Course Description: This is an introductory course on learning how to read Tibetan Buddhist texts and does not require prior knowledge of literary Tibetan. It is run for the first academic semester. The students will learn to read and write simple Tibetan sentences, while acquiring a practical understanding of grammar and the ability to translate sentences and short passages mainly from Tibetan to English, but also from English to Tibetan. At the end of this course, the students are expected to understand basic Tibetan grammatical functions, and to gain the ability to read simple sentences in Tibetan with the help of a dictionary.

Course Assessments:

50% Coursework
50% Examination

Offering Semester: First Semester
Lecturer: Dr. Phuntsok Wangchuk
Office: Rm 4.13, 4/F Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus
Email: wangchuk@hku.hk
Class Schedule: THU 16:30 - 18:20
Classroom: CPD-1.24

Grade Expectations in Faculty of Arts:
http://arts.hku.hk/grade_expectations.pdf

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. The University upholds the principle that plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and any student found plagiarising is liable to disciplinary action in addition to failing the assessment concerned. Please read the following webpage on "plagiarism" for details:
http://arts.hku.hk/current-students/undergraduate/assessment/plagiarism
### Course outlines (Weekly lecture materials and lesson plan will be made available on Moodle)

| Week 1          | 30 Alphabets and 4 vowels  
|                | Romanization (Wylie system)  
|                | Pronunciation (following Central Tibetan dialect)  
|                | Punctuation markers  
| Week 2          | Superfixed letters (mgo can yi ge)  
|                | Suffixes (rjes 'jug)  
|                | Prefixes (sngon 'jug)  
|                | Practice pronunciation  
| Week 3          | Subfixed letters ('dogs can yi ge)  
|                | Post suffixes (yang 'jug)  
|                | Identification of root letter  
|                | Practice pronunciation  
| Week 4          | Nominal particles (bdag sgra)  
|                | Forming nouns (ming tshig sgrub tshul)  
|                | Forming adjectives (ming tshig gi khyad chos ston pa'i tshig srgub byed)  
|                | Gender markers (pho dang m'oi khyad par ston pa'i rtags)  
|                | Forming verbal infinitives and verbal nouns (bya tshig ming tshig tu sgyur tshul)  
| Week 5          | Plural particles (mang tshig)  
|                | Personal pronouns (ming tshab)  
|                | Demonstrative pronouns (tha snyad gsal bar ston pa'i ming tshab)  
|                | Possessive pronoun (bdag sgra'i ming tshab)  
|                | Possessive particles (dngos po gang la ldan par ston pa'i sgra)  
|                | Linking verbs/ verb to be (mtsam sbyor byed kyi bya tshig)  
|                | Possessing expression (dngos po and khyed chos sogs ldan par ston byed)  
|                | Declarative particles (rdzogs tshigs)  
| Week 6          | Cardinal/ Ordinal number (gzhi grags dang rim pa bstar chags kyi grags)  
|                | Conjunctive particles (dang sgra)  
|                | Genitive particle with two nouns (ming tshig gnyis kyi bar gyi 'brel sgra)  
|                | Genitive particle with an adjective (ming dang khyad tshig bar gyi brel sgra)  
|                | Genitive particle with verbal noun (bya tshig dang ming tshig bar gyi 'brel sgra)  
| Week 7          | Agentive particles (byed sgra)  
|                | Ablative particles ('byung kunghs kyi sgra)  
| Week 8          | Connective particles (lhag bcas kyi sgra)  
|                | Concessive particles (rgyan sdug kyi sgra)  
|                | Locative particles (la don gyi phrad)  
| Week 9          | Conditional particles (ni sgra)  
|                | Interrogative pronouns (dri ba'i tshab tshig)  
|                | Verb tenses (dus gsum)  
| Week 10         | Relative pronouns ('brel sgra'i tshab tshig)  
|                | Agentive verbal particles (byed pa ldan pa'i tshig)  
|                | Clause connectives: (brjod pa mtsham sbyor byed)  
| Week 11         | Reading: Four immensurable prayer (tshad med bzhi)  
|                | Quotation particles (lung 'dren gyi srga)  
|                | Review: previous lessons  
| Week 12         | Vocative particles ('bod sgra)  
|                | Review: previous lessons  |
Textbook List


Reference Sources

I. Dictionaries / Glossaries


II. Grammar


### III. Other Sources


### IV Online Sources


3. Tibetan Writing Course (Cornell University): [http://www.lrc.cornell.edu/medialib/ti/twc](http://www.lrc.cornell.edu/medialib/ti/twc)

5. Rangjung Yeshe Publications on Tibetan Language Material
   http://www.rangjung.com/rootfiles/tibetan_language_books.htm

6. Online Tibetan-Phonetics Converter