Course Code | ATSE 501/601
Course Title | Advanced Textual Study English I, III
Semester, Year | Fall 2024
Schedule | Lecture: Monday - Friday 11:30am – 1:00pm
Required text(s) | Beacon of Certainty (nges shes sgron me) by Ju Mipham Rinpoche
Optional Readings

Course Description
This course involves in-depth study of an Indian Buddhist text supported by Indian and Tibetan commentaries as well as oral explanation by a member of CBS's monastic faculty translated into English. Students' exams on course content will be in English. A second component of this course is seminar-style meetings with the supervisor (Daniel McNamara). Three times during the semester, all students will meet with the supervisor to discuss secondary literature relevant to the primary text. The times and dates of these meetings will be decided at the start of the semester. To make the rigor of the course equivalent to the untranslated course, there is also an additional writing assignment (see below, “Term Paper”).

Assessments:

- Exams (mid-term and final) given by the Khenpo or Lopon: 50% of final grade.
- Participation in Seminar Meetings: 15%. Supervisor and students will meet with the supervisor to discuss scholarship relevant to the text at hand. The supervisor will provide a reading list for each meeting at the start of the semester. Over the course of these meetings, each student will be responsible for giving one short (15-20 minute) presentation on the readings over the course of the semester.
- Reflection Papers: 15%. In advance of each seminar meeting, students are expected to write a short (2-4 page) reflection paper on the readings.
- Term paper: 20% An essay of approximately 12-15 pages (3000-3750 words) on a topic related to the text under study. Paper topics should be discussed with the supervisor well in
advance of exam week and must be approved. Final papers are due on the last day of exam week.

- *Please note: You are not required to complete the assignments or quizzes given by the TA. You are advised to attend BA review sessions but are not required to.*