

# 2007 Tibetan Language Institute Summer Seminar Arlee, Montana



## Transform Your Relationship with the Dharma Experience the Joy of Learning to Read Prayers and Texts in Tibetan

Tibetan language study as presented by TLI is accessible, enjoyable and immediately rewarding. The language of Tibet is one of the world's richest cultural legacies, offering direct access to a centuries-old civilization and Buddhist wisdom traditions transmitted down to the present day. Learning Tibetan will prove especially valuable to students of Tibetan Buddhism—it enhances Dharma study, allowing for expanded participation in teachings and traditional practices. Join us for three weeks of great fun and learning!

**“Knowing even a little Tibetan is beneficial in deepening an understanding of the Dharma... For those who learn Tibetan, there is no limit to their studies or to what they can learn.”**

**--Ven. Thrangu Rinpoche,  
Abbot, Rumtek Monastery,  
Tutor to H.H. Karmapa XVII.**

### Instructors



David Curtis

**Levels 1 and 2** will be taught by David Curtis, founder and president of the Tibetan Language Institute. David trained at Kagyu Ling Monastic College (founded by Kalu Rinpoche), completing the traditional Three-Year Retreat there in 1992. He has taught Tibetan throughout America for 14 years with great success. These courses are designed to be thorough yet fun. **Level 3** will be taught by Anam Thubten Rinpoche. Rinpoche was born in Tibet and began his spiritual training in the Nyingma lineage of Tibetan Buddhism at an early age. He was later recognized as the incarnation of Anam Lama by several masters, including Gompa Tulku Rinpoche. He came to the West in 1992, and teaches in fluent English. Rinpoche is a scholar of great intellect, profound compassion, and a joy to study with. TLI is honored and extremely pleased that Rinpoche will be joining us at the summer seminar.



Anam Thubten  
Rinpoche

## Dates and Location

**Level 1/** Week One: Monday, July 30 - Friday, August 3  
**Level 2/** Week Two: Monday, August 6 - Friday, August 10  
**Level 3/** Week Three: Monday, August 13 - Friday, August 17



The seminar will be held at the beautiful and peaceful retreat center **Ewam Sang-ngag Ling** [www.ewam.org](http://www.ewam.org) – in Arlee, Montana. TLI is honored that Gochen Tulku Rinpoche has made his center available for this seminar, and he will participate in the seminar as his schedule permits. Ewam is located 20 minutes north of the Missoula airport. Gochen Tulku Rinpoche and his students are building a garden

dedicated to world peace. It is called the Ewam Magadha Garden of 1000 Buddhas, and those attending will have the opportunity to help with this inspiring project during breaks.



Buddhas at the Ewam Center



At the waterfall, 2005



Sunset at the Prajnaparamita Statue

Weekends are free to study, relax, or visit some of the great sites here in Western Montana. Glacier National Park is only a four-hour drive from Missoula. Arrange to float a river, go for a horseback ride, or hike into the mountains!

**NOTE:** Students from out-of-town should plan to arrive the day before classes are scheduled to begin. A light snack will be provided on Sunday evenings for those arriving after 7:00 p.m.

## Course Descriptions

The seminar is split into three one-week modules. You are invited to attend for one day, one week, or all three weeks, whatever your calendar allows. Classes are held Monday – Friday each week, running from 9am to noon and 2 to 5pm with a two-hour break for lunch. There will also be a one-hour study period on weekday evenings during which students will have the opportunity to ask questions of the teacher or senior students.

<b>Level 1/ Week One:</b>	A solid foundation in the basics of the Tibetan language for those beginning or those desiring a thorough review—a wonderful way to jump start learning Tibetan. Students will develop a solid foundation in the basics of the language, learning to read the Tibetan script and use a Tibetan-English dictionary, as well as acquiring basic vocabulary.
<b>Level 2/ Week Two:</b>	An introduction to the essential aspects of Tibetan grammar and syntax. Building on a foundation of the study of words, phrases and sentences in Tibetan, the student will integrate and thoroughly review material presented in the Level 1 course, learning how Tibetan works as a language. This course lays the foundation for the successful reading of Tibetan texts and participation in the Level 3 course.
<b>Level 3/ Week Three:</b>	Read and study the <i>Heart Sutra</i> in Tibetan. A foundational text for all schools of Tibetan Buddhism, this beautiful text is recited daily by Buddhists the world over. This is a rare opportunity to study Dharma-through-Tibetan under Anam Thubten Rinpoche, a Tibetan Lama-scholar who speaks excellent English.



Rinpoche and David in Level III Course, 2005



Level I Course, 2005

Study materials and texts for each course are to be purchased separately, starting for a nominal charge of \$25 for each Level's manuals. These are available through the TLI Bookstore at [www.tibetanlanguage.org](http://www.tibetanlanguage.org). Additional items in our Level I and II packages may be purchased as well. Course materials will also be available at the seminar bookstore.

## Seminar Prerequisites

**Level 1** Beginning Track. No pre-requisites for this course.

**Level 2** Advanced Beginners Track. Completion of Level 1 OR ability to read the Tibetan script and use the Tibetan-English dictionary.

**Level 3** Intermediate Track. Completion of Level 2 or equivalent. Registered auditors encouraged and welcome.

### Price

Price for the seminar is \$350 US per week (not including course materials). Cost per day of the retreat is \$75 (half day is \$37.50). This price does **not** include accommodations.

### Accommodations

Either dormitory or camping at Ewam Retreat Center or off-site locations.

The Sangha House at the Ewam provides 8 beds in shared rooms (no private rooms) for an additional \$30 per night, which includes meals. Please check with us as to availability (these tend to be reserved early). **Important:** please bring your own bedding (sleeping bag, pillow).

In addition, the lawn surrounding the house has plenty of area to put up a tent or park a self-contained RV or camper. The cost is also \$30 per night, which includes meals. **Important:** please bring your own tent and camping gear. The staff of TLI will not be available to help with tent set-up.

For those who would like information about Missoula-area hotels, please contact us by phone or email.

### Meals

The meals will be vegetarian. Tea and snacks will also be provided. There is no room in the refrigerator for personal food, but necessary medicines can be stored there. If you have dietary restrictions, please let us know in advance. No refund available for missed meals.

For those staying elsewhere but wishing to eat at the retreat center, meals will cost \$15 per day (please give advance notice).

### Chores

Attendees will be asked to participate in a small daily chore (for example, helping in the kitchen, cleaning the shared space, or helping out with the bookstore), as well as helping out with final clean-up at the end of the retreat (Fridays). No chores will interfere with scheduled class sessions.

### Registration

For this language intensive, it is not necessary to attend every day, but it is recommended. Please register via TLI (not Ewam Retreat Center).

**Please register by July 1<sup>st</sup>. This would really help us with planning.**

1. Use the attached registration form or download a registration form from our website [www.tibetanlanguage.org](http://www.tibetanlanguage.org). You can either MAIL or FAX the form back to us (details are on the form). **Without your form we cannot allot dorm space or arrange for your airport shuttle.**
2. Payment can be mailed as check or money order with the registration form OR you can pay via Paypal on our website (you will still need to complete the registration form and send this in separately).

Paypal is an on-line service that allows you to pay with a credit card. TLI does, however, pay a fee for this service. Please consider making a small donation to offset this cost.

## **Refunds**

Registration, less a \$50 fee, is refundable until July 1.

Registration, less a \$150 fee, is refundable through July 20.

After July 21, there is no refund of the registration. Any payment made over and above the registration amount is refunded in full.

## **Shuttle services**

Shuttle service to and from the airport in Missoula is available for \$35. Please arrange with TLI **in advance** by email [info@tibetanlanguage.org](mailto:info@tibetanlanguage.org) or by phone 406/ 961-5131, or include pickup and drop-off information on registration form. Please get us this information **before July 25** to make scheduling efficient.

In that we will be picking up many folks at the airport at approximately the same time, please be patient if there is a wait of up to 1 hour. That said, we will do our utmost to avoid making you wait at the airport.

**Arrival** on Sundays the day before courses are to begin, by 7:00 p.m., is appreciated.

**Departure** on Saturdays before 8 pm is appreciated. Please schedule accordingly.

## **Articles and Photo Gallery of Past Seminars**

This year will see the 5th Summer Seminar hosted by the *Tibetan Language Institute*, the second in Montana. These seminars are great fun and allow for wonderful learning experiences by attendees.

For articles about past seminars please go to the TLI website at [www.tibetanlanguage.org](http://www.tibetanlanguage.org) (Homepage sidebar/ Newsletters and Articles).



Gochen Tulku Rinpoche, Anam Thubten Rinpoche,  
and Level III attendees, 2005.

For a photo montage of the 2005 seminar, please go to the website homepage and click on Photo Gallery.

### **Cannot Attend But Want to Help TLI?**

The *Tibetan Language Institute* is an educational non-profit organization dedicated to the study and preservation of Tibetan language, literature, and culture through the teaching of the Tibetan language. If you would like to support the Institute in its efforts this summer, we would gratefully accept your tax-deductible donation. Thank you!

Registration only covers a part of the cost of putting on such an event, so TLI relies on the generosity of supporters.

**Donations** can be sent by check or money order, as well as with the Paypal donation button on the home page of TLI at [www.tibetanlanguage.org](http://www.tibetanlanguage.org). You will be sent a receipt letter for your records.

### **Please Email Info about the TLI Summer Seminar to Friends**

Also, help *TLI* spread the word about the 2007 Summer Seminar! Please forward this message to friends, and post to any appropriate Dharma center mail list. Thanks for your help.



## **Tibetan Language Institute**

Learning materials and instruction for Dharma students

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