

# RORY LINDSAY

Department for the Study of Religion  
Jackman Humanities Building  
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## EDUCATION

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- 2018      PhD  
            Department of South Asian Studies  
            Harvard University
- 2009      PhD (one year of doctoral coursework)  
            Department for the Study of Religion  
            University of Toronto
- 2008      MA  
            Department for the Study of Religion  
            University of Toronto
- 2005      BA Hon.  
            Department for the Study of Religion, Department of East Asian Studies  
            University of Toronto

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT AND AFFILIATIONS

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- 2021–present    Assistant Professor  
                    Department for the Study of Religion  
                    University of Toronto
- 2020–present    Editor  
                    84000: Translating the Words of the Buddha
- 2018–present    Visiting Scholar  
                    Department of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara
- 2018–present    Inner Asia Area Editor  
                    *Religious Studies Review*
- 2018–2021      Editor  
                    Wisdom Publications

2018–20 Associate Editor  
84000: Translating the Words of the Buddha

2013–18 Reviews Editor  
*Buddhadharma*

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books

2021 *Saving the Dead: Tibetan Funerary Rituals in the Tradition of the Sarvadurgatipariśodhana Tantra*. Wien: Wiener Studien zur Tibetologie und Buddhismuskunde, 2021 (forthcoming).

### Articles

2022 “Bardo Doctrine – Tibet” *Brill’s Encyclopedia of Buddhism III: Thought* (forthcoming).

2021 “Death to a Buddhist Master: Mortality and the Role of the Literary in Jetsun Drakpa Gyaltzen’s Autobiographical Dream Narrative,” Special Issue: “Exploring Buddhist Traditions in Literature,” *Religions* (forthcoming).

2020 “Death Ritual Polemics: Bo dong Pan chen and Go rams pa on the Funerary Practices of the *Sarvadurgatipariśodhana tantra*,” *Pacific World: Journal of the Institute of Buddhist Studies* 4, no. 1 (December 2020): 101–55.

### Book Reviews

2020 Review of *Sera Monastery*, by José Ignacio Cabezón and Penpa Dorjee. *Religious Studies Review* 46, no. 3 (September 2020): 447.  
Review of *Sources of Mongolian Buddhism*, by Vesna Wallace. *Religious Studies Review* 46, no. 2 (June 2020): 263.

Review of *The Faults of Meat: Tibetan Buddhist Writings on Vegetarianism*, edited by Geoffrey Barstow. *Buddhadharma*, Summer 2020, 106–110.

2013–18 Book Briefs, *Buddhadharma*, Fall 2018, Summer 2018, Spring 2018, Winter 2017, Fall 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2017, Winter 2016, Fall 2016, Summer 2016, Spring 2016, Winter 2015, Fall 2015, Summer 2015, Spring 2015, Winter 2014, Fall 2014, Summer 2014, Spring 2014, Winter 2013.

2014 Review of *The Princeton Dictionary of Buddhism*, by Donald S. Lopez, Jr. and Robert Buswell. *Buddhadharma*, Spring 2014, 75.

2011 Review of *The Taming of the Demons: Violence and Liberation in Tibetan Buddhism*, by Jacob P. Dalton. *Buddhadharma*, Spring 2011, 77–79.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Primary Instructor

- 2020 Religions of Tibet, UC Santa Barbara (with José Cabezón)
- 2013–15 Intermediate Classical Tibetan, Harvard University
- 2012–13 Elementary Classical Tibetan, Harvard University
- 2005–09 ESL Intensive, EF Toronto
- 2005 ESL Summer Intensive, International House Toronto

### Teaching Assistant

- 2015 Introduction to the Study of East Asian Religions, Harvard University
- 2012 German for Reading in Theological and Religious Studies, Harvard University
- 2007–09 Introduction to Buddhism, University of Toronto
- 2007 Religion and the City, University of Toronto
- 2006–07 Introduction to Buddhism, University of Toronto Mississauga
- 2006–07 Religious Traditions of the East, University of Toronto Scarborough
- 2006 Hindu Epics, University of Toronto Scarborough
- 2006 Introduction to Hinduism, University of Toronto Mississauga

### Guest Lectures

- 2020 “Agency and the Afterlife in the *Sarvadurgatipariśodhana Tantra*,” Graduate Seminar in Buddhist Tantra, UC Santa Barbara
- 2020 “Ritual Healing in Tibetan Buddhism,” Religion and Healing in Global Perspective, UC Santa Barbara
- 2019 “The Madhyamaka School of Buddhist Philosophy,” Introduction to Buddhism, UC Santa Barbara
- 2019 “The Life of Milarepa and the Kagyu School,” Religions of Tibet, UC Santa Barbara
- 2019 “The Sakya School,” Religions of Tibet, UC Santa Barbara
- 2019 “The Rise of the Schools through the Dalai Lamas’ Consolidation of Power,” Religions of Tibet, UC Santa Barbara
- 2019 “The Sakyapas and Their Stories,” Tibetan Religions, UC Riverside
- 2019 “Colonial Encounters with Buddhism,” Rhetoric and Discipline in Buddhist Studies, UC Riverside
- 2008 “The Historical Roots of Engaged Buddhism: Nāgārjuna’s Philosophy and Its Relationship with Social Activism,” Introduction to Buddhism, University of Toronto
- 2008 “The Sakya School of Tibetan Buddhism,” Introduction to Buddhism, University of Toronto
- 2007 “Yogācāra and Madhyamaka Philosophy,” Introduction to Buddhism, University of Toronto, Mississauga

## ACADEMIC ADVISING AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE EXPERIENCE

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- 2017–19 Senior Resident Tutor  
Kirkland House, Harvard University
- 2014–17 Resident Tutor and Sophomore Advising Coordinator  
Kirkland House, Harvard University
- 2010–13 Resident Proctor and Events Coordinator  
Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 2020 “Art, Mediation, and Mimicry in a Tibetan Funerary Rite,” Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Boston (cancelled due to Covid-19)
- 2019 “Death Ritual Polemics,” International Association of Tibetan Studies 15<sup>th</sup> Seminar, Paris, France
- 2018 “Material Actors in a Sakyapa Death Ritual,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver
- 2017 “Who Can Save the Dead? On the Many Actors in a Tibetan Buddhist Funerary Rite,” Ways of Knowing, Harvard University
- 2014 “Necroliberation in Early Sakyapa Funerary Manuals,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego
- 2010 “Can a Prasangika Live His Skepticism?”, Workshop in Cross-Cultural Philosophy, Harvard University
- 2010 “Egos and Ecumenism: Blo gros rgya mtsho and the Sectarian Underpinnings of the Nonsectarian Movement in Eastern Tibet,” North American Buddhist Studies Graduate Conference, University of Toronto

## PUBLIC LECTURES

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- 2019 “Texts as Agents and the Agents in Texts: Notes on the Study of Tibetan Buddhist Ritual Manuals,” Religious Studies Colloquium, UC Riverside

## EXTRACURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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- 2020–present Co-organizer of *Conversations about Reading Tibetan* (instructional videos), Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Centre for Buddhist Studies, University of Toronto
- 2020–present Co-organizer of the UC Santa Barbara Gagaku Group
- 2013 Student organizer, Harvard meeting of the AAR seminar “Religion and the

- Literary in Tibet”  
2012–13 Organizer, “Studying Religions in the Minority” (lecture series), Harvard University  
2010–11 Organizer, Harvard Buddhist Studies Forum  
2010–11 Graduate student representative, Department of Sanskrit and Indian Studies, Harvard University  
2008 Co-organizer, Sanskrit-Persian Workshop, University of Toronto  
2005–07 Editor, University of Toronto Buddhist Studies student newsletter  
2005–07 President, University of Toronto Buddhist Community  
2005 Co-organizer, Exploring the Mind (international conference on Buddhism and Mental Health), University of Toronto

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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- 2017 Harvard Presidential Dissertation Completion Fellowship  
2009–11 Presidential Scholarship, Harvard University  
2015 Certificate of Excellence and Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University  
2013 Certificate of Excellence and Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University  
2012 Certificate of Excellence and Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University  
2009–12 Doctoral Award, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)  
2011 Summer Language Grant for Chinese, Harvard University  
2008 Kathleen Coburn Graduate Admission Award, University of Toronto  
2008 Shastri India Studies Fellowship, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (declined)  
2007 Sandhya Ray Indian Philosophy Award, University of Toronto  
2007 Faculty of Arts and Science Study Elsewhere Scholarship for Less Commonly Taught Languages, University of Toronto  
2006 Shastri Student Excellence Award, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute  
2005 Trinity College Scholar award for academic excellence, University of Toronto  
2002 Chancellor’s Scholarship for high academic achievement, University of Toronto

## LANGUAGES

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Classical Tibetan  
Modern Tibetan  
Classical Sanskrit  
Classical Chinese  
French  
German