



Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Evangel University
"Shaping Servant-Leaders"

— Course Synopsis —

<p>COURSE NUMBER and TITLE: MSS 639, Special Studies: Tibetan Buddhism CREDIT HOURS: 3 SEMESTER: Summer 2021 COURSE DAY/TIME: July 6-10, 2021; 8:00 am – 12:00 pm (CDT) LOCATION: Virtual / Online</p>	<p>INSTRUCTOR: Jason Loper PHONE: +977 98030 60074; 205-417- 5018 EMAIL: loperj@evangel.edu, loper.envisionnepal@gmail.com</p>
<p>REQUIRED TEXT:</p> <p>Epstein, Lawrence and Peng Wenbin, "Ritual, Ethnicity, and Generational Identity", in <i>Buddhism in Contemporary Tibet: Religious Revival and Cultural Identity</i>. Edited by Melvyn C. Goldstein and Matthew T. Kapstein. Delhi: Motilal Barnarsidass Publishers, 1998. P. 120-138, 18pg. ISBN-13: 978-8120816282.</p> <p>Gyatso, Tenzin, His Holiness the Dalai Lama. <i>For the Benefit of All Sentient Beings: A Commentary on the Way of the Bodhisattva</i>. Trans. Padmakara Translation Group, Boston, MA: Shambhala Publications, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-1590306932.</p> <p>Lahkpa, Tenzin. <i>Leaving Buddha: A Tibetan Monk's Encounter with the Living God</i>. New Kensington, PA: Whitaker House, 2019. ISBN-13: 978-1641231022.</p> <p>Ray, Reginald A. <i>Indestructible Truth: The Living Spirituality of Tibetan Buddhism</i>. Boston, MA: Shambhala Publications, 2002. ISBN-13: 978-1570629105.</p> <p>Ray, Reginald A. <i>Secret of the Vajra World: The Tantric Buddhism of Tibet</i>. Boston, MA: Shambhala Publications, 2002. ISBN-13: 978-1570629174</p>	

RECOMMENDED TEXT:

Beer, Robert. *The Handbook of Tibetan Buddhist Symbols*. Boston, MA: Shambhala Publications, 2003. ISBN-13: 978-1590301005.

Powers, John. *Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism*. Ithaca, NY: Snow Lion Publications, 2007. ISBN: 978-1559392822.

Sogyal, Rinopche. *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying*. San Francisco, CA: Harper, 1992. ISBN-13: 978-0712657525.

Course Requirements:

1. **Attendance, reading preparation, and participation.**
2. A **reflection paper**, 5-7 pages in length, on the Tenzin Lhakpa book, *Leaving Buddha*.
3. A **reflection and biblical critique**, 5-7 pages in length, on the Dalai Lama's book, *For the Benefit of All Sentient Beings*.
4. A **research paper**, 20-25 pages in length (not including bibliography), in the appropriate style, format, and grammar. The topic of this paper will be Tibetan Buddhist history, doctrine, and practice.
5. A **reading record** will be required at the end of the semester.

Details on the requirements and an extended bibliography will be a part of the syllabus, which will be available a week prior to class through course commons.