

*The Program in Linguistics presents the Ana Martinez-Lage Lecture Series:*

## **Over Fifty Years of Research on African American English: Breaking the Cycle**

**A Zoom Webinar Lecture by Prof. Lisa Green, University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**Thursday March 10, 2022 @ 4:30-6:00pm**

**To join the Webinar, click this [Zoom LINK](#)**

The stream of research on African American English (AAE) has continued to flow steadily, stemming from the claim in the 1960s that the variety is a legitimate linguistic system. In this talk, I will frame the past fifty years of research on AAE in terms of cycles and then discuss research on linguistic patterns in children developing AAE, speakers who are often overlooked. I discuss myths about child AAE and explain the importance of acquisition research, especially in countering the growing epidemics of the preschool to prison pipeline and the “adultification” of African American girls.



*Prof. Lisa Green is Distinguished University Professor at the Department of Linguistics at University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her research and teaching interests include syntax, syntactic variation, and child language acquisition of African American English (AAE). Her work also addresses the practical applications of linguistic description of AAE in educational contexts. Prof. Green is also the founding director of the Center for the Study of African American Language (CSAAL) at University of Massachusetts Amherst. Its goal is to foster and integrate research on language in the African American community and applications of that research in educational, social, and cultural realms.*

***Sponsored by the Program of Linguistics at Middlebury***

*For questions on the event, contact Prof. Usama Soltan at [usoltan@middlebury.edu](mailto:usoltan@middlebury.edu)*