

Call for Papers: *NJL* Special Issue on 'Negation'

The second issue of vol. 25 (2002) of the *Nordic Journal of Linguistics* will be a special one devoted to 'negation', edited by Anders Holmberg.

Negation is a universal category with relatively uniform semantics, at least in the case of standard sentential negation. Nevertheless, there is a surprising amount of cross-linguistic variation in the syntactic expression of negation. In some languages, the negation word looks like an adverb (Scandinavian), in others an auxiliary verb (most Uralic languages), while in still others it is a particle which looks like no other category. In many languages it is a verb inflection, in many others it is a complex, discontinuous category. Can all of this variation be derived from a common underlying structure, or is there a limited number of basic syntactic negation types? If there is a universal hierarchy of functional categories, what is the position of negation in it? Does it vary across languages? Are there several positions? Is negation a value of a binary universal polarity category?

While some languages have negative quantifiers (*nothing*, *nobody*, etc.), which in some languages have a special syntactic distribution (Scandinavian), others do not. Does the existence of negative quantifiers correlate with other properties of the grammar in general, and negation in particular? Another long-standing issue of controversy is the syntax and semantics of negative polarity and negative concord, and the relation between the two. Other interesting questions include the nature of constituent negation and lexical negation (*without*, *deny*, etc.), and the interaction of negation with mood, focus, and other sentential functional categories.

We invite papers addressing these or any other syntactic or semantic problem relating to negation. The deadline is 31 January 2002 and papers should be addressed to:

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