

**BSTC2015
Tibetan Language I**

(Friday 6:30-9:30)

Lecturer

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Course Description

This is an introductory course on learning how to read literary Tibetan and does not require prior knowledge of the language. In this course students will learn to read and write basic Tibetan, while acquiring a practical understanding of grammar and the ability to translate sentences and short Buddhist passages mainly from Tibetan to English, but also from English to Tibetan.

Textbooks

1. *An Introduction to Classical Tibetan* by Stephen Hodge. Bangkok: Orchid Press, 2003.
2. *A Tibetan-English Dictionary* by H. A. Jäschke. Reprint. NY: Dover Press, 2003.
3. (Optional). *A Tibetan Verb Lexicon: Verbs, Classes, and Syntactic Frames* by Paul G. Hackett. Boston and London: Snow Lion Publications, 2003.
4. (Optional). *The Great Tibetan-Tibetan-Chinese Dictionary *Bod rgya chen mo tshig mdzod* (藏汉大辞典)*. Beijing: mi rigs dpe skrun khang, 1993.

Course Assessment

Students enrolling in this course are expected to attend all lectures and complete all reading and practice assignments after each lecture. Course assessment will be carried according to the following criteria for each semester:

Attendance and Participation (20%)

Mid-term examination (20%)

Final exam (60%)

Weekly lectures and lesson plans will be made available on moodle.

Reference Sources

I. Dictionaries / Glossaries

1. Das, Sarat Chandra. 1970. *A Tibetan-English Dictionary with Sanskrit Synonyms*. Reprint. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.
2. Csoma de Korös, Alexander. 1984. *A Dictionary of Tibetan and English*. Reprint. 1834. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó.
3. Goldstein, Melvyn. 2001. *The New Tibetan-English Dictionary of Modern Tibetan*. CA: University of California Press.
4. Nagano, Yasuhiko. 1997. *A Morphological Index of Classical Tibetan*. Tokyo: Seishido.
5. Rikey, Thubten and Andrew Ruskin. 1992. *A Manual of Key Buddhist Terms: a Categorization of Buddhist Terminology with Commentary by Lotsawa Kaba Paltseg*. Dharamsala: Library of Tibetan Works and Archives.
6. Thubten Nyima (Alak Zenkar Rinpoche) & Dr. Gyurme Dorje. *An Encyclopaedic Tibetan-English Dictionary*. Volume 1. The Nationalities Publishing House & The School of Oriental and African Studies.
7. Tsepak Rigzin. 2008. *Tibetan English Dictionary of Buddhist terminology* (Revised and Enlarged Edition). Reprint. Dharamsala: Library of Tibetan Works and Archives.

II. Grammars

1. Bacot, Jacques. 1946. *Grammaire du Tibétain littéraire*. Paris: Paris Libraire d'Amérique et d' Orient.
2. Bell, C. A. 1998. *Grammar of Colloquial Tibetan*. New Delhi: Asian Educational Services.
3. Beyer, Stephen. 1992. *The Classical Tibetan Language*. NY: State University of New York Press
4. Das, Sarat Chandra. 1972. *An Introduction to the Grammar of the Tibetan Language, with the texts of Situ sum-tag, Dage-je salwai me-long, and Situi shal lung*. Reprint. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.
5. Denwood, Philip. 1999. *Tibetan*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
6. Hannah, Herbert Bruce. 1973. *A Grammar of the Tibetan Language, Literary and Colloquial*. Reprint. Delhi: Cosmo Publications.
7. Jäschke, H. A. 1989. *Tibetan Grammar*. Reprint. Delhi: Sri Sat Guru Publications.
8. Lalou, Marcelle. 1950. *Manuel élémentaire de tibétain classique: méthode empirique*. Paris.
9. Miller, Roy Andrew. 1993. *Prolegomena to the first two Tibetan Grammatical treatises*. Vienna: Winere Studien zur Tibetologie und Buddhismuskunde 30.

10. Preston, Graig. *How to Read Classical Tibetan*, Vol. I and II. Boston & London: Snow Lion Publications.
11. Sangya Tandar Naga. 2012. *Tibetan: Language, Literature and Grammar*. Dharamsala: Library of Tibetan Works and Archives.
12. Tournadre, Nicolas. 2010. "The Classical Tibetan cases and their transcategoriality: From sacred grammar to modern linguistics." *Himalayan Linguistics*, Vol. 9(2): pp. 87-125.
13. Tournadre, Nicolas. 2003. *Manual of standard Tibetan*. Ithaca: Snow Lion Publications.
14. Wilson, Joe B. 1992. *Translating Buddhism from Tibetan: An Introduction to the Tibetan Literary Language and the Translation of Buddhist Texts from Tibetan*. Ithaca: Snow Lion Publications.

III. Other

1. Cabezon, José Ignacio and Roger Jackson. *Tibetan Literature: Studies in Genre*. New York: Snow Lion Publications.
<http://www.thlib.org/encyclopedias/literary/genres/genres-book.php#!book=/studies-in-genres/a2/>
2. Laufer, Berthold. 1918. "Origin of Tibetan Writing." *Journal of American Oriental Society*, Vol. 38: 34-46.
3. Wylie, Turrell. 1959. "A Standard System of Tibetan Transcription." *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, Vol. 22: 261-267.
4. Van der Kujip, Leonard. 1996. "The Tibetan Script and Derivatives." In *The World's Writing Systems*, eds. P. Daniels and W. Bright, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 431-441.
5. Verhagen, Pieter Cornelis. 1993. *A History of Sanskrit Grammatical Literature in Tibet*. Volume 1: Transmission of the Canonical Literature. Leiden: Brill.
6. Verhagen, Pieter Cornelis. 2000. *A History of Sanskrit Grammatical Literature in Tibet*. Volume 2: Assimilation into Indigenous Scholarship. Leiden: Brill.

IV. Online Resources

1. Online Tibetan-English Dictionary (The Tibetan and Himalayan Library):
<http://www.thlib.org/reference/dictionaries/tibetan-dictionary/translate.php>
2. Tibetan Consonants and their Sounds (The Hopkins Tibetan Treasures Research Archive Website): <http://haa.ddbc.edu.tw/gakha.php>
3. Tibetan Writing Course (Cornel University):
<http://www.lrc.cornell.edu/medialib/ti/twc>
4. Research on Tibetan Languages
http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Research_on_Tibetan_Languages:_A_Bibliography
5. Rangjung Yeshe Publications on Tibetan Language Material
http://www.rangjung.com/rootfiles/tibetan_language_books.htm
6. Online Tibetan-Phonetics Converter
<http://www.thlib.org/reference/transliteration/phconverter.php>