Course Description

This course focuses on developing familiarity with reading and translating Buddhist literature. Emphasis is placed on consolidating and developing knowledge of grammatical structures and terminology. Grammar will be explained on the basis of the texts translated and complementary handouts will be provided during the semester. Readings will include passages from *The Jewel Ornament of Liberation* (Gampopa), *The Story of Asaṅga and Maitreya* (Patrul Rinpoche), the *Heart Sutra*, and the *Praise to Mañjuśrī*. Based on the classical Tibetan grammar taught in the first semester, students will continuously apply and develop their knowledge by translating original texts. Expectations for students participating in this class include: preparing the respective text sections that are to be translated in class, actively taking part in the class discussions, completing one’s own translation after having clarified all questions in class, and memorizing new vocabulary.

All class activities take place based in “Teams”, which is the app for teamwork and interactive learning in Microsoft O365. Students receive their own ryi.org email addresses and are then able to participate in the learning activities via Teams. All students have access to the course materials, which include the reader, word files of the texts that will be translated in class, video lectures, homework assignments, digital vocabulary flashcards, audio files, and supplemental handouts. There
will be two live-streamed review sessions each week, available to students at a time suitable for their time zone. These live-streamed sessions give students a chance to ask the teachers questions, clarify difficult points, and hear the questions that other students ask.