

## DM8005W Culture and Language for Cross-cultural Engagement

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**Offered:** 2018: Intensive – January / February

This unit emphasizes the strong link between culture and language, and the importance of gaining capacity in a community's language for cross-cultural engagement. The unit will introduce students to the concepts of language and cultural participation outlined in the *Growing Participant's Approach* (GPA). The unit will also introduce students to the *Six Phase Program*, a tool for growing a cross-cultural worker's ability to understand and speak with people from a different culture and language community. The third tool to be introduced, the *Engaging Culture, Worldview Inquiry Program* (ECWIP), enables a cross-cultural worker to observe and participate in social situations and move towards understanding them from the host community's perspective.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Describe the links between culture and language
2. Articulate the principles associated with the *Growing Participant's Approach*
3. Demonstrate the activities associated with Phase 1 of the *Six Phase Program*
4. Identify some of the differences between emic and etic perspectives on social situations
5. Demonstrate an ability to observe and participate in a social situation and inquire about it from an actor in the social situation.
6. Articulate a "thick description" of a social situation and the meanings attached to it by members of the community.
7. Evaluate the multiple perspectives that actors may offer on social situations and the relevance of this cultural complexity for emic description.

**Prerequisites:** Nil

**Class Time:** Intensive (5 days)

<b>Assessment:</b>	GPA Phase 1 & ECWIP Activities Participation (approximately 1,000 words)	(20%)
	One essay (3,000 words)	(40%)
	Four 500 word Thick Descriptions of Social Situations	(40%)

**Faculty:** Ian Dicks

### **Recommended Reading:**

\* = set texts recommended for purchase

Angrosino Michael V. *Projects in Ethnographic Research*, Long Grove: Waveland Press 2004.

Angrosino Michael V. *Doing Ethnographic and Observational Research* (Qualitative Research Kit) Los Angeles: Sage, 2007.

Agar, M. *Language Shock: Understanding The Culture of Conversation*. New York: Perennial, 1994.

Atkinson, R. *The Life Story Interview*. Thousand Oaks: SAGE, 1998.

\* Elmer, D. *Cross-cultural Servanthood: Serving In The World In Christlike Humility*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2006.

Emerson, R. and R. Fretz and L. Shaw, *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn 2011.

\*Fetterman, D. *Ethnography: Step by Step*. Los Angeles: SAGE, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn 2010.

Geertz, C. *The Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Basic Books, 1973.

Kramasch, C. *Language and Culture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Kraft, Charles, *Communication Theory for Christian Witness*, Maryknoll: Orbis, 1991.

Rynkiewich, Michael. *Soul, Self, and Society: A Postmodern Anthropology for Mission in a Postcolonial World*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2012

Spradley, J. P. *Participant Observation*. Orlando: Harcourt, 1980.

Spradley, J. P. *The Ethnographic Interview*. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1979.

- \* Thomson, G. and A. Thomson. *The First Hundred Hours: Interacting about the Here and Now: Introduction to Growing Participator Approach, Phase 1A*, Version: Mar06, edits Sep09.
- Thomson, Greg and A. Thomson. *The First Hundred Hours: Interacting about the Here and Now: Add Constrained Two-Way Communication, Phase 1B*, Version: Mar06, edits Sep09.
- \* Thomson, G. and A. Thomson. *The First Hundred Hours: Interacting about the Here and Now: Introduction to Growing Participator Approach, Phase 1A*, Version: Mar06, edits Sep09.
- Thomson, Greg and A. Thomson. *The First Hundred Hours: Interacting about the Here and Now: Add Constrained Two-Way Communication, Phase 1B*, Version: Mar06, edits Sep09.