Together with UCSB Professor of Sociology John Foran, Richard Widick is conducting ethnographic research on the international climate negotiations, with special focus on the Global Climate Justice Movement. In this talk he discusses the recent climate talks convened in Durban, South Africa (the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties 17, Nov. 28 – Dec 11, 2011), at which the international community extended the Kyoto Protocol, advanced the Green Climate Fund and the Center for Technology transfer, and committed to produce a comprehensive new treaty to replace Kyoto in 2020. What role do these grand convocations of the international community play in the symbolic constitution of power and resistance within the struggle to achieve some sort of rational regime of climate governance? The author will present photographic and video documentation of COP17 and consider the rationale for further ethnographic study of the international climate wars.

Richard Widick holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he has lectured on theory, culture, media, globalization, social movements and environment before joining the Orfalea Center as a Visiting Research Scholar.

May 24, 2012
Thursday, 12:00pm
Orfalea Center Seminar Room
1005 Robertson Gym

Directions: The Orfalea Center is located in the detached ground-level wing of offices on the left just outside the main Ocean Road entrance to Robertson Gymnasium.