FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is Culture Corps?
Culture Corps is an exciting program sponsored by the Office of International Services at NC State University. Through this program, international students, scholars, and spouses have the opportunity to travel into the Raleigh community, meet Americans, and share information about their countries with Americans. Participants give presentations, demonstrations and talks to various groups including at schools, community organizations, churches and businesses.

2. What if I think my English is not very good?
While you may be concerned about your English language abilities, please remember that the people you will be interacting with don’t expect you to have perfect English. If you’re truly concerned about your English, please come talk with the Programs Coordinator in OIS. And remember, Culture Corps is an excellent way to help you improve your English!

3. What about transportation?
No problem! Most groups will be able to provide transportation for you if you don’t have a car. If you are volunteering at Exploris in downtown Raleigh, the city bus system will take you there.

4. What if I don’t feel comfortable talking to groups?
That’s OK if you don’t feel comfortable talking to a group. There are other opportunities where you can talk with people on a more individual basis, one-to-one. We can also arrange to have you practice in front of a group at the university first before you go into the community.

5. I really don’t like the idea of going alone to make a presentation. What can I do?
There’s absolutely no reason why you need to go alone. Invite a friend to go along with you! Or contact the Programs Coordinator who can arrange for another Culture Corps participant to help make the presentation. Have fun and enjoy the presentation!

6. How can I benefit from participating in Culture Corps?
There are so many ways you can benefit from participating in Culture Corps! Here are just a few: 1) it’s a great way to strengthen and improve your English (if you’re not already fluent) 2) it looks great on a job resume 3) you develop presentation skills and poise needed for future jobs 4) you help Americans understand more about your country and culture 5) you travel to different areas in the Raleigh community 6) you meet new friends 7) It’s a lot of fun for participants!

7. I’m pretty busy here at the University. What’s the time commitment?
The time commitment depends almost entirely on you. Culture Corps will arrange with you to make at least one presentation per semester, which means a total of 2-3 hours, which is really not very much time at all. However, if you’d like to make more presentations on a regular basis, you can arrange that through OIS.

8. OK, I’m interested in Culture Corps, so what do I do next?
Be sure to fill out an application form, available through OIS in Daniels 320 or on-line. Then you will receive a phone call or email from OIS. Once a presentation is scheduled, you will be given the name and phone number/email of the person who requested the presentation. Please be in touch with them directly to make detailed arrangements, including transportation. Please note: If you’d like training on how to make presentations or need some assistance in developing a presentation, please contact the Programs Coordinator at OIS.