Course Code | TLAN 301/401
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Course Title | Classical Tibetan Translation Project I/ Advanced Classical Tibetan Seminar I
Semester, Year | Fall 2024
Schedule: class day & time | **On Campus Section:** Lecture - Tuesday and Thursday at 09:45–11:15 am
**Online Section:** Lecture – Monday and Wednesday 9:00p-10:30pm
Required text(s) | Collet-Cassart, Benjamin. *A Classical Tibetan Grammar Handbook*. A digital version will be available for students. More digital text files and handouts will be provided online over the semester.
Optional Readings | The Rangjung Yeshe dictionary created by Erik Pema Kunsang is available online, along with some additional dictionary resources, at: [http://rywiki.tsadra.org/index.php/Main_Page](http://rywiki.tsadra.org/index.php/Main_Page).

**Course Prerequisites and Requirements**

The prerequisite for TLAN 301 is TLAN 202 or the equivalent of two years of Classical Tibetan study. The prerequisite for TLAN 401 is TLAN 302 or the equivalent of three years of Classical Tibetan study. All required course materials, such as texts and articles, will be distributed. Students will not be required to purchase any additional materials for the course.

**Course Description**

Classical Tibetan Translation Project (TLAN 301) / Advanced Classical Tibetan Seminar (TLAN 401) is a joined third and fourth year Classical Tibetan course aimed at developing and further strengthening students’ skills in independent translation of texts from the Tibetan language into English through studying translation methodology and engaging into the guided translation practice.

The class has three main components:

1. study of the selected readings on the historical contextualization, textual criticism, source evaluation, and translation methodology. Students are expected to read the provided material and come to Tuesday classes ready to discuss it.
(2) In-class readings of the assigned translations. Students are expected to come to each class having prepared their own translations and be ready to read and discuss them.

(3) Independent translation project, i.e., translation of a text that has not been translated into English. Students will be given a selection of sūtra texts they will be able to choose from. The translation project will be structured as two assignments: (a) submission of the draft translation; (b) submission of the final annotated translation with introduction.

The course is focused on the Mahāyāna sūtra and śāstra literature. The text for translation TBD.

Students can expect to come away from this class with improved understanding of Tibetan grammar and increased vocabulary; a deeper familiarity with Tibetan literature in general and the philosophical genre in particular; and a greater understanding of what is required of a professional translator and the skills to begin working on professional-level translations. This course is particularly well-suited for those who aspire to work as professional translators but is appropriate for anyone from any background who wishes to move their Tibetan reading comprehension and English translation skills to the next level.

**Learning Outcomes**

Students can expect to come away from this class with improved understanding of Tibetan grammar and increased vocabulary; a deeper familiarity with Tibetan literature in general and the philosophical genre in particular; and a greater understanding of what is required of a professional translator and the skills to begin working on professional-level translations. This course is particularly well-suited for those who aspire to work as professional translators but is appropriate for anyone from any background who wishes to move their Tibetan reading comprehension and English translation skills to the next level.

**Assessment**

Students will have three types of assignments: (1) in-class translations and readings ongoing throughout the semester; (2) a midterm exam and submission of the draft independent translation project in the middle of semester; and (3) final assessment consisting in the submission of the finalized independent translation project and final exam.

Grades will be assigned according to the following categories:

- In-class translation and discussion: 20% of final grade
- Draft independent translation project: 10% of final grade
- Midterm exam: 20% of final grade
- Final assessment: 50% of final grade
  (finalized translation project 25% and final exam 25%)