It (the course) was a great look at study abroad as well as life in America. I think the course was as much of a study abroad course as it was a look into what makes one culture different from another and what defines culture.

Prof. Vogelweid is very knowledgeable and speaks from first hand experience making her statements hold more validity in the eyes of the students. In my opinion, this is the best prep SLU can offer for study abroad students.

The variety of the course bears some comment. Utilizing guest speakers in addition to presentations through various mediums (newspapers, videos) allowed the students to grapple with issues from angles domestic and foreign, academic and popular.

I especially liked the guest speakers - I found their insights to be extremely enlightening, interesting, and useful.
I think I feel better about missing so much time here in St. Louis because of these sorts of talks (the stories).

A small class made it easy to get involved and it was much more interactive which made the whole educational experience better.

The briefing (homework assignment) about our specific host country was the most useful for me -- it forced me to research areas about my host country and its culture that I would have never thought about before I was there.

I do feel much more confident and have learned much more about my soon to be host country than I would have otherwise done. The class was worth it.