

# **Beginning Classical Tibetan Language Summer Intensive**

June 12 to August 9, 2019

Includes 8 weeks of classes plus 4 days of Orientation

The Centre for Buddhist Studies at Rangjung Yeshe Institute is pleased to offer a summer of intensive Classical Tibetan language training. Classes are held Mondays through Fridays, and although the course is quite intensive, weekends are generally left for students to explore the Kathmandu Valley and mingle with the local Tibetan community of Boudhanath. Also, several times throughout the program, the Centre for Buddhist Studies will arrange guided tours of major cultural sites of the Valley. Instructors at the program are faculty from the Centre for Buddhist Studies.

## **The Academic Program**

This summer intensive is offered for beginning students with no prior study of Classical Tibetan. The program is designed to facilitate the rapid acquisition of basic Classical Tibetan vocabulary and grammar. Beginning with the alphabet, pronunciation, basic words and sentence structure, the eight-week program will ground students in the workings of the Classical Tibetan language, providing them with a basic command of the language and the necessary foundation for further study.

In addition to satisfactory grades, students must maintain an attendance rate of 80% throughout the course in order to pass. The level of intensity of the program is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements and academic expectations. That said, any student who successfully completes this course will arrive at a comfortable facility with the Classical Tibetan language. Students who complete the course receive academic credit at the Centre for Buddhist Studies for Classical Tibetan I and Classical Tibetan II (6 credits total).

This course covers two full semesters of material and therefore earns six credits. Students spend four hours each day in class and the expected work time outside of class ranges between two and four hours per day depending on student interest and ability.

## **Additional Features and Services**

- Orientation program with introduction to Nepal
- All classes are held in a traditional monastic setting near the Boudhanath Stupa
- Opportunities to meet and receive teachings from resident Buddhist teachers
- Cultural visits to ancient sites of the Kathmandu Valley
- Efficient medical referral system
- Access to the full facilities of the CBS campus including wireless Internet access at selected campus locations, assistance from our full-time Student Services Coordinator, and on-site library facilities.

- Good links to local trekking, rafting and sight-seeing companies

**Price**

Price includes tuition, lunch at the Institute's restaurant on school days, and tours.

**Admission Criteria**

This program has a maximum intake of 15 students and all applications are subject to approval by the Centre for Buddhist Studies.

**Application**

To apply for the program, fill in the application form found at the registration page of this website.

**Course Description**Introduction to the Grammar of Classical Tibetan

Students will be introduced to the key features of Classical Tibetan grammar during the first four weeks of the course. Students will be required to memorize vocabulary and grammatical structures, as well as doing written homework assignments, and will be quizzed regularly on the material covered in class. During the second half of the course, students will begin reading Tibetan texts together in class, using what they've learned about grammar and developing their vocabularies. This course is taught by a western instructor.

Daily Practicum

Students work in groups to translate sentences and sections of texts, with instructors available for questions and consultation. Please note: The alphabet and syllable construction will be taught during orientation. A basic ability to read and write the Tibetan alphabet will therefore be assumed from the first day of class. Students in this course therefore **MUST** attend the orientation.

Course Materials

The primary textbook used for the Beginning Classical Tibetan Summer Intensive is the Classical Tibetan Grammar Manual by Benjamin Collet-Cassart. The text will be available at the CBS office.