

Ling 580 Topics in Syntax: Negation and Polarity Spring 2014

Meeting Time: Thursday 3:30pm-5:50pm
Location: THO 215
Instructor: Barbara Citko
Instructor's Office: GUG 414C
Office Hours: Thursday 1-2pm (and by appointment)
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Course Description:

In this seminar we will explore a range of topics related to negation and polarity, largely from the syntactic perspective of the minimalist program. We will focus on the following topics: (i) nature of negative markers (position, phrase theoretical status, licensing, crosslinguistic variation) , (ii) negative concord, (iv) negative polarity item licensing, (v) negation and ellipsis, (iv) negation in yes/no questions. We will look at these topics from both a theoretical and an empirical perspective.

Prerequisites: LING 508 or my permission

Course Materials:

selection of articles, book chapters and dissertations to be made available electronically

Course Website: <https://catalyst.uw.edu/workspace/bcitko/44352/>

Requirements:

Active participation	10%
2 Presentations	40%
'Journal'	10%
Abstract + Bibliography	10%
Final Paper	30%

Course Outline: (this outline is tentative; it may change to reflect the pace of the class and/or our interests)

Week	Date	Reading(s)
I.	4/3	Penka, Doris, and Hedde Zeijlstra, eds. 2010. Special Issue: Negation and polarity items. <i>Natural Language and Linguistic Theory</i> 28.4: Zeijlstra, Hedde. 2007. Negation in Natural Language: On the Form and Meaning of Negative Elements. <i>Language and Linguistics Compass</i> 1: 498-518.
II.	4/10	Zeijlstra, Hedde. 2004. Sentential negation and negative concord. PhD diss., Univ. of Amsterdam. Chapters 1-3. (Chapter 4 optional)
III.	4/17	Zeijlstra, Hedde. 2004. Sentential negation and negative concord. PhD diss., Univ. of Amsterdam. Chapters 5-9
IV.	4/24	Giannakidou, Anastasia. 2000. Negative . . . concord? <i>Natural Language and Linguistic Theory</i> 18:457–523.
V.	5/1	Haegeman, Liliane, and Terje Lohndal. 2010. Negative concord and multiple agree: A case study of West Flemish. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> 41.2: 181–211. Watanabe, Akira. 2004. The genesis of negative concord: Syntax and morphology of negative doubling. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> 35:559–612.
VI.	5/8	Ladusaw, William. 1996. Negation and polarity items. In <i>The handbook of contemporary semantic theory</i> . Edited by Shalom Lappin, 321–341. Oxford: Blackwell. Giannakidou, Anastasia. 2011. Negative and positive polarity items: Variation, licensing, and compositionality. In <i>Semantics: An international handbook of natural language meaning</i> . Edited by Claudia Maienborn, Klaus von Stechow, and Paul Portner, 1660–1712. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
VII.	5/15	Holmberg, Anders. 2013. The syntax of answers to polar questions in English and Swedish. <i>Lingua</i> 128: 31-50. Kramer, Ruth, and Kyle Rawlins. 2008. Polarity particles: An ellipsis account. Ms., University of California, Santa Cruz, and Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. <i>NELS</i> 39. Amherst: University of Massachusetts, Graduate Linguistic Student Association.
VIII.	5/22	Authier, J. Marc. 2013. Phase Edge Features and the Syntax of Polarity Particles. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i> 44: 345-89. Liptak, Aniko. 2013. The syntax of emphatic positive polarity in Hungarian: Evidence from Ellipsis. <i>Lingua</i> .

- IX. 5/29 Repp, Sophie. 2009. *Negation in Gapping*. Oxford: OUP. Chapters 1-3.
- Merchant, Jason. 2013. Polarity items under ellipsis. In Lisa Lai-Shen Cheng and Norbert Corver (eds.), *Diagnosing syntax*, 441-462. Oxford University Press: Oxford.
- X. 6/5 Student Presentations
- XI. 6/10 FINAL PAPERS DUE (TUESDAY OF THE FINALS WEEK)