

**Asian Civilization: East Asian V2365**  
**Introduction to Asian Civilization: Tibet**  
**Columbia University**  
**Fall 2014**

**Time:** TR 11:40am-12:55pm **Location:** 428 Pupin Laboratories

**Course Instructor:** Gray Tuttle

**Office:** 913 IAB (Int'l Affairs Building)

**Office hours:** Tuesday 1-2pm and by appointment

**Phone:** 212-854-4096 **Email** [gwt2102@columbia.edu](mailto:gwt2102@columbia.edu)

**Teaching Assistants/ Email:**

Tristan Brown [tgbrown2108@columbia.edu](mailto:tgbrown2108@columbia.edu)

Sayantani Mukherjee [sm3870@columbia.edu](mailto:sm3870@columbia.edu)

Sonam Tsering: [st2855@columbia.edu](mailto:st2855@columbia.edu)

**Sections:**

Tristan Brown; Thursday 1:10pm-2:00pm

Sonam Tsering; Thursday 1:10pm-2:00pm

Tristan Brown; Thursday 2:10pm-3:00pm

Sonam Tsering; Thursday 2:10pm-3:00pm

Sayantani Mukherjee; Thursday 5:10-6pm

Sayantani Mukherjee; Thursday 6:10-7pm

Course Description:

This course seeks to introduce the sweep of Tibetan civilization and its history from its earliest recorded origins to the present. To do this, we must answer two questions: "What is Tibet?" and "What is a civilization?" Currently, cultural Tibet is a much larger entity than typically understood, covering an area the size of Western Europe. The Tibetan civilization, as a cultural formation that is capable of transforming other cultures, is also a much broader phenomenon than typically recognized. At its greatest extent, Tibetan civilization dominated much of inland Asia, extending into parts of Iran and the Middle East following the Mongol invasions, west to the Volga and north to Siberia (again among modern Mongols), and east to Beijing. Following the Tibetan diaspora in the 1950s, Tibetan civilization has become a global phenomenon.

We will consider what makes Tibetan civilization distinctive. The course examines what civilizational forces shaped Tibet, especially the contributions of Indian Buddhism, sciences and literature, but also Chinese statecraft and sciences and, less significant, Persian influences. Elements of all these neighboring civilizations combined with existing elements of Tibetan traditions to form what we now call Tibetan civilization. Tibetan Buddhism is a central element of Tibetan civilization and has shaped the politics, economy, national identity, education, and society of Tibet (and sometimes neighboring regions as

well). Alongside the chronological history of Tibet, we will explore aspects of social life and culture. Thematic topics, such as the economy and material culture, structures of power (clan and family, social, religious and gender hierarchies), legal codes and intellectual / artistic developments will be examined in each chronological period. The religious life of Tibet will be central to our study: the various schools of Tibetan Buddhism and Bön, the arts and sciences (including medicine, dance, music, and fine arts), religious practices (pilgrimage, meditation, scholastic debate, popular devotions) and literature (canons, biography, poetry, history, liturgy, etc.). The course will include sessions on contemporary Tibetan culture, social issues, and ecological concerns.

### **Requirements:**

1) **Attendance, participation and weekly posting of paragraph** (20 to 25 lines) (15%). Post online (courseworks: discussion tab) in response to one of the weekly study questions or to other questions you raise about the readings. Posting must be submitted by 5pm on the day preceding your discussion section.

2) **Map Quiz** (In class during Week 3) and **Map Contribution** (due week 4) --(5%)

3) **Midterm Primary Source Essay** (4-5 pages double spaced): Essays should compare 2 primary sources, and address one of the assigned questions circulated in class. Due by 1 pm on Friday 10/16 (20%)

4) **Field trip** (10%)

There will be one required field trip during the semester. Students should visit the Rubin Museum of Art and write a 3 page response paper addressing questions that will be posted in advance. Field trip response papers are due by 10/23.

5) **Object Biography** (3 parts 25% total):

Students will explore Tibetan material culture (paintings, statues, utensils, ritual items, household furnishings, weapons, trade items etc) through the course's online database of images.

Part I – ‘Treasure Hunt’: Students will browse the Tibetan material culture database developed for this course and find/describe a collection of assigned items reflecting course themes. Due 11/6 at 1pm (5%)

Part II - Essay Rough draft: Students will investigate and write an essay about one object of their choice. Essays must relate chosen object to course themes and to at least one primary source assigned for the class. Rough draft due 11/27 at 1 pm (10%)

Part III - Essay final version due 12/8 at 1 pm (10%)

4) **Final exam** (IDs & essay questions)/**paper/project TBA** With instructor's permission, a research paper (12-15 pages) may replace exam. In addition, in place of the final exam, students can contribute wikisolar "module" to a website on Tibetan Civilization.

The details of what would constitute a module would be worked out in consultation with your TA and/or the professor. The idea is to allow you to explore a topic of interest to you (within a range of materials that are available) that would be linked to a larger website on Tibetan Civilization. In particular, this semester presents opportunities to explore contemporary Tibetan art, several genres and types of film (in fiction and documentary, Tibetan and non-Tibetan made), Tibetan sites (stores, dharma centers, restaurants, etc) in NYC, the Tibetan community in NYC (the largest outside Asia), Tibetan material culture (in conjunction with the Rubin Museum of Art's conference on the subject), and many more possibilities. This assignment would require substantial research and development before the end of the semester, so discussion with your TA or the professor would be required by the mid-term to assess whether the appropriate project can be found. (25%)

### **Required Reading Available at Book Culture**

(Copies of these are also on reserve in Starr East Asian Library, Kent Hall)

READER: Gray Tuttle, Kurtis Schaeffer, eds. *The Tibetan History Reader*.

SOURCES: Kurtis Schaeffer, Matthew Kapstein, Gray Tuttle, eds *Sources of Tibetan Tradition*. Kapstein, Matthew. *The Tibetans*.

Schaeffer, Kurtis. *Himalayan Hermitess: The Life of a Tibetan Buddhist Nun*.

Shabkar Tsogdruk Rangdrol; *The life of Shabkar: the autobiography of a Tibetan yogin*.

Highly recommended: Ryavec, Karl E. *A Historical Atlas of Tibet*. 2015.

Additional readings on the **Courseworks** site: [www.courseworks.columbia.edu](http://www.courseworks.columbia.edu)

### **Academic Integrity**

This course is taught in the spirit of the guidelines for academic integrity at Columbia. We expect all work to be the original work of the student her or himself. Papers may be discussed with other members of the class but may not be copied in any part from the work of anyone else, including from printed or Internet sources.

Students are expected to do their own work on all tests and assignments for this class and act in accordance with the [Faculty Statement on Academic Integrity](#) and [Honor Code](#) established by the students of Columbia. Because any academic integrity violation undermines our intellectual community, students found to have cheated, plagiarized, or committed any other act of academic dishonesty can expect to receive a zero for the work in question and may be referred to the Dean's Discipline process. It is students' responsibility to ensure their work maintains the standards expected and should you have any questions or concerns regarding your work, you can: a) Talk with your TA; b) Ask the instructor; c) Refer to the [Columbia University Undergraduate Guide to Academic Integrity](#).

### **Disability Support**

Students with disabilities who will be taking this course and may need disability-related classroom accommodations are encouraged to see the instructors as soon as possible. Also, stop by the Office of Disability Services to register for support services.

## Week 1

### **(9/8) Introduction to Class Themes & Tibetan Civilization**

When you have a chance read the comparative paper about people from Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic (WEIRD) societies, to gain some perspective: Henrich, J., Heine, S. & Norenzayan, A. (2010) "The Weirdest People in the World?" *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.

### **(9/10) Introduction to Tibet (Narratives, Regions and Issues)**

#### **Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, Chapter 1 "The Vessel and Its Contents" (pp. 1-26)
- 2) READER: Ch1 Mark Aldenderfer and Zhang Yinong. "The Prehistory of the Tibetan Plateau to the Seventh Century A.D." pp. 3-10.
- 3) COURSEWORKS: Tsering Shakya, "Whither the Tsampa Eaters?" (4 pp); Elliot Sperling, "Exile and Dissent: The Historical and Cultural Context," in *Tibet since 1950* (pp. 30-37)

## Week 2

### **(9/15) Contemporary Issues (Recent Background to Contemporary Protests)**

#### **Readings:**

- 1) "Rights Report Faults Mass Relocation of Tibetans" New York Times, June 2013.
- 2) Charlene Makley, "[Ballooning Unrest](#): Tibet, State Violence and the Incredible Lightness of Knowledge," in *China in 2008: a Year of Great Significance*, Kate Merkel-Hess, Kenneth L. Pommeranz, and Jeffrey Wasserstrom, eds, Routledge. 12pp.
- 3) Barnett, R. 2009. "The Tibet Protests of Spring 2008: Conflict between the Nation and the State." *China Perspectives* 3: 6-23
- 4) Please visit <http://culanth.org/fieldsights/93-self-immolation-as-protest-in-tibet> McGranahan, Carole and Litzinger, Ralph, eds. "Self-Immolation as Protest in Tibet." *Fieldsights - Hot Spots, Cultural Anthropology Online*, April 09, 2012. This is the site for the special online edition of the journal *Cultural Anthropology* on the on-going Tibetan self-immolations. Assignment: Please read the article "Transforming the Language of Protest" by Tsering Shakya, and "Mourning Online" by Dechen Pemba. The article "The Information Gauntlet" by Lozang Gyatso discusses some issues connected to media coverage. There are additional essays on the response of the Tibetan Government in Exile, and on the regional distribution of the immolations. You may also want to browse the rest of the issue (be aware there are some graphic / upsetting images in some articles), or Charlen Makley's most recent article on the subject: <http://www.culanth.org/articles/784-the-sociopolitical-lives-of-dead-bodies-tibetan>

**(9/17) Myths of Early Tibet & Rise of Imperial Tibet 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>c.**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, Ch2 "Pre-history & Early Legends" (pp. 27-50); CH 3: Introduction & "The Rise of the Tibetan Empire" (pp.51-63)
- 2) READER: Ch2 Bryan Cuevas. "Some Reflections on the Periodization of Tibetan History" (Appendices Only) & CH3 Peter Schwieger. "History as Myth: On the Appropriation of the Past in Tibetan Culture." pp. 56-85.
- 3) SOURCES: "Tang Annals on Tibet," pp. 6-13; "Imperial Records from Dunhuang," pp. 36-51; "The Stele of Takdra Lukhong," pp. 57-60.

**Week 3 (Assignment in class: Map Quiz)**

**(9/22) Introduction of Buddhism (India, China) 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> centuries**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH3: "Later Monarchs and the Promotion of Buddhism" (pp. 63-77) & CH7: "Buddhist Basics" (215-218)
- 2) SOURCES: "The Tang Annals on Tibet," pp. 13-16, "Imperial Edicts," pp. 60-76, "Early Religion and the Beginnings of Buddhism," pp. 126-163.

**(9/24) Zenith & Decline of Imperial Tibet (War & Peace w. Tang China) 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> c.**

**Readings :**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH3 "The Empire's Implosion" (pp. 77-83)
- 2) READER: CH6 Fang Kuei Li and W. South Coblin. "The Context of Old Tibetan Inscriptions" & CH7 Christopher Beckwith. "The Tibetans in the Ordos and North China: Considerations on the Role of the Tibetan Empire in World History." pp. 123-141.
- 3) SOURCES: "The Tang Annals on Tibet," pp. 16-24; "Imperial Records from Dunhuang," pp. 51-56; "The Chinese-Tibetan Treaty," pp. 76-78, "Foreign Contacts & Medical Traditions," pp. 95-118.
- 4) COURSEWORKS (Optional): On Topic of Early Tibetan Female Figures: Helga Uebach, "[Ladies of the Tibetan Empire](#)," In *Women in Tibet*, Janet Gyatso and Hanna Havnevik, eds.
- 5) Useful Website: <http://earlytibet.com>

**Map Contribution (due 9/28)**

**Week 4**

**(9/29) Revival of Buddhism at Tibet's Margins, Return to Center**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, Chapter 4: Introduction & "Dynastic Successors & Gugé Kingdom" (pp. 84-95)
- 2) SOURCES: "Renewal and Rediscovery," pp. 167-188.  
(see also, optional reading on following page)

OPTIONAL: READER: Ch8 Tsotumo Iwasaki, "The Tibetan Tribes of Hexi and Buddhism during the Northern Song Period."

**(10/1) Renaissance Tibet 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> c.**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, Ch 4: "The Buddhist Renaissance" pp. 95-109; Ch 7: "Monastic Institutions and Education" & "Tantrism and Yoga" pp. 219-231.
- 2) READER: CH 11 R. A. Stein. "The Evolution of Monastic Power," pp. 196-207.
- 3) SOURCES: Ch 9 "The Development of the Medical Tradition," pp. 278-298.

**Week 5**

**(10/6) "New" Schools of Tibetan Buddhism (Kadam, Sakya, Kagyü, Bön)**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH7, "Major Orders and Schools" (pp. 231-237)
- 2) READER: Ch 10. Per Kvaerne. "The Bön Religion of Tibet." pp. 183-195
- 3) SOURCES: Ch 7 "The Proliferation of New Lineages," pp. 189-230 & Ch 8 "The Bön Tradition," pp. 251-266.

**(10/8) Narratives and Myths about Tibetan Empire**

**Readings:**

- 1) READER: CH4. Matthew Kapstein, "Remarks on the Mani Kabum and the Cult of Avalokiteśvara in Tibet," 89-107
- 2) SOURCES: "Law and State in Imperial Tibet," pp. 92-95; "Elaborating the Narratives of Tibetan Antiquity," 301-325.
- 3) COURSEWORKS: Gyatso, Janet, "Down With the Demoness: Reflections on a Feminine Ground in Tibet" in *Feminine Ground*, (pp. 33-51)

**Week 6**

**(10/13) Tibet under the Mongols 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> c & Ming Relations**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, Ch4: "Mongols and Tibetan Buddhists" (pp. 110-116) & "Tibetan Buddhism and the Ming Court" (pp. 116-126)
- 2) READER: Part 4, "Lamas and Patrons," Ch12 Ruegg pp. 211-232, and CH 14 Jackson, pp. 241-246; Ch18 Elliot Sperling, "The He Clan of Hezhou: A Tibetan Family in Service to the Yuan and Ming Dynasties." pp. 301-313
- 3) SOURCES: "Mongol Domination and the Yuan Dynasty," 328-337.

**(10/15) Era of Aristocratic Hegemonies (Struggles over Central Tibet) 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> c.**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, Ch4 section: "The Successive Hegemonies," (pp. 116-123).
- 2) READER: Ch15 Luciano Petech. "The Rise of the Pakmodru Dynasty," Ch16 Turrell V. Wylie. "Monastic Patronage in 15th century Tibet," pp. 249-277.
- 3) SOURCES: "The Pakmodru Hegemony," & "Regional Regimes," pp. 345-367.

**Week 7** (Mid-term essay due by 1 pm on Friday October 16)

**(10/20) Intellectual Developments I: Biographies & Religious Literary Texts**

**Readings:**

- 1) COURSEWORKS: Diemberger, *When A Woman Becomes A Religious Dynasty*, "Translation of the Biography of the Venerable Chokyi Dronma, the Third Reincarnation of the Wisdom Dakini Sonam Dren" pp. 151-195; skim 224-236 (specifically, look for the references to Tsongkhapa, Tangtong Gyalpo, and various local rulers in this part of Chokyi Dronma's biography). As you read this primary source, please focus on the roles of women characters in the text, and on references to Bön, to local rulers / power arrangements, and to famous religious leaders Chokyi Dronma meets. Also read these selections from "Succession and Spiritual Lineages" (pp. 239-246, 264-266).
- 2) SOURCES: "Literary Developments: Life of Milarepa," pp. 437-445, "Growth of the Arts and Sciences," pp. 468-480.

**(10/22) Civil War in Central Tibet and the Rise of the Gelukpa**

**Guest lecturer: Sonam Tsering**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH5: Introduction & "Monastics and Monarchs" (pp.127-139), & CH6 "Government and Law" (188-194)
- 2) READER: Ch17 Guiseppe Tucci, "Central Tibetan Conflict in the 16th Century," pp. 278-300; Ch20 Leonard van der Kuijp, "The Dalai Lamas and the Origins of Reincarnate Lamas," pp. 335-347.
- 3) SOURCES: "The Beginnings of the Gandenpa School," pp. 507-530; (Optional: "Writings on Death and Dying," pp. 446-467.)

**(Field trip response papers are due by October 23)**

## Week 8

### **(10/27) Rule by the Dalai Lamas: Zenith and Decline of Reunited Tibet 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> c.**

#### **Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, Ch5 "Between the Mongols and Manchus" (pp. 140-146)
- 2) READER: Ch21. Kurtis Schaeffer, "The Fifth Dalai Lama," Ch22. Janet Gyatso, "Experience, Empiricism, and the Fortunes of Authority: Tibetan Medicine and Buddhism on the Eve of Modernity," pp. 348-385.
- 3) SOURCES: "The Fifth Dalai Lama and the Ganden Government," pp. 531-555
- 4) COURSEWORKS: (Optional) José Cabezon, "Islam in the Tibetan Cultural Sphere"  
OPTIONAL: READER Ch26 Luce Boulnois, "Gold, Wool and Musk: Trade in Lhasa in the Seventeenth Century," pp. 457-476.

### **(10/29) Manchu Protectorate of Tibet (Tibet Divided) 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> c.**

#### **Guest Lecturer: Tristan Brown**

#### **Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH 5 "Between the Mongols and Manchus" (pp. 146-155), "Regency and Retreat" (pp. 155-164); CH6 Introduction & "Property, Economy and Social Class" (p. 175-188)
- 2) READER: Ch23 Luciano Petech, "The Administration of Tibet during the First Half-Century of Chinese Protectorate," pp. 389-410; Ch27 Melvyn C. Goldstein, "The Circulation of Estates in Tibet: Reincarnation, Land and Politics," pp. 477-490.
- 3) SOURCES: Ch18 "Aristocrats, Monks, and Hermits," pp. 556-572.  
OPTIONAL: Ch25 Luciano Petech, "Aristocracy and Government in Tibet: 1728-1959." pp. 437-453.

## Week 9

**(11/3) Election Day – No class.**

### **(11/5) Intellectual and Monastery Growth in Eastern Tibet**

#### **Guest Lecturer: Sonam Tsering**

#### **Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH5: "Cultural Developments in Eastern Tibet"(pp. 164-168);
- 2) READER: Ch19 Samten Karmay, "Bön in Central and Eastern Tibet," pp. 314-332; Ch30 Paul Nietupski, "Labrang: A Tibetan Buddhist Monastery at the Crossroads of Four Civilizations," pp. 549-558.
- 3) SOURCES: "Growth of the Gelukpa Order in the East," pp. 585-600; "Intersections with Mongolia and China," & "Intimations of the West," 633-644 "Spiritual Songs of Kelden Gyatso," pp. 659-664.



**Week 10 (Object Biography "Treasure Hunt" due November 6 at 1pm)**

**(11/10) An Exemplary Woman's Life in 18<sup>th</sup> c. Himalayas**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH6 "Marriage & Kinship" (194-199), "Women in Traditional Tibet" (199-204)
- 2) Kurtis Schaeffer, *Himalayan Hermitess: The Life of a Tibetan Buddhist Nun*, 2004. skim the intro sections pp. 15-45, 91-127, read in full the translation 131-184.

**(11/12) An Exemplary Man's Life in 19<sup>th</sup> c. Amdo**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH6 "Festivals, Pilgrimages, and Ritual Cycles" (pp. 237-243)
- 2) Shabkar Tsogdruk Rangdrol; Matthieu Ricard, Constance Wilkinson, and Michal Abrams, trans. *The life of Shabkar: the autobiography of a Tibetan yogin*, 1994. From translator's introduction: xviii-xxiv; Chs1-4: 1-64; Ch8: 179-204. [Note that much of this is verse, which can be skimmed, and notes to the sections.]

**Week 11**

**(11/17) Pilgrimage & Trade, Khampa Politics and Religion, 19<sup>th</sup> c**

**Readings:**

- 1) READER: Ch28 Wim van Spengen, "The Geo-History of Long-Distance Trade in Tibet 1850-1950," pp. 491-522; Ch29 Laurant Hartley, "The Kingdom of Dergé," pp. 525-548.
- 2) SOURCES: "Religious Leaders in Kham," pp. 673-677.
- 3) Shabkar Tsogdruk Rangdrol; Matthieu Ricard, Constance Wilkinson, and Michal Abrams, trans. *The life of Shabkar: the autobiography of a Tibetan yogin*, 349-368, 477-490. [Note that much of this is verse, which can be skimmed, or notes to the sections.]

**(11/19) Global Contacts & Tibetan Independence Early 20<sup>th</sup> century**

**Guest Lecturer: Sayantani Mukherjee**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH5: "The Life and Times of the Great Thirteenth" (to 1911) (pp. 168-174), CH9 Introduction & "The End of Traditional Tibet" (pp. 269-282)
- 2) READER: Ch31 Gray Tuttle, "Uniting Religion and Politics in a Bid for Autonomy: Lamas in Exile in China and America," pp. 561-583.
- 3) SOURCES: Part 5, "Expanding Horizons in the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century," pp. 703-714, 719-728, 740-755.

## Week 12

**(11/24) Tibetan Loss of Independence, Rebellion and Cultural Revolution Mid-20<sup>th</sup> c.**

**Guest Lecturer: Tristan Brown**

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH9 "Rebellion & Exile" (pp. 282-290)
- 2) READER: Ch33. Tsering Shakya, "The Genesis of the Sino-Tibetan Agreement of 1951," pp. 609-631.
- 3) COURSEWORKS:
  - a. Selections from Thupten Khétsang, *Memories of Life in Lhasa Under Chinese Rule*, pp. 1-40, 54-8, 167-191, 219-224
  - b. OPTIONAL: Goldstein, "[Moving Beyond Stereotypes](#)" (pp. 217-226)

**(11/26) Thanksgiving – No class**

## Week 13 (Object biography rough draft due November 27 at 1 pm)

**(12/1) Tibetan Ritual, Folk and Popular Music –**

Special Guest performer: Michael Monhart

**Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, Ch. 8 "The Sites of Knowledge" pp. 244-268 (25pp)
- 2) COURSEWORKS:
  - a. Pema Tsetan, "Gang," (short story), unpublished (please do not share)
  - b. Gyatso, Janet "In the Sacred Realm" from *From the Sacred Realm* pp. 171-179 (9pp)
  - c. *Tales of the golden corpse: Tibetan folk tales*, retold by Sandra Benson pp. 13-29 (17pp)
  - d. *Gesar Epic* by Robin Kornam, pp. 574-593 (20pp)
  - e. Stearns, Cyrus, *King of the Empty Plain*, Snow Lion, 2007, "Introduction: Madman of the Empty Valley" [which includes primary sources embedded] pp.58-80. Notes for the article pp. 488-490. Skim entire PDF, and read attentively primary source passages [note: images embedded. Note that this figure, Tangtong Gyalpo, was one of Chokyi Dronma's teachers/colleagues.]
  - f. Optional Reading for Context: Kun mchog dge legs, Dpal ldan brka shis, Kevin Stuart. "Tibetan Tricksters." *Asian Folklore Studies*. 58:1 (1999) 5-30. (26pp)

### **(12/3) *Writing Modern Tibet***

Special Guest: Lauran Hartley, Ph.D. Starr East Asian Library, Tibetan studies

#### **Readings:**

#### **Courseworks (bundled as single PDF):**

- 1) Lauren Hartley, "Introduction." from *Modern Tibetan Literature*
- 2) Dondrup Gyal, "Waterfall of Youth" (poem)
- 3) Ju Kalzang, "Tibet, Mother, Mani" (poem)
- 4) Tsering Wangmo Dhompa, "Member" and "Body..."
- 5) Woesser, "Tibet's True Heart"
- 6) Yangtso Kyi, "Journal of the Grassland"

Materials on Modern Tibetan Art: Please look at works by the artists Gonkar Gyatso, Tsering Nyandak and Gade in particular. You might want to compare the works by artists living in Tibet and artists living in exile. (These works are grouped in two different sections of the site, since artists inside Tibet have no formal affiliation with the site: [http://www.mechakgallery.com/main\\_page.html](http://www.mechakgallery.com/main_page.html))

### **Week 14**

### **(12/8) *Tibetan Ecology, Economy and Other Challenges***

#### **Readings on Courseworks:**

- 1) *Time Magazine* 12/14/09 "A River Ran Through It" (5pp)
- 2) Emily Yeh, 2005. "Green governmentality and pastoralism in western China: 'Converting pastures to Grasslands'" *Nomadic Peoples*. 9(1): 9-30.
- 3) "Tibet's Environment and Development Issues," Tibetan Government in Exile White paper. <http://www.tibet.net/en/index.php?id=85&rmenuid=11>
- 4) "II. Tibet's Modernization Achievements" in PRC State Council White Paper: "Tibet's March Toward Modernization," Nov. 2001. <http://www.china.org.cn/e-white/20011108/3.htm>
- 5) Fischer, Andrew. "The Political Economy of Boomerang Aid in China's Tibet." *China Perspectives*. (2009:3) 38-54.

In class video presentation (please take notes as we will be discussing this video): "Shielding the Mountains" 2010, Produced and written by Emily Yeh; directed by Kunga Lama.

### **(12/10) *Conclusions: Tibet Today***

#### **Readings:**

- 1) Kapstein, *The Tibetans*, CH9: "The Promise & Perils of Century's End" (pp. 290-300)

#### **Readings on Courseworks:**

- 2) Kolas & Thowsen, *On the Margins of Tibet*, "In Search of Tibetan Culture" & Conclusion (pp. 132-152; 172-181)

3) <http://www.dalailama.com> (official website of His Holiness the Dalai Lama)

Under “Messages & Speeches” scroll down and read:

The entire “Middle Way Approach” section

The Tibet Issue section’s parts:

- 5 point peace plan
- Strasbourg Proposal 2001
- An Appeal to the Chinese People
- Statement of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to all Tibetans

**Object biography essay final version due December 11 at 1 pm**

**Final Exam/paper/project due TBA**