

Tibetan

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) offers a minor in Tibetan. There is no major program in Tibetan.

Declaring the Minor

To declare the minor, please visit 3409 Dwinelle Hall.

Other Majors and Minors Offered by the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Chinese Language (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2022-23/undergraduate/degree-programs/chinese-language/>) (Major and Minor)
 Japanese Language (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2022-23/undergraduate/degree-programs/japanese-language/>) (Major and Minor)
 Korean Language (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2022-23/undergraduate/degree-programs/korean-language/>) (Minor only)
 East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2022-23/undergraduate/degree-programs/east-asian-religion-thought-culture/>) (Major only)

Students who have a strong interest in an area of study outside their major often decide to complete a minor program. These programs have set requirements and are noted officially on the transcript in the memoranda section but are not noted on diplomas.

General Guidelines

1. All minors must be declared no later than one semester before a student's Expected Graduation Term (EGT). If the semester before EGT is fall or spring, the deadline is the last day of RRR week. If the semester before EGT is summer, the deadline is the final Friday of Summer Sessions. To declare a minor, contact the department advisor for information on requirements, and the declaration process.
2. All courses taken to fulfill the minor requirements below must be taken for graded credit.
3. A minimum of three of the upper division courses taken to fulfill the minor requirements must be completed at UC Berkeley.
4. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 is required for courses used to fulfill the minor requirements.
5. Courses used to fulfill the minor requirements may be applied toward the Seven-Course Breadth requirement, for Letters & Science students.
6. No more than one upper division course may be used to simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student's major and minor programs.
7. All minor requirements must be completed prior to the last day of finals during the semester in which you plan to graduate. If you cannot finish all courses required for the minor by that time, please see a College of Letters & Science adviser.
8. All minor requirements must be completed within the unit ceiling. (For further information regarding the unit ceiling, please see the College Requirements tab.)

Requirements

Language Training ¹

TIBETAN 1A	Elementary Tibetan	5
TIBETAN 1B	Elementary Tibetan	5

TIBETAN 10A	Intermediate Tibetan	3
TIBETAN 10B	Intermediate Tibetan	3

Upper Division (Five Courses, 20 Units Minimum) ²

Select three upper division Tibetan courses

TIBETAN 110A	Intensive Readings in Tibetan [4]
TIBETAN 110B	Intensive Readings in Tibetan [4]
TIBETAN C114	Tibetan Buddhism [4]
TIBETAN 115	Contemporary Tibet [4]
TIBETAN 116	Traditional Tibet [4]
TIBETAN 118	The Politics of Modern Tibet [4]
TIBETAN 119	Tibetan Medicine in History and Society [4]
TIBETAN C154	Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism [4]

Select two upper division electives from Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Tibetan, and East Asian Languages courses ³

¹ Students with previous language experience will be required to take a placement exam.

² All courses require advisor approval.

³ EAP course(s) may be used to satisfy one of the electives; however, not all EAP courses will be approved for the minor. Please check with the advisor in advance.

Expand all course descriptions [+] Collapse all course descriptions [-]

TIBETAN 1A Elementary Tibetan 5 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2020, Fall 2019

A beginning Tibetan class developing basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in modern Tibetan (Lhasa dialect). The course also helps students begin to acquire competence in relevant Tibetan cultural issues.

Elementary Tibetan: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Elementary Tibetan: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 1B Elementary Tibetan 5 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2018

A continuation of Tibetan 1A, Tibetan 1B develops further listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in modern Tibetan (Lhasa dialect), with a gradually increasing emphasis on basic cultural readings and developing intercultural competence.

Elementary Tibetan: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Tibetan 1A

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Elementary Tibetan: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 10A Intermediate Tibetan 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2015, Fall 2014, Fall 2012

This course, a continuation of 1A-1B (elementary Tibetan), is designed to develop the student's skills in modern standard Tibetan. The emphasis is on communication skills in vernacular Tibetan, as well as grammar, reading, writing, and a familiarity with contemporary Tibetan culture more generally.

Intermediate Tibetan: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Tibetan 1B

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Intermediate Tibetan: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 10B Intermediate Tibetan 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016, Spring 2013, Spring 2010

This course, a continuation of 10A, is designed to develop further the student's skills in modern standard Tibetan. The emphasis is on communication skills in vernacular Tibetan, as well as grammar, reading, writing, and a familiarity with contemporary Tibetan culture more generally.

Intermediate Tibetan: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Tibetan 10A

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for TIBETAN 10B after passing TIBETAN 100A.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Intermediate Tibetan: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 24 Freshman Seminar 1 Unit

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

The Freshman Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small seminar setting. Freshman seminars are offered in all campus departments and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment limited to fifteen freshmen.

Freshman Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring:

5 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

6 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

8 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

10 weeks - 1.5 hours of lecture per week

15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Final exam not required.

Freshman Seminar: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 84 Sophomore Seminar 1 Unit

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

Sophomore seminars are small interactive courses offered by faculty members in departments all across the campus. Sophomore seminars offer opportunity for close, regular intellectual contact between faculty members and students in the crucial second year. The topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment limited to 15 sophomores.

Sophomore Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring:

5 weeks - 3-6 hours of seminar per week

8 weeks - 2-4 hours of seminar per week

10 weeks - 1.5-3 hours of seminar per week

15 weeks - 1-2 hours of seminar per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Final exam not required.

Sophomore Seminar: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 100S Advanced Tibetan Conversation 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Fall 2012

This course is designed for advanced students of Tibetan language. Its goal is to provide an opportunity for advanced students to develop their colloquial Tibetan conversation skills. More sophisticated linguistic forms are used and reinforced while dealing with various socio-cultural topics, with a particular focus on Buddhist-related subjects toward the end of the term. Primary emphasis will be on the Lhasa dialect of Tibetan, though some variant dialects may also be introduced.

Advanced Tibetan Conversation: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Tibetan 10B or equivalent, or consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Advanced Tibetan Conversation: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 110A Intensive Readings in Tibetan 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016

This course is an intensive introduction to reading literary Tibetan literature. Following an introduction to basic grammar, the course moves quickly into selected readings from Buddhist texts in Tibetan. It typically builds on basic skills acquired in 1A-1B (elementary Tibetan), though with consent it may be taken independently.

Intensive Readings in Tibetan: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Tibetan 1B or consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Intensive Readings in Tibetan: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN 110B Intensive Readings in Tibetan 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017

A continuation of Tibetan 110A, this course provides an intensive introduction to a range of literary Tibetan literature. Assuming knowledge of basic literary Tibetan grammar, the course focuses on selected readings from Buddhist texts in Tibetan.

Intensive Readings in Tibetan: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Tibetan 110A, or consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Intensive Readings in Tibetan: Read Less [-]

TIBETAN C114 Tibetan Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

This course is a broad introduction to the history, doctrine, and culture of the Buddhism of Tibet. We will begin with the introduction of Buddhism to Tibet in the eighth century and move on to the evolution of the major schools of Tibetan Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhist literature, ritual and monastic practice, the place of Buddhism in Tibetan political history, and the contemporary situation of Tibetan Buddhism both inside and outside of Tibet.

Tibetan Buddhism: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students who have passed S ASIAN C114 will not get credit for SASIAN C114.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C114/SASIAN C114

Tibetan Buddhism: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

TIBETAN 115 Contemporary Tibet 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

This course seeks to develop a critical understanding of contemporary Tibet, characterized as it is by modernity, invasion, Maoism, liberalization, exile, and diaspora. It explores the cultural dynamism of the Tibetans over the last 100 years as expressed in literature, film, music, modern art, and political protest. The core topics include intra-Tibetan arguments regarding the preservation and "modernization" of traditional cultural forms, the development of new aesthetic creations and values, the constraints and opportunities on cultural life under colonialism and in the diaspora, and the religious nationalism of the recent political protests.

Contemporary Tibet: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Contemporary Tibet: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

TIBETAN 116 Traditional Tibet 4 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This class will explore Tibetan civilization throughout the pre-modern period with an emphasis on literature, the visual arts, ethnography, and the history of Tibet's important cultural exchanges on the broader Inner Asian and Himalayan stages. The overall lesson plan will cover a wide range of Tibetan cultural forms and regions, and highlights the many international links that so animated Tibet itself and were crucial to the politics of Asia for many centuries. Furthermore, the theme of "early modernities" will be prominent in the readings in the second half of the course.

Traditional Tibet: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Traditional Tibet: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

TIBETAN 118 The Politics of Modern Tibet 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2016

For over a hundred years, the political status of Tibet has commanded a level of attention on the international stage – and within China – seemingly disproportionate to the size of its population and economy, and in spite of its reputation as a remote periphery. This course will examine the historical, cultural, and economic assumptions underlying contemporary discourses of Tibetan politics, and relate them to discourses of global power and peripheries more generally. Grounding discussion in primary sources and critical works from across regions and disciplines, we will examine the roots of current conflict and the ways in which contending Buddhist, nationalist and internationalist projects have contributed to the making of modern Tibet.

The Politics of Modern Tibet: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

The Politics of Modern Tibet: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

TIBETAN 119 Tibetan Medicine in History and Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This course will investigate the theory, practice and development of Tibetan medicine or sowa rikpa, “the knowledge of healing.” Using Tibetan medicine as our lens, we will consider how all medical systems are based on ways of knowing that are culturally as well as biologically determined, and historically situated within linguistic, ecological, religious, and political frameworks. Drawing from primary sources as well as cross-disciplinary scholarship, we will examine issues of translation in canonical medical literature; traditions of ritual and practice; how medicine is taught; relationships between medicine and Buddhism; ideas about human bodies, subtle anatomy, cosmology, and gender norms; and aspects of modernization and globalization.

Tibetan Medicine in History and Society: [Read More](#) [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Tibetan Medicine in History and Society: [Read Less](#) [-]

TIBETAN C154 Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2014

Tibetan Buddhists view the moment of death as a rare opportunity for transformation. This course examines how Tibetans have used death and dying in the path to enlightenment. Readings will address how Tibetan funerary rituals work to assist the dying toward this end, and how Buddhist practitioners prepare for this crucial moment through tantric meditation, imaginative rehearsals, and explorations of the dream state. Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students receiving credit for S ASIAN C154 will not get credit for SASIAN C154.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Dalton

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C154/SASIAN C154

Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism: [Read Less](#) [-]

TIBETAN C214 Seminar in Tibetan Buddhism 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2012

This course provides a place for graduate-level seminars in Tibetan Buddhism that rely primarily on secondary sources and Tibetan texts in translation. Content will vary between semesters but will typically focus on a particular theme. Themes will be chosen according to student interests, with an eye toward introducing students to the breadth of available western scholarship on Tibet, from classics in the field to the latest publications.

Seminar in Tibetan Buddhism: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students who have passed S ASIAN C214 will not get credit for SASIAN C214.

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Dalton

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C214/SASIAN C214

Seminar in Tibetan Buddhism: [Read Less](#) [-]

TIBETAN C224 Readings in Tibetan Buddhist Texts 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022

This seminar provides an introduction to a broad range of Tibetan Buddhist texts, including chronicles and histories, biographical literature, doctrinal treatises, canonical texts, ritual manuals, pilgrimage guides, and liturgical texts. It is intended for graduate students interested in premodern Tibet from any perspective. Students are required to do all of the readings in the original classical Tibetan. It will also serve as a tools and methods for the study of Tibetan Buddhist literature, including standard lexical and bibliographic references, digital resources, and secondary literature in modern languages. The content of the course will vary from semester to semester to account for the needs and interests of particular students.

Readings in Tibetan Buddhist Texts: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Credit Restrictions: Students who have passed S ASIAN C224 will not get credit for SASIAN C224

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Dalton

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C224/SASIAN C224

Readings in Tibetan Buddhist Texts: [Read Less](#) [-]

TIBETAN 298 Directed Study for Graduate Students 1 - 8 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2023, Spring 2022

Special tutorial or seminar on selected topics not covered by available courses or seminars.

Directed Study for Graduate Students: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-8 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-20 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1.5-15 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Directed Study for Graduate Students: [Read Less](#) [-]

TIBETAN 299 Thesis Preparation and Related Research 1 - 8 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

Thesis Preparation and Related Research: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of thesis supervisor and graduate adviser

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-8 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-20 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1.5-15 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Thesis Preparation and Related Research: [Read Less](#) [-]

TIBETAN 601 Individual Study for Master's Students 1 - 8 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

Individual study for the comprehensive or language requirements in consultation with the graduate adviser. Units may not be used to meet either unit or residence requirements for a master's degree.

Individual Study for Master's Students: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of graduate adviser

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-8 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-20 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1.5-15 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Graduate examination preparation

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Individual Study for Master's Students: [Read Less](#) [-]

TIBETAN 602 Individual Study for Doctoral Students 1 - 8 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

Individual study in consultation with the major field adviser, intended to provide an opportunity for qualified students to prepare for various examinations required of candidates for the Ph.D.

Individual Study for Doctoral Students: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-8 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-20 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1.5-15 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Tibetan/Graduate examination preparation

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Individual Study for Doctoral Students: [Read Less](#) [-]