### 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)  
**Office Phone:** 3-6502  
**Email:** bcitko@u.washington.edu

**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/](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)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading(s)</th>
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| I.   | 4/3  | Penka, Doris, and Hedde Zeijlstra, eds. 2010. Special Issue: Negation and polarity items. Natural Language and Linguistic Theory 28.4:  


X.  6/5  Student Presentations

XI.  6/10  FINAL PAPERS DUE (TUESDAY OF THE FINALS WEEK)