



## Projet LIA “Grammar of the Verbal Domain in Romanian and Beyond”

**Titre:** “Issues on negation and information structure”

**Intervenants:** Ricardo Etxepare (IKER UMR 5478) et Myriam Uribe-Etxebarria (Université du Pays Basque UPV/EHU)

**Dates:**

- mercredi 11 octobre, 10h-12h30 et 14h-16h
- jeudi 12 octobre, 10h-12h30 et 14h-16h
- vendredi 13 octobre, 9h30-12h30

**Lieu:** Salle C012, Bâtiment Censive, Campus Tertre - Université de Nantes

**Description:**

In this course we will focus on some issues/questions that have to do with the syntax-semantics/ pragmatics interface in Basque and Spanish :

i) We will look at the interaction between focus and negation in Basque and Spanish. We will provide evidence that the semantic/pragmatic interpretation of focus in negative sentences reads directly from the syntactic structure. We will give evidence that there are (at least) two different syntactic position for focalized elements both in Spanish and Basque: a) a focus position below TP, and b) a Focus position above Negation (see also Belletti 2004.a. o.). Although the free word order permitted by these two languages sometimes blurs the distinction between these two types of focus, we will show that there are clear syntactic (and semantic/pragmatic) differences between both.

ii) We will discuss some cases which have been characterized as involving constituent negation in Spanish, of the form [Neg+XP]. We will show that some of these cases cannot be characterized as such, and that the linear adjacency between Negation and the constituent affected by negation follows from a focalization operation of the XP to the right of a Neg head located very high in the left periphery of the clause. On the basis of the structures under analysis, we will argue that there are at least 3 different positions for negation in Spanish.