# Advanced 301 – Live Course (Lower Advanced)

བོད་སྐད་སྙིང་པོ། The Heart of Tibetan Online Colloquial Tibetan Lower Advanced Language Course is a student-centered program that blends live and recorded learning across six engaging Modules. Advanced 301 guides you through Lessons 21–25 of the forthcoming Volume 3 and a short Review Module. You will begin working with essential dharma vocabulary in a colloquial context while refining advanced grammar.

## Important note

This is the first time we offer Advanced 301 in this student-centered format. The core structure is set, but some details may be adjusted during preparation to best support students.

## Course structure

• Short Review Module (3 weeks) to revisit key Intermediate grammar (e.g., modal verbs, conditionals, relative clauses)  
• Modules 2–6: Lessons 21–25 of Volume 3 (Lower Advanced), introducing dharma vocabulary in colloquial Tibetan  
• A PDF of the revised draft lessons of Volume 3 is included in the course package

## Learning outcomes

By completing Advanced 301, you will:  
• Consolidate Intermediate skills and extend them into Lower Advanced Tibetan  
• Work with essential dharma vocabulary in colloquial usage (e.g., spread of Buddhism, biography of the Buddha, Three Turnings of the Wheel, how to listen to the dharma, refuge)  
• Use new advanced grammar tools: temporal connectives (simultaneity & sequence), additional nominalizers, and modal verbs  
• Engage more in Tibetan as the classroom language (with English used in the Live Forum for metacognition, logistics, and clarifications)

## Course rhythm & workload

• Pace: sloth-like — four weeks per Module (one Lesson of Vol. 3 per Module)  
• Recommended study time: about 11–13 hours/week  
• Four live sessions per Module; one live Forum Discussion dedicated to metacognitive skills

## Live classes

• Zoom classes offered in two time slots (most likely 11:00 and 18:00 CE(S)T); most sessions on Saturdays  
• One time slot or session on a weekday may be added based on student needs  
• Optional White Wednesday Talks on Tibetan culture  
• Duration: ~1 hour (+ optional 15 minutes for questions)  
• Recordings available as make-up and for review (shared via YouTube with Gmail access or posted in Moodle)  
• Students who know they will miss a class may send questions in advance

## What’s included

• Live classes with Tibetan language instructors (e.g., Franziska Oertle, Gen Lhakpa Tsering-la, and assistants)  
• One BETA webinar per Lesson explaining grammar via the questions of our non-human students (each question segment ~10–15 minutes)

• Live meeting “Discussion Forum” on soft skills (in English)  
• Small Learning Communities (SLCs) — the backbone of our courses  
• Weekly 1:1 sessions with Tibetan native-speaking conversation partners  
• Digital language lab-style speaking practice  
• A challenge (final product) at the end of each Module  
• Rubrics for reflection and self-assessment  
• A variety of self-paced activities, exercises, and resources in Moodle

## Learning activities

• Anki flashcards with audio and example sentences  
• Games, songs, and dialogues  
• Digital language-lab speaking practice  
• e-Portfolio with monthly personalized feedback  
• Regular White Wednesday Talks on Tibetan culture and/or dharma  
• A range of learning & assessment challenges

## Moodle platform

We use Moodle to host activities, learning materials, and student resources. If you have not participated in our Beginner and/or Intermediate Courses, you’ll complete Module 0 before starting Advanced 301 (Learning How to Learn Online).

[Open the Moodle landing page](https://tibetanonline.sinibridge.org/)

## Materials

Textbook: བོད་སྐད་སྙིང་པོ། The Heart of Tibetan Language, Volume 3 (forthcoming, draft PDF included). This volume blends colloquial grammar with carefully selected dharma terminology and includes dialogues, Buddhist quotes and short prayers, biographies, verses from ལེགས་བཤད་ལྗོན་དབང་།, vocabulary with examples and syllable explanations, cultural notes, songs, detailed grammar, and rubrics. A workbook accompanies the text.

## Teachers & companions

You’ll learn in a friendly, well-supported environment:  
• Teachers & assistants: a small team of Tibetan and non-Tibetan instructors guide you through grammar, conversation, and culture  
• 1:1 conversation sessions: weekly practice with native speakers (WhatsApp, Telegram, or similar), with worksheets and guidance  
• Small Learning Communities (SLCs): groups of ~4 students meet regularly to practice at a pace that works for everyone  
• Global classmates: engage in live classes and forums with peers from around the world  
• Pets welcome: many students include their pets as patient listeners during practice

Non-human companions & humor:  
• Five non-human classmates — Ms. Giraffe, Ms. Ostrich, Mr. Sloth, Mr. Sheep, and Ven. Thubten Turtle — ask questions and keep webinars lively, representing diverse learning styles and backgrounds

🐾 Pets are welcome learning buddies too: they’re patient listeners who never complain about grammar mistakes!

## Methodology

Our approach is both **student-centered** and **learning-centered**. We believe that people learn best when they are active, curious, and supported by a caring community.

* We draw on **Dr. Fink’s 6-fold Taxonomy of Significant Learning**, which highlights knowledge, application, integration, the human dimension, caring, and learning how to learn.
* Special focus is placed on **soft skills**: reflection, self-awareness, collaboration, and empathy. Students are invited to keep an **e-Portfolio** and share reflections in forums, helping them grow not only as language learners but as human beings.
* In addition to Tibetan conversations, the Live Forum helps build metacognitive skills in English.
* Classes blend **traditional Tibetan grammar** with modern, interactive pedagogy. Grammar and vocabulary are balanced with songs, stories, cultural exchange, and playful activities.
* Joy and humor are essential to our method. A smile, a bit of laughter, and curiosity keep learning light while ensuring deep progress.

## Prerequisites

Alumni:  
• If you completed the Upper Intermediate courses (Tib. 201 & 202), you are prepared for Advanced 301. Auditing students from past courses should submit the Entrance Presentation if joining fully.

Newcomers:  
• If you studied Volumes 1 & 2 elsewhere, you are welcome. We recommend reviewing those volumes and/or buying access to the Intermediate resources below.

Mandatory Entrance Presentation: [Open the Entrance Presentation task](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IwLVSc4GRPtWfMoirFb0go1cRDGcWb3cjjgYv3pE_jo/edit?usp=drive_link)

• Basic IT skills and Gmail account (for YouTube, Google Drive, and Moodle)  
• WhatsApp recommended for tutor sessions

## Preparation for new students

• eBooks for Volumes 1 & 2 on [Google Play](https://play.google.com/store/books/author?id=Franziska+Oertle+)

• Buy access to all Intermediate resources (Tib. 201 & 202): [Purchase here](https://site.corsizio.com/event/672d0965b0692317b417998b)

• Buy access to only the Intermediate key-point videos & webinars: [Purchase here](https://site.corsizio.com/event/6607c274c95a3785ed8b8e72)

• Review the Beginner course key-point videos & webinars (Vol. 1): [Purchase here](https://site.corsizio.com/c/612009e4b2fda2a59fd1f6f6)

## Auditing option

Auditing students follow the course pace, join an SLC, and meet weekly with a tutor, but do not attend Saturday live classes (except the Live Forum), do not submit assignments, and therefore do not receive teacher feedback. Auditors still receive full Moodle access, including class recordings.

## Tuition & financial support

SINI is a non-profit dedicated to preserving Tibetan culture and dharma and building “Bridges of Goodness.” We aim to make this course accessible.

• Sliding-scale tuition (minimum): $350  
• Monastic discount: $225  
• Auditing: $225  
• Payment in monthly installments is possible — email us at

[tibetanatsini@gmail.com](mailto:tibetanatsini@gmail.com)

• Sponsor option ($108): add to your tuition to support other students and program development

## Refund policy

If you withdraw:  
• (Review) Module 1: 55% refund  
• Module 2: 40% refund  
• Module 3: 30% refund  
• Later: no refund

## Why choose Advanced 301?

Advanced 301 blends colloquial Tibetan with core dharma vocabulary in a supportive, joyful environment. With a gentle pace, weekly tutor sessions, SLCs, and thoughtful reflection, you’ll grow into advanced conversation while engaging with the cultural and spiritual heart of Tibetan language.