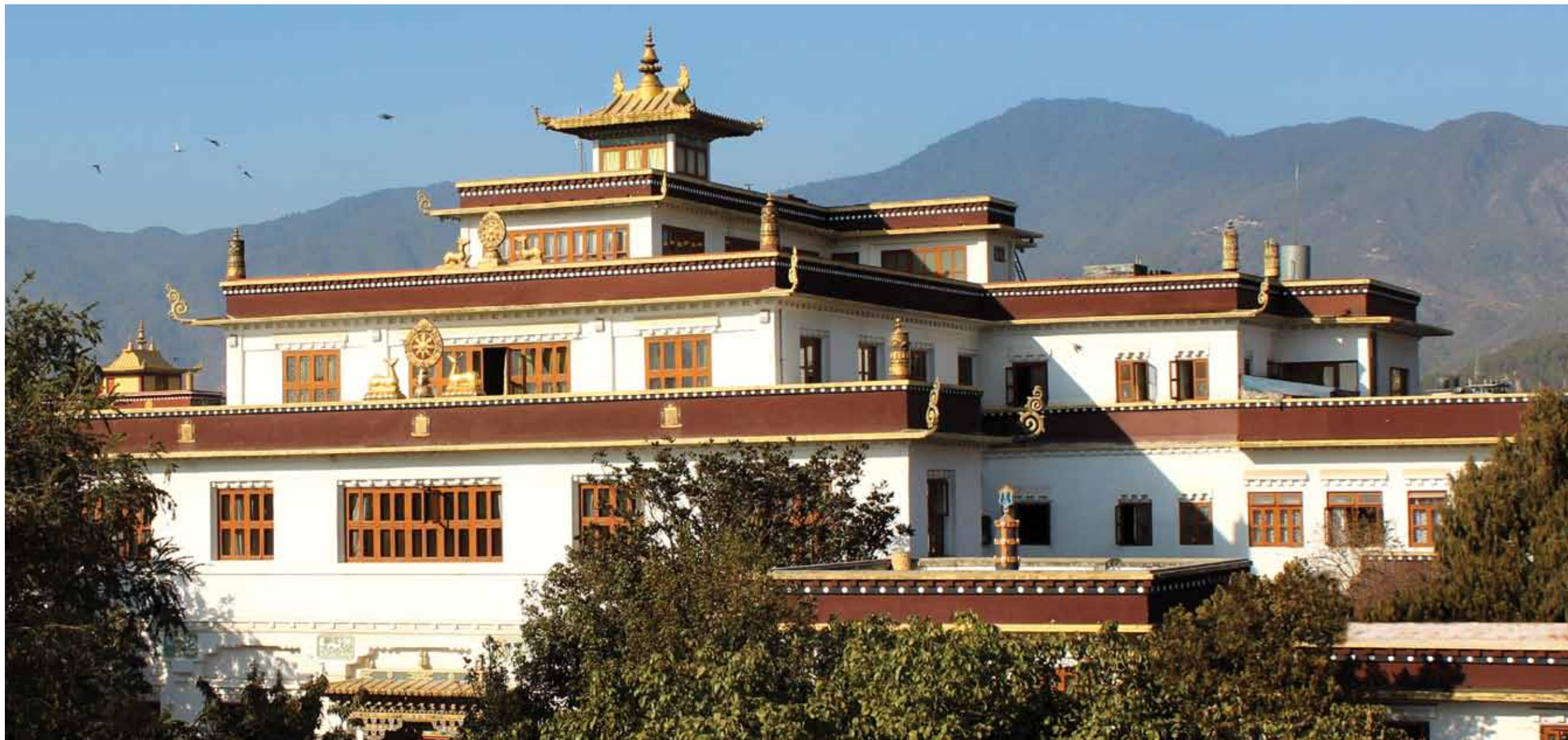


# SUMMER *2018*

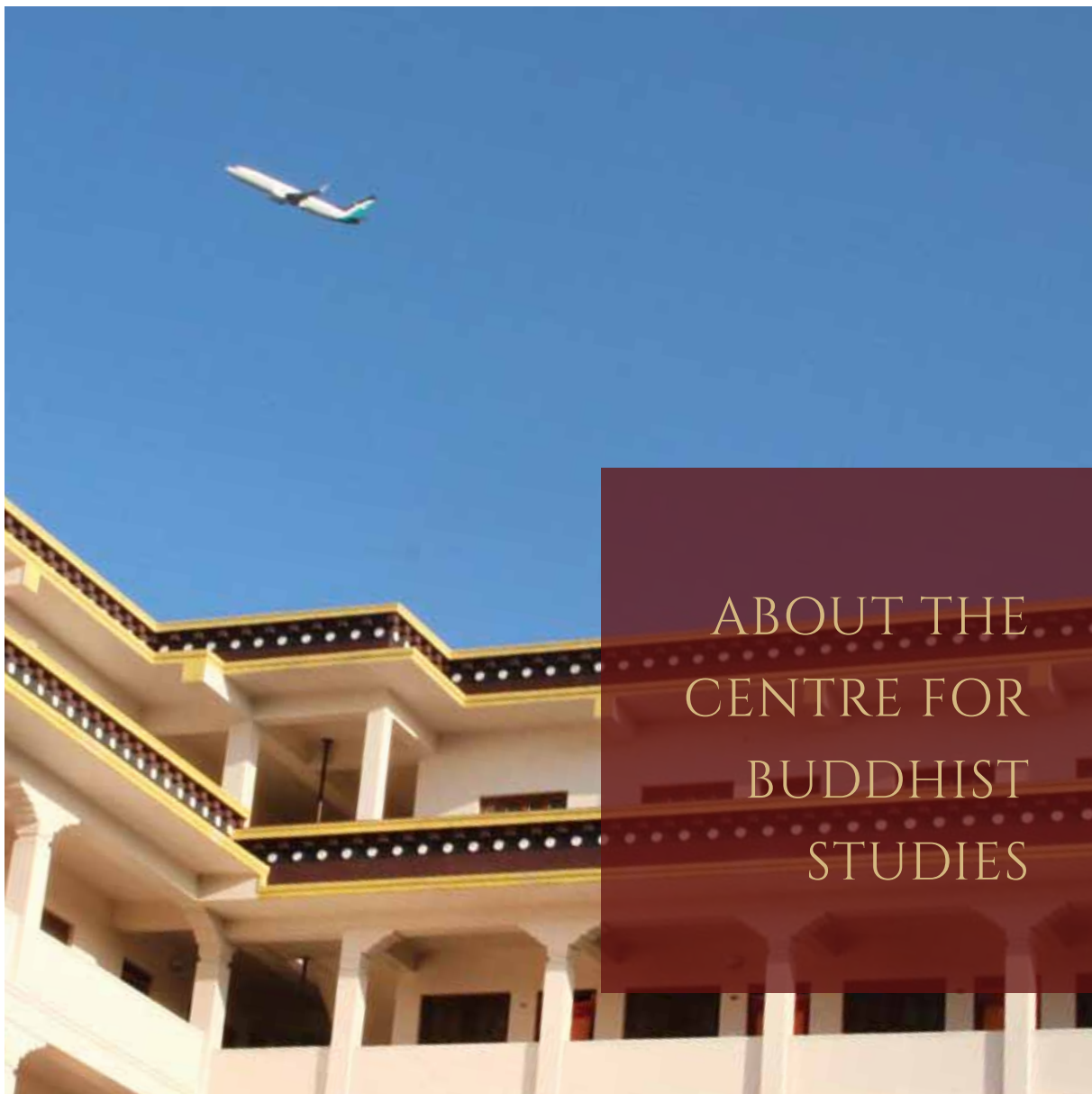


RANGJUNG YESHE INSTITUTE

BOUDHANATH | KATHMANDU | NEPAL



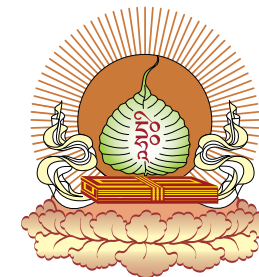




## ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR BUDDHIST STUDIES

Kathmandu University – Centre for Buddhist Studies offers academic programs leading to BA, MA and PhD degrees in Buddhist Studies and provides research facilities for international scholars of Buddhism. The Centre is located at the Rangjung Yeshe Institute of Ka-Nying Shedrub Ling Monastery, just a few minutes walk from the Great Stupa of Boudhanath in the midst of several thriving Buddhist cultures and traditions.

Rangjung Yeshe Institute has conducted seminars and study programs in Nepal for more than twenty years. Today it is among the leading educational



institutions in Asia offering a full range of intensive language courses in Tibetan, Sanskrit and Nepali. A hallmark of the Rangjung Yeshe Institute has been its ability to combine traditional Buddhist monastic learning with crucial aspects of modern academic scholarship in the area of Buddhist philosophy. The faculty at the Centre for Buddhist Studies is comprised of scholars from both of these traditions, thus constituting a unique environment for both advanced learning and direct personal experience.

FOR APPLICATION AND FURTHER INFORMATION:

[www.ryi.org](http://www.ryi.org)



## INTRODUCTION

The Rangjung Yeshe Institute's Centre for Buddhist Studies is pleased to announce its 15th Summer Studies Program offering intensive language training and Buddhist study courses for international students. The spoken language courses offer full immersion into Tibetan and Nepali. Beginning Classical Tibetan helps students begin reading on their own after only a few weeks, while Intermediate Classical Tibetan builds on that foundation to broaden and deepen students' reading ability. Beginning and Intermediate Sanskrit follow the same model, with students learning the basic grammar in the first-year, followed by more in-depth reading and grammar study in Intermediate Sanskrit. The Buddhist Studies course is a living exposure to Buddhist philosophy and a practical introduction to the richness of personal

meditation practice. The Academic English and Advanced Study Methods course prepares non-native English speakers for the rigors of university-level study in English. All summer courses are fully accredited by Kathmandu University. This year we are happy to announce a new summer course, an Advanced Classical Tibetan Seminar where students read selected texts with prominent international scholars who are experts in their fields of study.

Classes are held within the Ka-Nying Shedrub Ling Monastery complex, a few minutes walk from the Great Stupa of Boudhanath in the Kathmandu Valley. The abbot of the monastery, Chökyi Nyima Rinpoche, is the founder of Rangjung Yeshe Institute and he, Chokling Rinpoche, and Phakchok Rinpoche are well-known Buddhist teachers, renowned for their seminars on meditation and philosophy in Nepal and around the world.

Boudhanath is home to many revered teachers and is an important pilgrimage site. Students of the Summer Studies Program have ample opportunity to learn about and immerse themselves in the local Tibetan and Nepalese cultures.

*The Summer Program courses provide a rich and inspiring learning experience:*

Spoken language courses feature daily one-on-one language training with native speakers, including brief excursions with language teachers into Boudhanath to practice conversing with the larger community.

Home-stays with Tibetan and Nepalese families offer full immersion in spoken language studies.

Our faculty consists of both traditionally-trained Tibetan monastic teachers, experienced language teachers, and international instructors trained in modern disciplines, providing an in-depth and multi-faceted learning experience.

# 2018

## COLLOQUIAL TIBETAN

JUNE 13 - AUGUST 10, 2018

BEGINNING | INTERMEDIATE | ADVANCED



The colloquial Tibetan summer courses are designed for scholars and researchers planning to work in Tibetan regions and cultures and for students of Buddhism who wish to engage more deeply with the living tradition. The courses are quite intensive and require considerable time and effort to meet class requirements and academic expectations. Students who successfully complete the summer courses will be well on their way towards a high degree of proficiency in colloquial Tibetan, and, in the case of Advanced Tibetan students, the spoken Dharma language.

### BEGINNING COLLOQUIAL TIBETAN

Ideal for students with no prior study of Tibetan. The course is designed to facilitate and accelerate the study of Tibetan in both its spoken and written forms and offers classroom lectures, one-on-one conversation sessions and drill classes with native Tibetan speakers.

» ACCREDITATION «

**TLAN 120, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Colloquial Tibetan I and II)

The level of intensity of the courses is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements.

### INTERMEDIATE COLLOQUIAL TIBETAN

Designed for students with two semesters of prior study. While continuing to build a firm foundation of colloquial Tibetan grammar, emphasis is placed on developing conversation skills and a rich vocabulary through classroom lectures, one-on-one conversation sessions and drills with native Tibetan speakers.

» ACCREDITATION «

**TLAN 220, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Colloquial Tibetan III and IV)

### ADVANCED TIBETAN CONVERSATIONAL AND DHARMA TIBETAN

Open to students with four semesters or more of prior study, this class is taught in Tibetan. In addition to teaching students the language of everyday usage, Buddhist philosophy is also taught directly in Tibetan by monastic scholars, with opportunities to practice speaking about Buddhist philosophy with native speakers. This prepares students to further pursue the study of philosophy in a traditional Tibetan setting.

» ACCREDITATION «

**TLAN 320, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Colloquial Tibetan V and VI)

### *Housing*

Participants have the option to live with local Tibetan families who have been carefully selected by the Institute. This provides intensive exposure to the Tibetan language and a chance to experience life in the local community. Families provide breakfast and dinner, with lunch being served Monday through Friday at the Institute's restaurant. Students who do not wish to stay with a Tibetan family may opt out of this service and arrange for accommodation, breakfast, and dinner on their own.

### *Admission Criteria*

The Tibetan courses have a maximum enrollment of 20 students each and all applications are subject to approval by the Centre for Buddhist Studies.

Students applying for the Intermediate and Advanced courses must present documentation of prior colloquial Tibetan study at a university or a similarly recognized program. On an as-needed basis, Intermediate and Advanced students may be given a language placement test at the beginning of the course to determine their level, and may then need to move to a higher or lower course.



# 2018 CLASSICAL TIBETAN

JUNE 13 - AUGUST 10, 2018

BEGINNING | INTERMEDIATE | ADVANCED



## BEGINNING CLASSICAL TIBETAN

For students with no prior study of Classical Tibetan. The course is designed for those students who wish to be able to read their own practice texts and for those who want a foundation for reading Buddhist philosophical texts in depth. The course begins with the alphabet, pronunciation, and basic vocabulary and goes on to provide a thorough survey of the grammar of Classical Tibetan while developing students' knowledge of verb tenses, general vocabulary, and Buddhist terminology. Students are then able to apply their knowledge to reading Tibetan texts during and outside of class. The course includes time spent working one-on-one with a Tibetan language partner to practice reading and provide answers to individual questions. Students are exposed to a variety of types of Tibetan Buddhist literature, including indigenous Tibetan texts as well as texts translated from Sanskrit. Students are led through the texts in a detailed manner so that even as beginners, they are able to read and understand the meaning of the texts.

### » ACCREDITATION «

**TLAN 115, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Classical Tibetan I and II)

## INTERMEDIATE CLASSICAL TIBETAN

Open to students with two semesters of prior study of Classical Tibetan. The course assumes familiarity with the fundamentals of Tibetan grammar, including the eight cases and their associated particles, common grammatical structures and verb tenses, and knowledge of Buddhist terms and vocabulary. Students read and translate Buddhist literature during class, with emphasis placed on consolidating and developing further knowledge of grammatical structures and Buddhist terminology. Grammar is explained on the basis of the texts as they are read, and complementary handouts are provided during the course. The course consists of readings from different genres of texts, including indigenous Tibetan philosophical literature as well as texts translated from Sanskrit.

### » ACCREDITATION «

**TLAN 215, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Classical Tibetan III and IV)

The level of intensity of the courses is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements.





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- *New in 2018* -

### ADVANCED TIBETAN SEMINAR

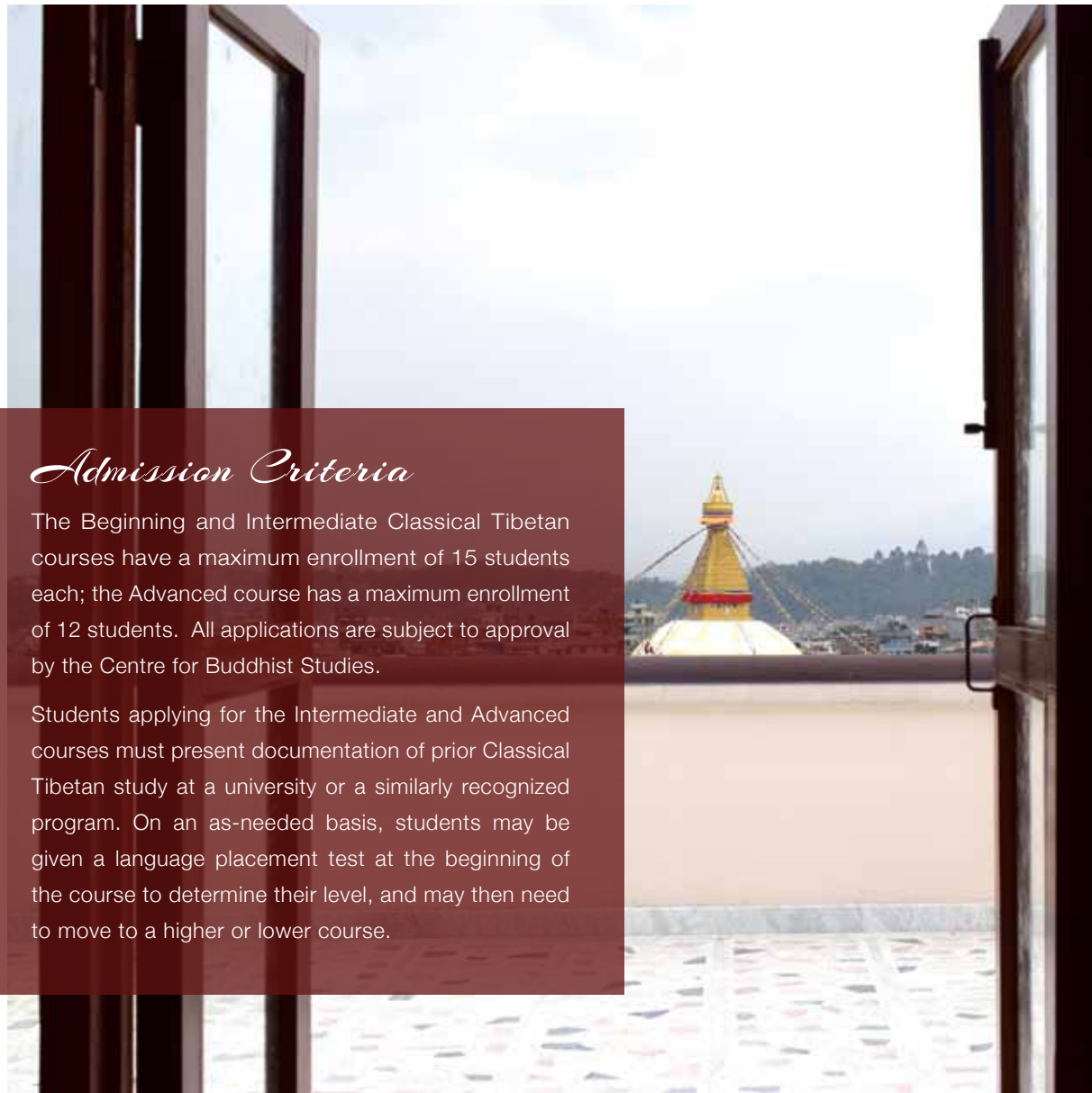
New in 2018, this seminar course is designed for students with superior performance in their prior study of Classical Tibetan and a desire to become proficient in their understanding of Tibetan texts (minimum two years prior study). Students read texts with an internationally renowned scholar who is an expert in the topic at hand, so as to advance their knowledge of both the language and the philosophy, doctrine, or history being studied. The course involves close readings of related Tibetan texts as well as some study and discussion of academic works in English on the topic. The course is designed for those already enrolled in graduate degree programs and is also excellent preparation for those who plan to continue their Tibetan studies at the MA or PhD level. The seminar meets three hours per day, with an additional optional hour available each day that can be used for either one-on-one spoken language classes with RYI's language partners, or for attending a Buddhist text class taught in Tibetan by a Khenpo or Lopon.

» ACCREDITATION «

**RTIB 501, Advanced Readings I, 6 credits**

(BA-level credit may also be available: please inquire.)

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### *Admission Criteria*

The Beginning and Intermediate Classical Tibetan courses have a maximum enrollment of 15 students each; the Advanced course has a maximum enrollment of 12 students. All applications are subject to approval by the Centre for Buddhist Studies.

Students applying for the Intermediate and Advanced courses must present documentation of prior Classical Tibetan study at a university or a similarly recognized program. On an as-needed basis, students may be given a language placement test at the beginning of the course to determine their level, and may then need to move to a higher or lower course.



# 2018 SANSKRIT

JUNE 13 - AUGUST 10, 2018

BEGINNING | INTERMEDIATE



## BEGINNING SANSKRIT

Designed for students with no prior knowledge of Sanskrit, this course provides a rigorous introduction to the fundamentals of the Sanskrit language. The course is approached from two perspectives, the first of which uses academic pedagogy that privileges memorization of nominal and verbal paradigms as well as general grammatical principles, providing a thorough introduction to the fundamentals of Sanskrit grammar. The second approach considers the material from the standpoint of traditional Sanskrit pedagogy, integrating spoken Sanskrit and the memorization of “well-spoken” (*subhaṣita*) verses. Both sections of this course emphasize memorization and students should plan to devote time to memorizing and reviewing on a daily basis. The course provides a thorough grounding in the basics of Sanskrit, and as such provides a strong foundation for the reading of Buddhist Sanskrit literature. In the latter part of the course, the reading of a Sanskrit Buddhist text is used as an efficient way to study grammar in actual application.

» ACCREDITATION «

**SLAN 120, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Sanskrit I and II)

## INTERMEDIATE SANSKRIT

Designed for students with two semesters of prior study, this course increases students' reading proficiency in Sanskrit. Students prepare translations of assigned Sanskrit texts for discussion during class time. When necessary, grammar learned in the introductory course is refreshed and reinforced. The course also helps students develop familiarity with online resources for the translation of Sanskrit. Students should expect to spend a significant amount of time (approximately four to five hours per day) preparing for class. During the eight-week course, students read from a variety of Sanskrit genres (epic, drama, philosophy, inspirational tales, etc.). The choice of texts depends in part upon the interests of the students, and students are encouraged to suggest particular texts they would like to read. Assessment in the intermediate course is based on preparation, participation, quizzes and an exam.

» ACCREDITATION «

**SLAN 220, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Sanskrit III and IV)

The level of intensity of the courses is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements.



## Admission Criteria

The Sanskrit courses have a maximum enrollment of 15 students each and all applications are subject to approval by the Centre for Buddhist Studies.

Students applying for the Intermediate course must present documentation of prior Sanskrit study at a university or a similarly recognized program. Please include a brief note in your application outlining where your introductory course was completed, which textbook was used, and how much of the textbook was covered in your studies.





# 2018 NEPALI

JUNE 13 - AUGUST 10, 2018

BEGINNING | INTERMEDIATE



The colloquial Nepali summer course is designed for both scholars and researchers planning to work in Nepal and for those living in Nepal who wish to communicate directly with the Nepalese people. These courses are quite intensive and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements and academic expectations. Students who successfully complete these courses will be well on their way towards a high degree of proficiency in Nepali.

## BEGINNING NEPALI

Designed for students with no prior study of Nepali. The course quickly immerses students in spoken Nepali, and is an excellent introduction for students and researchers. Study of basic grammatical structures and situational vocabulary helps develop conversational ability as quickly as possible. Students also learn to read and write using the Devanāgarī alphabet. The course features classroom lectures, drill sessions, and daily individual practice sessions with native Nepali speakers.

### » ACCREDITATION «

**NLAN 120, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Nepali I and II)



## INTERMEDIATE NEPALI

Offered for students with two semesters of prior study of Nepali. It is designed to both facilitate and accelerate the study of Nepali for students, researchers, and others working in Nepal. The course allows students to continue learning grammar and develop their reading skills while emphasizing conversational fluency. It also develops the foundation needed for further independent studies, research, and field visits.

### » ACCREDITATION «

**NLAN 220, 6 credits**

(equivalent to Nepali III and IV)

The level of intensity of the courses is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements.

## Housing

As an integral part of the course, participants have the option of living with local Nepalese families who have been carefully selected by the Institute. This provides intensive exposure to the Nepali language and a chance to experience life in the local community. Families provide breakfast and dinner to the students, while lunch is provided Monday through Friday at the Institute's restaurant. Students who do not wish to stay with a Nepalese family may opt out of this service and arrange for accommodation, breakfast, and dinner on their own.

## Admission Criteria

The Nepali courses have a maximum enrollment of 20 students each and all applications are subject to approval by the Centre for Buddhist Studies. Students applying for the Intermediate course must present documentation of prior Nepali study at a university or a similarly recognized program. On an as-needed basis, Intermediate students are given a language placement test at the beginning of the course to determine their course level.

# 2018

## BUDDHIST STUDIES

JUNE 13 - JULY 27, 2018,  
in Boudhanath (6 weeks of class)

JULY 29 – AUGUST 10, 2018,  
at the Asura Cave Retreat Centre  
(2 weeks of retreat)



This course is a full immersion into the theory and practice of Buddhism. In the unique setting of a Buddhist monastery and a traditional retreat center, students are introduced to both classical Buddhist scholarship and meditation training and the modern academic study of Buddhism. In this way, the course offers students firsthand experience with many key aspects of Buddhist training that are otherwise rarely accessible to lay students.

Classes are structured as a combination of traditional Tibetan-style classroom lectures on fundamental Buddhist topics and texts, along with instruction on their practical application through meditation training. Daily meditation sessions are an important aspect of the course and provide a personal perspective on the philosophical content of the lectures. In addition, a western instructor teaches Buddhist philosophy and historical topics to contextualize and elaborate further on the traditional teachings.

During the last two weeks of the course, the course shifts to Ka-Nying Shedrub Ling Monastery's traditional meditation retreat center near Pharping, a picturesque village on the southern rim of the Kathmandu Valley. During this retreat, the main focus of the lectures is on practical meditation instruction,



and a major part of the day is spent in personal contemplation and group meditation practice.

Lectures are delivered in Tibetan by Khenpos and Lopons (senior monastic lecturers) from Ka-Nying Shedrub Ling Monastery, and are translated into English. Teachers and translators are faculty members at the Institute.

» ACCREDITATION «

**TSTD 120, 6 credits**

The level of intensity of the courses is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements.





# 2018 ACADEMIC ENGLISH & ADVANCED STUDY METHODS

JUNE 13 - AUGUST 10, 2018



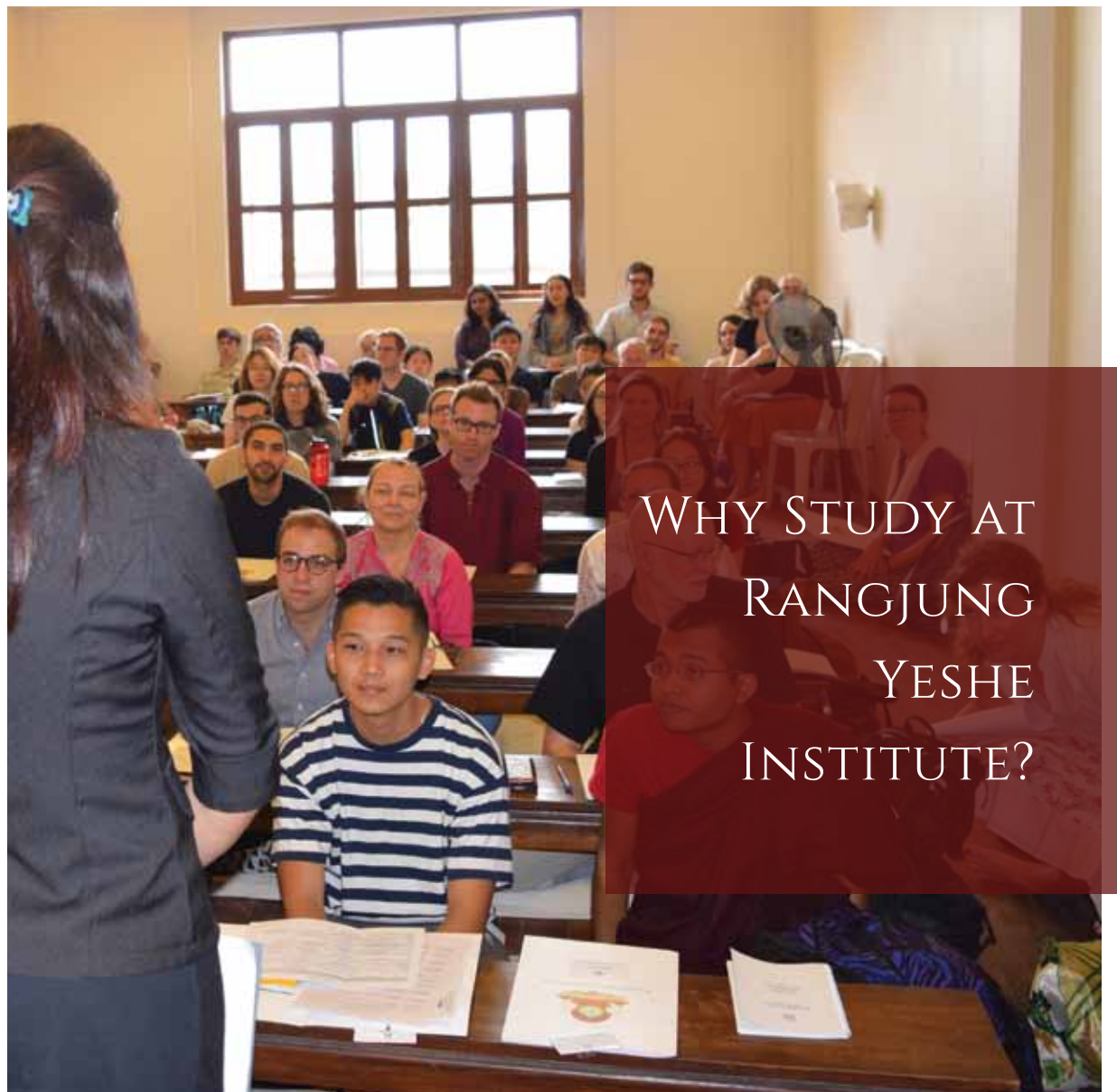
This intensive Academic English and Advanced Study Methods course is designed for students who are not native speakers of English, and provides a rigorous introduction to the academic study methods used in most Western institutions of higher education. The course focuses on several important skills. It begins with foundational reading skills, including learning how to identify an author's thesis in the context of a scholarly article and how to critique the author's arguments, both key steps in learning to engage with academic articles and develop essential critical evaluation skills. Second, students learn to refine their English grammar, particularly as it is used in formal essays, and to increase their academic vocabulary in the humanities. (Note that many of the reading exercises are drawn from the field of Buddhist Studies.) Students will become comfortable using sophisticated terminology and grammatical structures in their writing and will develop the skills necessary to comprehend, interpret, and critique texts.

» ACCREDITATION «

**ELAN 101, 6 credits**

The level of intensity of the courses is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements.





## WHY STUDY AT RANGJUNG YESHE INSTITUTE?

The courses offered at Rangjung Yeshe Institute contain a number of unique elements that provide students with a rich and inspiring learning experience:

- All classes are held in a traditional monastic setting near the Great Stupa of Boudhanath in the Kathmandu Valley.
- Our unique faculty consists of traditionally trained Tibetan monastic teachers, skilled language instructors (including native speakers), and international instructors trained in modern disciplines.
- An extensive orientation program provides a helpful introduction to living in Nepal.
- Courses feature daily one-on-one language training with native speakers.
- Home-stays with Tibetan and Nepalese families offer full immersion in language studies.
- Living in the middle of a thriving Nepalese and Tibetan community provides cultural insight.
- Academic credit for all courses at the Centre for Buddhist Studies is transferable through Kathmandu University.



### OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AND SERVICES:

- Many opportunities exist to meet and receive teachings from resident Lamas.
- Facilitated excursions to sites of ancient cultural significance in and around the historic Kathmandu Valley are offered.
- Efficient and professional medical referral system is available.
- Connections are available to local trekking, rafting and sight-seeing companies.







KATHMANDU UNIVERSITY

CENTRE FOR BUDDHIST STUDIES  
AT RANGJUNG YESHE INSTITUTE

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