

Shared Materials

Draft Recommendations

TEACHING (WITH) ARTIFICIAL LIFE (TAL)

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▼ How should we teach artificial life? This workshop brings together ALife researchers and educators to tackle that question. Education shapes who enters the field and how they think, ultimately determining its future coherence. ALife has been highly interdisciplinary from the outset, providing innovative opportunities but making it challenging to teach while conveying its breadth. Meanwhile, work utilizing ALife methodology continues to enrich and diversify across computational, biological, and robotic subfields; researchers from different traditions increasingly struggle to communicate or build on each other's work. Shared educational foundations can close that gap- but only if the community deliberately builds them.

Each ALife educator brings a unique perspective and approach; this workshop embraces that diversity while identifying common ground and leveraging it as a strength. We will work toward actionable guiding principles, from teaching ALife as a standalone course or embedding it in existing curricula, to pitching ALife to stakeholders such as students and administrators, to integrating research and education across science, engineering, the humanities, and social sciences. This workshop builds upon virtual ALife education mini-workshops taking place in May 2026, expanding into an in-person format that draws on the broader community gathered at the annual conference. It will combine presentations with interactive sessions, featuring working examples from active ALife educators, collaborative construction of shared materials, and structured discussion on what distinguishes ALife pedagogy. Participants will leave with pedagogical principles they can adopt in their own courses, connections to a cross-subfield educator network, and draft recommendations that could inform ISAL's education initiatives

ALIFE 2026

Two Hours Only

Much less time, aiming to maximize in-person value

Website

<https://alife-edu.github.io/tal-alife-2026.html>

ALife-Edu

HOME

AEDU WORKSHOP -

TAL WORKSHOP

RESOURCES

COMMUNITY

Build on TAL 2020

Previous attempt disrupted by Covid

Interested? Ideas?

Unmute and talk or type in chat

Possible Examples:

- *Peer feedback exchange in person?*
- *Design and co-create an online course/program?*

We are still in the early stages of planning and will use the outcomes from the two May workshops to inform the format and plan for the workshop.

More Ideas?

Post on [#alife-2026-workshop](#)