

SOAS LANGUAGE CENTRE

Tibetan (Classical) Beginners

Materials: (Course materials are provided)

Overview of course contents	Synopsis
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the language• Learning a new script• Learning the basic Tibetan alphabet• Letter combinations• Pronunciation• Reading words• Combinations of words• Sentence structure• Introduction to grammar• Using a dictionary for Tibetan• Vocabulary accumulation (c. 400 words)• Grammatical markers• Identification of Tibetan words• Simple conversational sentences• Passage translation practice	<p>Tibetan (Classical) Beginners is a set of three courses aimed at providing students with a basic knowledge of Classical Tibetan and focuses on the ability to read and translate Classical Tibetan. The first course – Tibetan (Classical) Beginners 1 – is offered in the autumn, with the Beginners 2 and Beginners 3 components later in the successive terms of the academic year.</p> <p>Tibetan (Classical) Beginners covers basic grammar and essential vocabulary, leading up to translation of sentences and then translation of passages. The course is taught in English and Tibetan, and the emphasis is on coverage of the skills of reading, writing, pronunciation and translation, with the main emphasis on reading and translation.</p> <p>Grammatical terminology is gradually incorporated during the term, giving the student confidence in identifying parts of speech in Tibetan. By the end of Beginners 1, the student is able to read, recognize and understand basic words and phrases. In the second and third terms (Beginners 2 and Beginners 3), translation practice begins, in guided development.</p> <p>Students are expected and encouraged to undertake self-study outside of the classroom, and are offered guidance in the various learning methods.</p>