

TIBETAN LANGUAGE INTENSIVE

Pre-Intermediate Level

The Lotsawa Rinchen Zangpo Translator Program (LRZTP) is offering a 7-week intensive Tibetan language program in Dharamsala, India from November 3 through December 18, 2009. The course will cover both colloquial and literary Tibetan with an emphasis on dharma.

The teacher for the course is Gavin Kilty, an experienced language teacher of both Tibetan and English. As a qualified and experienced TEFL teacher, Gavin incorporates proven techniques used in teaching English as a second language in his Tibetan language classes.

During the 1970's and 80's Gavin studied for 8 years at the Buddhist School of Dialectics in Dharamsala. He is currently a translator for the Institute of Tibetan Classics and is engaged in translating classic Tibetan works into English for publication. Gavin is uniquely qualified to teach Tibetan language with an emphasis on dharma.

Class will be held five days per week, 4.5 hours per day. Approximately 60 % of class time will focus on literary Tibetan and 40% on colloquial. The literary portion of the program will be taught through the use of short written works that use common dharma terminology. The colloquial part of the course will focus mainly on having conversations related to dharma. This is an excellent way to learn how to talk with the Tibetan lamas about your dharma practice! Trained Tibetan conversation partners will participate in the colloquial part of the program.

The course is highly interactive and student centered. Students should be prepared for drilling, pair work, role-play and group work from the first day of class! This approach has been proven effective in helping students learn to speak a new language quickly.

The course is designed for pre-intermediate students of Tibetan language. This is defined as:

- an ability to read, albeit slowly and without simultaneous understanding of sentence sense
- basic pronunciation, but one that would cause problems for a listener
- a store of basic vocabulary (Dharma and colloquial)
- ability to construct comprehensible simple conversation in classroom simulation, even though not grammatically correct, but would struggle in the real world.
- ability to recognize words when listening, as well as simple sentence construction.

A test to measure a student's current language level will be given prior to acceptance into the course.

The cost of the program is \$500 USD and is limited to 12 participants. If you are interested in the course please contact Chödrön at LRZTP5@gmail.com. Please include a short paragraph explaining your dharma background.

Lhundup Chödrön
Director LRZTP

