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Part of ACMS Online Field School 2021. Funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, the program offers seven online Mongolian Studies courses free and open to everyone.

Overview

Five-session survey course for people interested in geographically situated Mongolian Buddhism and its unique syncretism with local and cosmopolitan entities - from sacred mountains to Karakorum to the Gobi Desert. We will look at the history of Buddhism in Mongolia, focusing primarily on the 1930s religious purges and Buddhism's return after the fall of the Socialist regime in 1990. The course will also feature monastic leaders involved in the re-emergence of Buddhism who will discuss how it survived under socialism, how it was reestablished, and what it looks like today.

Course Format

- Live guest expert and instructors presentations
- History and Philosophy of Mongolian Buddhism
- Introduction to histories of information in Mongolia
- Buddhist influences upon ecological practice in Mongolia
- Group reading sessions and discussions
- Recordings for all sessions will be available

www.mongoliacenter.org

If you have any questions, please e-mail: mfs@mongoliacenter.org

Suitable for

The course is open to interested participants of all backgrounds. No prior experience with Mongolian language will be expected.

Instructors

Dr. Betsy Quammen is an environmental historian. She received a PhD from Montana State University, where she focused on how religious beliefs influence perspectives on landscape. She has studied Asian religions and is herself a Buddhist. She has a BA in English from Colorado College and a Masters in Environmental Studies from the University of Montana.

Rebecca Watters is a wildlife biologist and writer who has worked in Mongolia since 2000, when she served Kharkhorin as a Peace Corps environmental volunteer. She currently works on climate change research and monitoring with three protected areas in Huvsgul Province, with a focus on wolverines, butterflies, and pikas. She has a MSc from the Yale School of the Environment, and a BA in anthropology from St. Lawrence University.

Live sessions from June 6: 7 PM PDT (Sun & Tue) 10 PM EDT (Sun & Tue) 10 AM ULAT (Mon & Wed)