KATHMANDU UNIVERSITY
CENTRE FOR BUDDHIST STUDIES AT
RANGJUNG YESHE INSTITUTE

Web Syllabus

Course Code	TLAN 203 OL
Course Title	Colloquial Tibetan III
Semester, Year	Fall, 2027
Course Delivery Mode	Online synchronous
Course Components	2 60-minute master classes per week 2 60-minute ALI classes per week 1 60-minute Boost class per week
Schedule: class day & time	Please consult F27 course schedule
Required Text(s)	*Rangjung Yeshe Intermediate Colloquial Tibetan Textbook:* available in digital form on Teams and hardcopy available for purchase in the office.
Optional Readings	Additional videos with explanations of colloquial Tibetan grammer will be available on Teams.
Course Prerequisite	Students enrolling in TLAN 203 must have completed two semesters (TLAN 103 and 104 or TLAN 120) at RYI or equivalent courses at another institution. Students who are not able to provide documentation of prior study may be asked to take a placement exam.

Course Description

This course builds on the skills acquired in the first two semesters of Tibetan language study. It focuses on continuing to develop various linguistic abilities connected to colloquial Tibetan such as conversational fluency, listening comprehension, vocabulary, reading/writing skills, and knowledge of grammar. These aims are realized by means of different instruction-sessions using a variety of materials and methods.

The student's learning process is facilitated by means of three types of classes: master classes (with both a native Tibetan and a non-native teacher), ALI conversation classes, and Boost classes (where curriculum is practiced in small groups). These course components are interrelated and the material provided, introduced, and practiced is precisely coordinated. A considerable amount of preparation, memorization, and completion of written assignments is expected from the student in order to ensure the student's progress.

The aim of the master classes is to introduce the structures of the modern Colloquial Tibetan grammar found in the *Rangjung Yeshe Intermediate Colloquial Tibetan Textbook* to address the students' questions and to discuss grammatical principles. Furthermore, these classes provide a

forum for reading dialogues aloud, an exercise that improves listening comprehension, pronunciation, and fluency. Different activities and exercises will be implemented as much as possible in class.

A large amount of vocabulary and knowledge has been acquired prior to this term. Therefore, the students are expected and encouraged to become more independent in terms of collecting, compiling and continually reviewing what they have learned so far. The teachers will consider the previous materials acquired, and will build up on that.

Learning Outcomes

The overall aim of this program to introduce and thoroughly explain all remaining grammatical structures so that students will have a solid basis upon which they can further develop their language skills.
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Describe events, experiences, wishes and aspirations, talk about their opinions and plans in Tibetan;
- Interact with a degree of fluency with native speakers without strain for either party;
- Understand the main ideas of the oral Buddhist teachings given in Central Tibetan Dialect.

Course Requirements	
How do I succeed in the course?	This is a dynamic class in which students are expected to participate constantly by answering questions, creating their own sentences and participating in the various activities offered to facilitate the learning experience in a joyful environment where students support one another and feel comfortable making mistakes. Teamwork is another component of this semester's practice. Students are expected to prepare written assignments at home, such as telling little stories in their own words. The students are required to memorize weekly vocabulary lists. This vocabulary is tested in weekly quizzes and is utilized in the live class sessions as well. Memorization is a very important component for learning a new language, therefore the instructors highly emphasize this aspect of the class. So, to continually review past vocabulary lists until the end of the semester while learning new ones is essential. The weekly quizzes will include the vocabulary from the lists handed out each week which contain 35-50 words and the grammatical structures covered in class that week primarily but may also include the ones from previous lessons. Spelling counts.

	All homework assignments must be submitted **on the day** they are due and all quizzes must be written on the day they are given. Students must inform the course instructor *before that day's class* (you may leave a message for the instructors via teams chat or email) if they will miss a quiz or be unable to turn in a homework assignment due to illness. In this case, the quiz or assignment may be made up. In case of absence, the student is responsible for making up with the missed lesson and materials that might have been given in class (all materials will be posted in the TLAN 104 team). The instructors will meet students during individually scheduled office hours in person or via teams. Homework assignments or quizzes missed *for any other reason* may not be made up and the student will receive a grade of 0 for that particular assignment or quiz.
Assessments	Weight
Active Class Participation and Homework Assignments	10%
Weekly Quizzes	20%
Midterm Exam	20% (written test)
Final Exam	50% (written and oral)

Important Dates

Aug. 30	Fall semester classes begin
Sept. 14–16	End of Yarney—no TSTD classes (to be confirmed)
Oct. 4–8	Reading week—no classes
Oct. 10	Dashain Vijaya Dashami—no classes, offices closed
Oct. 31	Tihar Bhai Tika—no classes, offices closed
Nov. 19–29	Annual Fall Seminar—no classes (to be confirmed)
Dec. 10	Fall semester classes end
Dec. 13–17	Exam week

Class Schedule

TBD