

Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia
University of Wisconsin-Madison
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TIBETAN

Tibetan ...

- is the language of the Tibetan people.
- in its various dialects is spoken over an area the size of Western Europe, stretching from Baltistan (Pakistan) in the west to Sichuan Province (China) in the east. Its linguistic range extends beyond Lake Kokonor (in the province of Qinghai, China) to the north, and its south limits are the southern slopes of the Himalaya, encompassing the independent state of Bhutan, Sikkim, the high valleys of Mustang, the region of Everest inhabited by the Sherpas of Nepal.
- is spoken in diasporic Tibetan communities in India, USA, Europe, and elsewhere.
- is spoken by over four hundred Tibetans who have settled in Madison, Wisconsin.

Why Study Tibetan?

- As the language of Tibetan Buddhism, Tibetan has a vast literature in Buddhist religion and philosophy. It has also preserved in translation a vast amount of Indian Buddhist literature from all phases of its development, a significant proportion of which has not survived in other languages.
- The Tibetan literature embraces a wide variety of arts and sciences ranging from epics and poetry to medicine, grammar, and rhetoric.
- For everyone who is concerned with the peril that the Tibetan people and culture face, studying the Tibetan language is a way to contribute to the continuance of the Tibetan tradition and to be in a better position to help.

Why Study Tibetan at UW-Madison?

1. For more than thirty years, UW-Madison has been one of the leading institutions in Tibetan studies in the United States.
2. UW-Madison offers both academic year and summer intensive Tibetan programs.
3. Our academic year program has integrated both Spoken and Literary Tibetan with an aim of both the development of communication skills and exposure to literature.
4. There is a large Tibetan settlement in the city of Madison that makes it possible to interact with Tibetan speakers locally.
5. The university facilitates various cultural events including language table, film festival, and lectures by visiting scholars.
6. The Deer Park Buddhist Center, which is located about twenty miles from the campus, offers regular classes in Buddhism and often hosts renowned visiting Tibetan scholars who teach in Tibetan with English interpretation.

FALL COURSES

LCA LANG 377: First Semester Tibetan

LCA LANG 677: Advanced Readings in Tibetan

Contact

Enrollment and advising questions: Angela Powell, 262-0524

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