LEARN TIBETAN
FALL 2020

1st Year Modern Colloquial Tibetan I
(East Asian UN1600; Call Number: 61994; 5 points)

• No previous knowledge is required
• It focuses on developing basic abilities to speak as well as to read and write in Modern Tibetan
• Students are also introduced to Modern Tibetan studies through selected readings and guest lectures
• Course is taught here, but shared via live video technology with students from Cornell and Yale University
• It fulfills language requirement

Tibetan is spoken by over six million people in a region the size of Western Europe. Modern Tibetan will give you access to the rich culture (religion, literature, music, dance, arts, and medicine) and environment of the Tibetan plateau, as well as NYC’s vibrant Tibetan community.

The Tibetan language records and transmits one of the world's great civilizations, bridging South and East Asia. Tibetan once served as a lingua franca as well as a clerical and diplomatic language for much of central Eurasia—from the Mongol Dzungar region in today's Xinjiang, through Mongolia, north and west into Russia, east into Manchuria, and south into parts present day of India, Nepal, and Bhutan.

Meeting Days & Times:
MTWR 12:10-1:00pm

Location:
Language Resource Center
Int’l Affairs Building 351C

Instructor: Sonam Tsering
Email: st2931@columbia.edu

For more information:
http://ealac.columbia.edu/program/language-programs/tibetan/
This class is designed to meet the needs of both first-time learners of Tibetan, as well as students with one year or less of modern colloquial Tibetan. It is intended to lay the foundation for reading classical Tibetan writings, including religious, historical and literary texts. By focusing on basic grammatical constructions and frequently used vocabulary, this class offers an introduction to the classical Tibetan language.

At the start of the first semester (Fall 2020), students will learn the Tibetan alphabet and pronunciation, though oral fluency is not an aim of this course.

In the second semester (Spring 2021), students will spend the majority of their time reading brief passages in classical Tibetan, while continuing to build their toolbox of reading strategies, and vocabulary.

By the end of the year, students will be able to read 1-2 page excerpts from pre-modern Tibetan texts, including the *Life of Milarepa*.

There is no prerequisite for UN1410.

For more information, please contact the instructor: Sonam Tsering (st2855@columbia.edu)