Engaging Other Cultures: Learning How to Learn about Cultural Differences
Anthro 2472
Spring ’11 T R 1:25-2:40

• A large part of language learning is culture learning. How do you do that?
• What happens when you encounter a new culture in your own or another country, where many practices are very different from what you know and are accustomed to?

This Spring ’11 course presents the anthropological tradition of ethnography and explains its insights into learning about and adapting to a new culture and language.

Course description:
Engaging Other Cultures develops understandings and skills required to live and work in diverse cultural and organizational contexts, abroad and at home. Learning to deal effectively with linguistic, organizational and cultural differences opens us up to the creative range of human beings and helps us learn from others in secure, analytical, and self-reflective ways. The course introduces basic anthropological and linguistic perspectives on cultural and organizational differences, ethnographic fieldwork techniques, and ethnographic writing through ethnographic practice, with some attention to the language learning process. It is a general education course with particular orientation to those studying abroad and/or working domestically or locally in organizational and cultural contexts new to them. For more information contact Davydd Greenwood (djg6) or Dick Feldman (rf10).