

# **Central Eurasian Studies**

Constructing Culture: Imagine Tibet

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Nicole Willock

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Over the past fifty years, an imagined Tibetan community has emerged, bound together across huge expanses of geographical space despite linguistic challenges, vastly different political orientations, and religious frictions. Who participates in and creates this community? Is Buddhism the only cultural legacy that Tibet has offered the world?

The aim of this course is two-fold. Taking an historical approach, we will examine “traditional” Tibetan cultural forms. Then, we will explore current centers of cultural production by looking at film, art, music, fiction and poetry. By comparing historical and contemporary modes of cultural production, this course aims to identify the imagined community of modern Tibet which reaches beyond the borders of nation-states, and modes of linguistic and religious unification.