Culture is often used to motivate student learning in mathematics, but here I flip the paradigm and ask: How can mathematics be used to learn about culture? We will explore this idea through a case study implemented during a study abroad experience that is focused on Tibet and its culture. We will discuss not only what was done in this setting, but why do it, how to think about these ideas more generally and thoughts about teaching such courses when not abroad. (Received September 16, 2016)