

# **Academic English and Advanced Study Methods Summer Intensive**

June 6 to August 4, 2017

Includes 8 weeks of classes plus 4 days of Orientation

The Centre for Buddhist Studies at Rangjung Yeshe Institute is pleased to offer a summer of intensive Academic English and Study Methods training for international and local students. Classes are held Mondays through Fridays, and although the course is quite intensive, weekends are generally left for students to explore the Kathmandu Valley and mingle with the local Tibetan and Nepali community of Boudhanath. Also, several times throughout the program, the Centre for Buddhist Studies will arrange guided tours of major cultural sites of the Valley.

Instructors at the program are international faculty and Tibetan teachers from the Centre for Buddhist Studies.

## **The Academic Program**

This summer intensive is offered for not native speakers of English and is ideal for 10+2 graduates who want to prepare for international university programs in humanities. It provides a rigorous introduction to the academic study methods used in most Western institutions of higher education.

The course focuses on several important skills: first, 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. Secondly, students will refine their English grammar, particularly as it is used in formal essays and will increase their academic vocabulary in the humanities, with many of the reading exercises drawn from the field of Buddhist Studies.

Students will be given weekly quizzes to consolidate their knowledge. However the emphasis will be on giving them the opportunity to use their new skills in the context of regular short writing assignments. Class time and course work is directly related to the course objectives, and will consist in lectures and discussions, reading and writing. Students must understand that their work outside of class time is as important as their presence in class, as class activities are designed in relation to their work outside of class.

In addition to satisfactory grades, students must maintain an attendance rate of 80% throughout the course in order to pass. The level of intensity of the program is high and students are expected to invest considerable time and effort in order to meet class requirements and academic expectations. That said, any student who successfully completes this course will become comfortable with using sophisticated terminology and grammatical structures in their

writing and will develop the skills necessary to comprehend, interpret and critique texts. Students who complete the course receive academic credit at the Centre for Buddhist Studies for Academic English and Advanced Study Methods ELAN 101 (6 credits total).

### **Additional Features and Services**

- Orientation program with introduction to Nepal
- All classes are held in a traditional monastic setting near the Boudhanath Stupa
- Opportunities to meet and receive teachings from resident Buddhist teachers
- Cultural visits to ancient sites of the Kathmandu Valley
- Efficient medical referral system
- Access to the full facilities of the CBS campus including wireless Internet access at selected campus locations, assistance from our full-time Student Services Coordinator, and on-site library facilities.
- Good links to local trekking, rafting and sight-seeing companies

### **Price**

Price includes tuition, lunch at the Institute's restaurant on school days, and tours.

### **Admission Criteria**

The Academic English and Advanced Study Methods course has a maximum enrollment of 20 students and all applications are subject to approval by the Centre for Buddhist Studies.

Candidates who have completed Higher Secondary School (10+2) are eligible to apply for the program and should visit the Admissions Section of this website before applying. Applicants whose previous education was not in English in an English speaking country should submit documentation establishing their English language proficiency. For international students an official English test is required for application. Local Nepalese and Tibetan students should plan to take an English language proficiency exam at the RYI office. [Check the dates!](#)

### **Application**

To apply for the program, fill in the application form found at the registration page of this website.

### **Course Description**

This course focuses on developing the students' proficiency in four main areas.

First, they will learn foundational reading skills: (1). How to identify an author's thesis in the context of a scholarly article and (2). How to critique the author's arguments. These are the first steps in learning to engage with academic articles and in developing essential critical evaluation skills. In addition, Students will: (3). Refine their English grammar, particularly as it is used in formal essays and (4). Increase their academic and Buddhist studies vocabulary, with particular focus on how to use new terms in their own writing. Students will be given weekly quizzes to consolidate their knowledge. However the emphasis will be on giving them the opportunity to use their new skills in the context of regular short writing assignments.

### **Course Materials**

Course Reader (Available in the office)