In collaboration with the Dept. of Anthropology and Program in Global Development Studies, the ISO has developed a series of seminars and short courses in learning to “cross cultures” – not just to sight-see around the world but to understand people and learn to thrive in other parts of the global economy. Taught by a team of ethnographers, the series is intended to introduce what is ultimately the “stuff” of life-long careers and endeavors. In other words, the seminars are a starting point for cross-cultural engagement rather than a comprehensive course and are ideal for students who are planning to study, work, or live abroad and are looking for basic conceptual tools to demystify the experience and make it worth the while.

**An Introduction to Cross-Cultural Miscommunication** taught by Rose Wellman
This seminar is a crash course in semiotic (meaning-making) theories of language and how they change the way we understand what happens when communication and, above all, miscommunication between people occurs. This seminar will not transform you into a semiotician by any means, but it will introduce you to a rich body of knowledge and give you a better sense of how to navigate in unfamiliar places.

**Making and Unmaking Stereotypes** taught by Loren Intolubbe-Chmil
This seminar introduces the often contentious, controversial, and blurry line between concepts of stereotypes and generalizations. Most of us “know,” in a vague way, that stereotypes are a source of misunderstanding and alienation between people, and that the other extreme of relativism, in which the world is infinitely particular, can be a source of paralysis and apathy. But how can one generalize without stereotyping or yielding to untranslatable catalogues of particulars? Join this seminar to discuss perspectives on and responses to this question.

**Self, Person, and Identity in Cross-Cultural Relation** taught by Clare Terni
This seminar introduces theories of how the experience of cultural difference can transform a person and their sense of self, identity, and role in the world. We explore beliefs about healthy and socially productive change (such as development, increased maturity, new useful knowledge and skills) as well as changes that can become unhealthy (culture shock, denial, depression). We use these theories to discuss your ambitions, expectations, experiences, and fears about living abroad and reflect on the challenge of keeping a sense of integrity while being open to change.

**NEW Presentation of a Cross-Cultural Self in Everyday Life** taught by Melissa Nelson
This seminar is designed for students who have already spent some time abroad and are interested in exploring how to move beyond their personal anecdotes to a narrative story that is relevant and meaningful to other audiences – be it a prospective employer, academic major, or public debate (at home or abroad).

**NEW Making Culture Visible While Studying Abroad** taught by Catarina Kržancic
GDS3220 is a one-credit course in which students who are studying abroad can learn to be intentional, self-reflective, and curious in how they transact and engage across cultures. It consists of online assignments organized around methods used by anthropologists to understand different cultures and worldviews. It is designed to build on the CORE seminars and supplement a study abroad experience.