

Courses

2023 – 2024



École Pratique
des Hautes Études

PSL 

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ILARA

Institut des langues rares

un institut de l'EPHE - PSL

COURSES

AFRICA



BANTU LANGUAGES

lvl 1, S2, 10 hrs, 2 hrs per session, hybrid
[Mark Van de Velde \(CNRS, LLACAN\)](#)

There are 555 Bantu languages spoken in a vast region of sub-Saharan Africa, south of a line extending from Cameroon in the west to Kenya in the east.

Class participants will work with linguistic data to uncover grammatical rules. Through a comparison between different languages, the aim will be to attempt the reconstruction of the evolutionary paths that Bantu languages may have taken. No prerequisites are required, as the level and content will be tailored to the needs and interests of the audience.

AMERICAS



CLASSIC MAYA

lvl 2, S1 and S2, 30 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online
[Jean-Michel Hoppan \(CNRS, SeDyL\)](#)

The Mayan languages constitute a language family that traditionally forms a geographical continuum in northwestern Central America.

The aim of this course focussed on the study of Classical Maya texts is for participants who have completed the beginner-level course to build upon what they have learned the previous year and delve into the reading and translation of complete texts. These texts are chosen to be relatively simple and well deciphered, allowing participants to apply their acquired knowledge without the need to revisit the basics.



TIKUNA

two-day workshop, lvl 1, S1, 4 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online
[Denis Bertet \(DDL\)](#)

Tikuna is an Amerindian language with no known linguistic relatives, spoken in western Amazonia. It is the most widely spoken indigenous language in the Amazon basin.

The first session will be dedicated to an introduction to the linguistic situation of the Amazon. The second session will focus on the Tikuna people and their language, featuring a "guided reading" of a short video recording (accompanied by a transcription).



OLD TUPI

intensif course, lvl 1, S1. 24 hrs, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., online, from Sept. 11 to Oct. 6, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
[Denis Bertet \(DDL\)](#)

Old Tupi, also known as Tupinambá, is the language spoken by most indigenous groups inhabiting the coasts of present-day Brazil during the 16th and 17th centuries.

The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the Tupi language family and the Tupi-Guarani subfamily (1 session), cover the first 9 lessons using the Old Tupi method developed by E. de Almeida (9 sessions), introduce two descendants of Old Tupi: Língua Geral Amazônica and Nheengatu (1 session), and finally, introduce the Tupi-Guarani languages of France: Teko and Wayampi (1 session).

EAST ASIA

**CLASSICAL MONGOLIAN**

lvl 2, S1 and S2, 39 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
 Alice Crowther (EPHE-PSL, CRCAO)

Classical Mongolian is the written form of Mongolian used from the late 16th century until the early 20th century. It differs from Middle Mongolian of the Genghis Khan Empire. The aim is to deepen the basic knowledge of classical Mongolian grammar and vocabulary acquired during the level-1 course. Each session will focus on the guided reading of an excerpt from a literary or historical text, prepared in advance by the participants. The instructor will provide glossaries to assist participants in preparing the texts.

**TANGUT**

The Tangut language is an extinct Sino-Tibetan language. It was the language of the founders and administrators of the Western Xia Empire and was used until the 15th century.

intensif course, lvl 1, S1, 16 hrs, online
from Jan. 29 to Feb. 1

Mathieu Beaudouin (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, ILCAA)

The annual course will be preceded by an introductory course.

lvl 1, S1 and S2, 39 hrs, 2 sessions per week, 1.5 hrs per session, online

Mathieu Beaudouin (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, ILCAA)

Romain Lefebvre (University of Artois, Textes & Cultures)

The goal of the course is to provide participants with sufficient knowledge of grammar and vocabulary to read secular texts from Tangut literature independently (potentially with the help of a dictionary). The program is unique in giving primary importance to pronunciation, making it the first Tangutology course to do so.

**MANCHU – XIBE**

lvl 1, S1, 18 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
 Alice Crowther (CRCAO)

Manchu is an extinct Tungusic language with a large corpus of written documentation, primarily consisting of archival documents from the Qing dynasty.

Xibe is an endangered Tungusic language closely related to Manchu, with approximately 27,000 speakers today, mostly residing in China.

The goal is to provide an introduction to the writing system and grammar of Manchu, enabling participants to independently approach the reading of a text with the aid of a dictionary. Additionally, the course will offer an initiation into a rare, still-practised language descended from Classical Manchu, known as Xibe.

**CLASSICAL TIBETAN**

Emanuela Garatti

(CERES – Ruhr University Bochum, CRCAO)

Classical Tibetan is the language used for the composition of Buddhist texts from the 12th century until the modern era in Tibet and other regions of Asia.

lvl 1, S1 and S2, 52 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online

The aim of this course is to introduce beginner participants to the basic grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and translation of Classical Tibetan. The explanations of basic rules of syntax, morphology, and sentence structure will be illustrated with examples.

lvl 2, S1 and S2, 34.5 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, online

The goal of this course is to consolidate and deepen the knowledge of grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and translation in Classical Tibetan. By the end of the course, students will be able to read complex texts in Classical Tibetan, analyse them, and translate them under the guidance of the instructor.

SOUTH ASIA

**LANGUAGES IN CONTACT WITH ASSAMESE**

lvl 1, S2, 8 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online
 Thursdays January 18, March 7, April 25 and June 27
 Émilie Arrago-Boruah
 (Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas, CESAH)

Assamese is an Indo-Aryan language spoken by approximately 20 million speakers. It is one of the twenty-two official languages of India. This course is designed for those interested in ethnolinguistics and the cultural and linguistic context of northeastern India. It provides an overview of the language contact situations involving Assamese, based on fieldwork conducted between 2022 and 2023, focussing on the various varieties spoken in Lower Assam and the mixing of certain local languages, such as Rabha.

**PRAKRIT**

lvl 1, S1 and S2, 42 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
 Melinda Fodor (VideoMark, GREI)

Prakrit is an Indo-European language belonging to the Indo-Aryan branch and spoken/written in South Asia from ancient India to the 18th century.

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of Prakrit literature and languages. It combines the study of Prakrit language history, sources and the language itself with the reading of texts in this language. The goal is to acquire knowledge of Prakrit literature, be able to read simple texts, identify them and place them in their respective historical and geographical contexts.

**SANSKRIT**

Amandine Wattelier-Bricout
 (Humboldt University of Berlin, GREI)

Sanskrit is an Indo-European language belonging to the Indo-Iranian branch. It has been attested from 2000 to 1500 BC on the Indian subcontinent.

intensif course, lvl 1, S1, 30 hrs, online
Monday Sept. 18 to Friday Sept. 22, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The accelerated course aims to cover all the necessary elements (grammar, syntax, vocabulary) to enable participants to read original Sanskrit texts as quickly as possible. The pedagogical method used will involve immediate immersion in original Sanskrit texts and highlighting the specificities of Sanskrit compared to French.

intensif course, lvl 2, S2, 30 hrs, online
Monday, Mar. 4 to Friday, Mar. 8, 2023, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

At the end of the course, the participants will be in possession of a minimal grammar of Sanskrit illustrated with known examples because encountered, and a corpus of several texts in Sanskrit with translations, grammar notes and vocabulary. They will be able to use different tools to analyze a Sanskrit text and will master enough morphological, grammatical and syntactic elements to find their way around a Sanskrit text.

EUROPE

**ANCIENT GREEK**

intensif course, lvl 1, S1, 35 hrs, hybrid
Raspail, room 17
from Monday 18 to Friday 22 Sep., from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

[Anna Lampadaridi \(CNRS, Hisoma\)](#)
intensif course, lvl 2, S2, 30 hrs, online
Monday March 4 to Friday March 8, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
[Anna Lampadaridi \(CNRS, Hisoma\)](#)

lvl 1, S1 and S2, 64 hrs, 2.5 hrs per session, hybrid
[Arthur Deconynck \(EPHE-PSL\)](#)

lvl 2, S1 and S2, 64 hrs, 2.5 hrs per session, hybrid
[Vladimir de Haldat \(EPHE-PSL, ENS-PSL, Inalco\)](#)

lvl 3, S1 and S2, 52 hrs, 2 hrs per session, hybrid
[Carlo Emilio Biuzzi \(EPHE-PSL\)](#)

Knowledge of Ancient Greek is an essential starting point for conducting research in many scientific fields. Whether you are a beginner or at a false beginner level, you can enrol in Level 1 to learn or review the basics. Level 2 continues this initiation, while Level 3 allows you to practise translation and analysis of more challenging texts. You can also register for the intensive courses offered at the beginning of each semester.

**CLASSICAL LATIN**

intensif course, lvl 1, S1, 30 hrs, hybrid
Raspail, room 17
from Monday 11 to Friday 15 Sep., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
[Claire Absil \(EPHE-PSL, University of Friborg\)](#)
intensif course, lvl 2, S2, 30 hrs, online
Monday Feb. 19 to Friday Feb. 23, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
[Cédric Vanhems \(EPHE-PSL\)](#)

lvl 1, S1, 32 hrs, 2.5 hrs per session, online
[Angela Cossu \(Università di Cassino, SAPRAT\)](#)

lvl 1, S2, 32 hrs, 2.5 hrs per session, hybrid
[Paul Knall-Demars \(EPHE-PSL\)](#)

lvl 2, S1 and S2, 64 hrs, 2.5 hrs per session, hybrid
[Maël Deuffic \(EPHE-PSL\)](#)

lvl 3, S1 and S2, 52 hrs, 2 hrs per session, hybrid
[Achille Bertrand \(EPHE-PSL\)](#)

Knowledge of Classical Latin is an essential starting point for conducting research in many scientific fields. Whether you are a beginner or at a false beginner level, you can enrol in Level 1 to learn or review the basics. Level 2 continues this initiation, while Level 3 allows you to practise translation and analysis of more challenging texts. You can also register for the intensive courses offered at the beginning of each semester.

**MEDIAEVAL LATIN**

lvl 1, S1 and S2, 44 hrs, 2 hrs per session, hybrid
[Anne-Marie Turcan-Verkerk \(EPHE-PSL, AOROC\)](#)

Latin has been used as a semi-living language, or at least as the language of everyday expression among scholars, until the 19th century. The goal of this course is to enable anyone having no specific training in ancient or modern languages to begin reading mediaeval Latin texts with only the help of dictionaries and online tools provided by Collatinus. The program is based on an agile learning method, which involves an extensive use of manuscripts and mediaeval texts for exercises.



VLAX ROMANI

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 24 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
 Julieta Rotaru (Inalco, CERLOM)

The Romani language spoken in Romania, which consists of the historical provinces of Wallachia and Moldavia, belongs to the Vlax dialects.

The objective of the training is to introduce Vlax Romani by studying grammar while understanding the history of the corpus of 19th century texts produced in the Danubian Principalities. The course will begin with a general presentation of Romani and the dialects currently spoken in Europe and discussions on the most precise identification of the number of speakers.



OLD NORSE

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 30 hrs, 2 hrs per session, hybrid
 Alessia Bauer (EPHE-PSL, HISTARA)

Old Norse was spoken by the peoples of Northern Europe (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Scandinavian colonies), from the Viking Age to the High Middle Ages.

The objective of the beginner-level course is to learn the structure of Old Norse, especially its phonological and morphological characteristics, in order to be able to read easy sources in the original language. The teaching method aims to demonstrate to a French-speaking audience the structure of Germanic languages in general and Nordic languages in particular.



OLD RUSSIAN

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 42 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
 Konstantinos Vetochnikov
 (Collège de France, Orient & Méditerranée)

Old Russian or Old Ukrainian was the language spoken in Kievan Rus'. It presents notable differences from Old Church Slavonic in grammar and vocabulary.

The course covers questions related to the alphabet, grammar and syntax. It will be accompanied by the study of ten texts representing various genres. This course may be of particular interest to participants with background in Slavic studies, history, religious studies, as well as attendees of relevant seminars at EPHE-PSL.



OLD SLAVIC

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 42 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
 Konstantinos Vetochnikov
 (Collège de France, Orient & Méditerranée)

Old Slavic was the language of chancery, religious worship and literature among the Eastern Slavs, used from the Balkans to Muscovite Russia during the Middle Ages.

The main aim of this course is to initiate participants to this language, enabling them to read and translate moderately difficult texts. The grammar will be gradually introduced, alongside the study of texts (starting with simple artificial sentences and progressing to texts taken from manuscripts). All aspects related to the alphabet, grammar, and syntax will be covered.

TURKIC, CAUCASIAN AND IRANIAN WORLDS

**CLASSICAL ARMENIAN**

Agnès Ouzounian

Classical Armenian, an independent branch within the Indo-European language family documented since the early 5th century, when an alphabet was created for it.

lvl 2, S1 and S2, 39 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid

The course aims to continue the study of Classical Armenian grammar through the analysis of verses from the Armenian version of the Gospels. The learning of grammar will be accompanied by the translation of excerpts from chronicles of the Golden Age or works by later authors, chosen based on the participants' preferences.

lvl 3, S1, 13 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid

This course focusses on the translation of a text, chosen based on the participants' preferences. For each session, they will prepare a passage that will serve as an opportunity to review specific grammar points and discuss aspects of Armenian history.

**CLASSICAL GEORGIAN**

Agnès Ouzounian

Georgian, a language of the South Caucasus attested since the early 5th century, has its own alphabet and a literature that spans fifteen centuries.

lvl 2, S1 and S2, 39 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid

The goal of this course is to read simple original texts. A portion of the course is dedicated to further study of grammar through the analysis of verses from the Georgian version of the Gospels, while the other part focusses on reading and translating a text chosen based on the participants' interests.

lvl 3, S2, 13 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid

This course focusses on the translation of a text, chosen based on the participants' preferences. For each session, they will prepare a passage that will serve as an opportunity to review specific grammar points and discuss aspects of Georgian history.



JUDAEO-GEORGIAN

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 48 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online
Hélène Gérardin (SeDyL)

Kivruli, also known as Judaeo-Georgian, is the language spoken by the Jews of Georgia. It currently has approximately 80,000 speakers, living mainly in Israel. In order to reach the widest audience possible, the course will primarily take up an action-oriented approach, supported by grammar. It will consist of two main components: a theoretical component, in which grammatical elements will be presented, and a practical component, in which participants will work autonomously to apply the acquired knowledge in practical exercises.



KARTVELIAN LANGUAGES

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 48 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online
Hélène Gérardin (SeDyL)

Mingrelian, Laze and Svan form with Georgian (official language of Georgia) and with its many dialects the Kartvelian family, also called South Caucasian. This year, the main characteristics (phonological, morphological, syntactic and lexical) of Eastern Kartvelian (fereydani, ingilo and "mountain dialects"). At the end of the year, participants should be able to grasp the overall meaning of a simple text and identify the most recurrent morphemes.



TURKIC LANGUAGES

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 27 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
Murad Suleymanov (EPHE-PSL, Inalco, PROCLAC)

The Turkic languages are a family of approximately 35 languages spoken by around 170 million people residing in a territory that stretches from the Balkans to the Arctic Ocean.

The course encompasses 10 rare and/or typologically interesting Turkic languages. After a general introduction into the phonological, morphological and syntactic systems of modern Turkic languages and an overview of their genetic classification, participants will be guided to develop skills for analysing texts and recognising parallels across the languages.

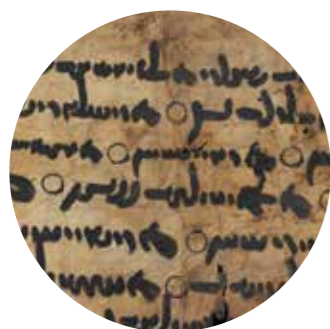


MIDDLE GEORGIAN

Ivl 1, S1 and S2, 48 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online
Hélène Gérardin (SeDyL)

Middle Georgian is the most recently attested ancestor of Modern Georgian, the official language of Georgia belonging to the Kartvelian (South Caucasian) language family.

The course covers the main characteristics of the language (phonological, morphological, syntactic, and lexical), with an emphasis on the features that distinguish Middle Georgian from Old and Modern Georgian. By the end of the year, participants should be able to grasp the overall meaning of a simple text and identify the most recurrent morphemes.



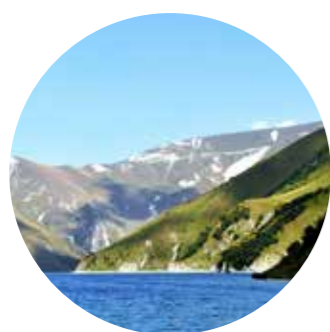
MIDDLE PERSIAN

Ivl 1, S1 et S2, 24hrs, 1 hr per session, hybrid

Samra Azarnouche
(EPHE-PSL, CeRMI)

Middle Persian, a Middle Iranian language, the official language of the Sassanid Empire, is one of the main languages of Late-Antiquity Iran.

This course is an introduction to the Middle Persian language. The objective is to offer a basic description and to present the working tools, so that the participants can acquire a sufficient level of autonomy to access the corpus that interests them more specifically, whether Zoroastrian texts, Manichaeans or from the epigraphic corpus.



CHECHEN

Ivl 1, S2, 18 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, online

Dagun Deniev
(Université Populaire of Geneva Canton)

Chechen is a language belonging to the East Caucasian family (also known as Nakh-Dagestani), specifically its Nakh group.

The course aims to initiate participants into the Chechen language through the study of the alphabet and basic grammar. An expository approach will be adopted, but participants will be regularly engaged to ensure their focus and understanding of the concepts covered. Texts, tables, images, and video excerpts will be used as course materials.



OLD TURKIC

Ivl 1, S1, 12 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid

Dorian Pastor (ENS-PSL, AOROC)

Old Turkic, also known as Orkhon Turkic, is a Turkic language spoken in the 8th century in Mongolia, known through inscriptions found in the Orkhon Valley. The course content will deal with Old Turkic through an interactive study of the Irk Bitig, a text reflecting the mythology of pre-Islamic Turkic peoples. The goal of the course is to acquire knowledge of Old Turkic, its writing system and to a lesser extent, the cultural elements contained in the studied texts.

OCEANIA



MWOTLAP

Ivl 1, S2, 20 hrs, 2 hrs per session, online

Alexandre François (CNRS, LATTICE)

Mwotlap is an Oceanic language (Austronesian language family) spoken by approximately 2,200 people in the Vanuatu archipelago in the heart of the Pacific. Among the 7,700 languages of the world, about 20% are spoken in the Pacific region despite being little known in Europe. The aim of this course is to present the Mwotlap language and the Oceanic language family, the main linguistic phylum in the Pacific. The course will also address its social and cultural context, that of a vibrant community in Insular Melanesia.

PROCHE-ORIENT ANCIEN

**LANGUAGES OF LYCIA**

Ivl 1, S1, 24 hrs, 1.5 hrs per session, hybrid
Rostislav Oreshko (CNRS, Orient & Méditerranée)

Lycian and Milyan, also known as Lycian B, were two languages spoken in the ancient region of Lycia in the 1st millennium BC.

The primary objective is to present the corpus of epichoric texts and provide basic knowledge of the alphabet, grammar, and vocabulary. The grammar will be presented within the framework of comparative linguistics of Anatolian languages. The issue of linguistic contact between Anatolian languages on one side and Greek and Iranian on the other side will also be addressed.

**HIEROGLYPHIC LUWIAN**

Ivl 2, S1 and S2, 48 hrs, 2 hrs per session, hybrid
Rostislav Oreshko (CNRS, Orient & Méditerranée)

Hieroglyphic Luwian belongs to the Anatolian branch of Indo-European languages and is attested in written form from around 1400 to around 720 BC. The course is designed as an immersion in reading Luwian texts, accompanied by discussions on various issues such as peculiarities of the script, grammar, vocabulary, historical and cultural context, etc. This format is suitable for both those who already have basic knowledge of Luwian script and language, as well as beginners.

**LYDIAN**

Ivl 1, S1, 10 hrs, 1 hr per session, hybrid
Romain Garnier (Université de Limoges, EHIC)

Lydian is a small Anatolian language of the 1st millennium BC, attested in around a hundred inscriptions, mostly of a funerary nature.

The aim of this course is to introduce participants to the Lydian language. Topics covered will include history, epigraphy, phraseology, Anatolian and Indo-European etymology, as well as the areal cultural influence of Imperial Aramaic and its echo in dialectal Anatolian Greek. This course does not require any prior knowledge of Anatolian languages from the second millennium BCE.

**SYRIAC**

Ivl 3, S1 and S2, 18 hrs, per session, hybrid
Muriel Debié (EPHE-PSL, Orient & Méditerranée)

Syriac is classified among the Central Eastern Aramaic varieties. It is the form of Northern Mesopotamia that became the standard among Aramaic-speaking Christians. The course offers a guided reading of an Apocalypse composed in the early 7th century, shortly after the Arab-Muslim conquests of the Near East. This Apocalypse achieved considerable success, being translated from Syriac into Greek and then into Latin within a few decades, and subsequently into all major ancient European languages as well as Armenian.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

CALENDAR

Semester 1 : from September 25, 2023 to February 2, 2024

Semester 2 : from February 5 to June 7, 2024

TEACHING LOCATIONS

ILARA courses take place at the following locations:

Raspail
54, boulevard Raspail
75006 Paris
(métro 10 and 12 Sèvres-Babylone)

Sorbonne
17, rue de la Sorbonne
75005 Paris
(métro 10 Cluny La Sorbonne, 4 Saint-Michel ou Odéon,
RER B Luxembourg, C Saint-Michel)

Campus Condorcet
cours des Humanités
93322 Aubervilliers
(métro 12 Front Populaire, RER B La Plaine – Stade de France)

The rooms for face-to-face classes will be announced at the start of the school year.
The login links for hybrid and online classes will be sent out by the teachers.

CONTACT AND REGISTRATION

ilara@ephe.psl.eu

ILARA, Campus Condorcet
Bâtiment de recherche Nord
14, cours des Humanités
93322 Aubervilliers cedex

Fees and registration:

<https://ilaraen.hypotheses.org/fees-and-registration>

More information about our courses:

<https://ilaraen.hypotheses.org/classes/ilara-courses>

FOR FURTHER

To find out more about the OSRJL course offer in Jewish languages, visit the dedicated page on our website:

<https://ilaraen.hypotheses.org/classes/osrjl-courses>

ILARA needs you!

To enable ILARA to continue its activities, you can make a donation:

<https://www.helloasso.com/associations/fonds-de-dotation-de-l-ecole-pratique-des-hautes/formulaires/4>

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