

# What is Insight?

What if there were some way to capture students' hearts for missions straight out of high school and expose them to God's purposes, before they make life and vocational decisions? And what if we could give young adults a firm intellectual foundation for their faith, so they could engage their peers and professors intelligently instead of being labeled narrow-minded or losing their faith at college? What if such a training could be made available to students as part of their college career, at a cost competitive with state schools, so that students who pursue missions aren't hindered by student debt? Finally, what if this could be done in a replicable way so that churches and mission agencies could be the trainers of these young adults? These are just a few of the questions that drove the U.S. Center for World Mission to develop the INSIGHT program.

In 2001, the USCWM created a curriculum and replicable format whereby churches and agencies could be instrumental in adding knowledge of God's purposes to students' zeal. INSIGHT fills a gap for students interested in serving globally to explore mission and gain foundational knowledge with a one-year, cost-effective commitment, and helps churches and mission agencies provide Bible and mission training in-house to their students and missionary candidates. For those familiar with the Perspectives on the World Christian Movement course, INSIGHT builds on the Perspectives themes and incorporates a full year of college history and humanities as well as contemporary mission strategy. INSIGHT gives students a critical year before major life decisions start to be made to explore God's

purposes and learn about various worldviews, without postponing college.

For students considering involvement in mission, it provides a solid Bible and mission academic foundation with a short-term commitment as they further explore their options. For students headed for a secular campus, INSIGHT provides intellectual underpinning for their faith while teaching them how to recognize competing worldviews. INSIGHT students of all backgrounds are free to complete a degree however God leads them, whether that be further preparation for mission, pursuing a profession to use globally, or choosing any major at a private or secular college of their choice.

## Who are INSIGHT students?

The typical INSIGHT student is between age 17-25, and may be at any point in their college years, with any major or undecided. The majority of INSIGHT students are first year college students, although program locations may accept non-traditional college students and students wishing to take INSIGHT on a certificate or enrichment basis. The ideal INSIGHT student is motivated and prepared to succeed at college, particularly in college-level reading comprehension and verbal and written communication. Students who are interested in studying the Bible, worldviews, cultures, and religions with a heart that is responsive to God will thrive in INSIGHT.



## Locations

INSIGHT groups are hosted on the U.S. Center for World Mission campus in Pasadena, California, and at regional, college, and church locations throughout the United States. Churches and mission organizations are invited to consider hosting INSIGHT locally.

## The Content

INSIGHT reveals the metanarrative of God, packaged in a deconstructive, exploratory way for the American postmodern student. The curriculum was designed by Dr. Ralph Winter (Perspectives on the World Christian Movement) and Rebecca Lewis (Sonlight homeschool curriculum), and includes the writings and input of many professors and missiologists. The curriculum endeavors to be both introductory and comprehensive, a big picture sweep of God's purposes in the world throughout history.

The INSIGHT curriculum involves four modules that are typically offered two per semester, in sequential order, for two full-time semesters. Subjects are integrated so that students learn how topics and ideas are interrelated, for example how ethnic politics have been related to the development and interactions of religions throughout history. The curriculum follows the backbone of history, beginning with multiple views on the origins of the universe, following history through Biblical times and ancient civilizations, through the rise of religions, philosophies, empires and nation-states, to the "isms" that affect modern life, such as feminism, postmodernism, capitalism, and globalism.

Throughout the INSIGHT program, students are inductively studying the Bible and learning about theology, anthropology, church and mission history,

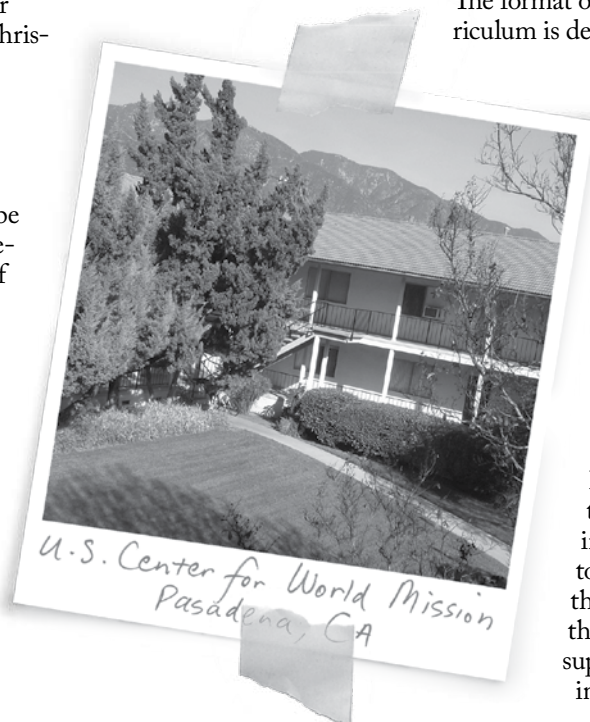
and effective cross-cultural communication. An emphasis is placed on understanding worldview, so that students can recognize the worldview assumptions of a professor, author, the media, a peer, or an unreached people group. The content of INSIGHT is presented through carefully selected assigned readings and study questions. Students are presented with multiple perspectives in their readings, and are encouraged to think through and support their own conclusions in class discussions and written work.

## The Format

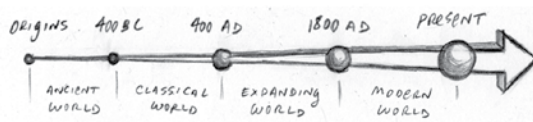
The format of INSIGHT, how the curriculum is delivered, is not the typical college experience. Instead of several lectures each day from professors in different departments, INSIGHT students use Study Guide lessons and readings to independently prepare for an integrative class discussion that is facilitated by staff and focuses on key ideas from the lesson. Discussions follow the format of Socratic dialogue and help students to synthesize the material they are learning. Students are expected to be able to interact with the authors' viewpoints from their readings and their peers, supporting their thoughts in discussion. Due to the chronological progression of the curriculum, lesson and discussion topics build on one another throughout the program.

Every five lessons there is a supplemental lecture from a local professor, missionary, or pastor who can add depth and interest to a topic that is being studied.

Field trips are arranged to nearby mosques, temples, and ethnic communities to further help students integrate what they are learning. Most INSIGHT programs also include a spiritual formation or experiential component, ranging from small groups and retreats to internships, evangelism training, and even short-term mission experiences. 🌐



## Chronological Approach



# Ways to get involved with Insight

## High School Students

INSIGHT was created with the belief that each student has a part to play in the story God is telling. INSIGHT offers high school graduates the opportunity to get a year of college under their belt while learning more about God's purposes. Students that take INSIGHT get to spend their first year of college studying different religions, worldviews, cultures, missions, theology, and the Bible while practicing building relationships to share Christ effectively at school and in our increasingly multicultural world.

Through INSIGHT, students gain a Bible and mission foundation with the freedom to complete any degree at a college of their choice. INSIGHT locations are now accepting applications from U.S. citizens.

### Next Steps:

- Download an application to INSIGHT at the US Center for World Mission in Pasadena, California at [www.uscwm.org/insight](http://www.uscwm.org/insight).
- Email [insight@uscwm.org](mailto:insight@uscwm.org) to learn how to apply for INSIGHT programs in other locations.

## Parents and Mission Advocates

Parents and concerned adults have a role to play in helping awaken students to the story God is telling before they make important life decisions and miss the opportunities to sensitively share the hope that is within them on their college campuses. Get involved by spreading the word about INSIGHT to the young people in your life, and encourage churches

and Christian organizations to host an INSIGHT program locally.

### Next Steps:

- Contact [insight@uscwm.org](mailto:insight@uscwm.org) to request a packet of information to share with local schools, home-school networks, and youth groups.
- Share this article with students and parents you know who have a heart for missions.
- Pray for INSIGHT to be hosted by churches and mission agencies to influence more students locally for mission.

## Churches & Mission Agencies/NGOs

INSIGHT was designed with church and agency hosting in mind. The reading-based curriculum, combined with the group discussion format enable churches and mission agencies to offer a high quality credit-bearing Bible, mission, and worldview curriculum through local facilitation.

The curriculum and format can be adapted and combined with existing intern, discipleship, or missionary candidate training programs, and may be delivered

at any location. INSIGHT

expands the themes of the Perspectives course into a comprehensive study of the spread of the gospel throughout history. Through the course of the program, students integrate study of the Bible, theology, worldviews, anthropology, mission history, and missiology. INSIGHT students explore the foundations for their own beliefs, learn to identify the worldviews of others, and can think comparatively and strategically about cross-cultural communication of the gospel. Most importantly, stu-



dents who take INSIGHT are challenged to respond to God and His purposes.

Is INSIGHT for your organization or church? If you have globally-minded youth, college students/interns, or missionary candidates and a desire to offer a year of foundational Bible and Mission in-house, contact the INSIGHT National Office to learn more about hosting INSIGHT or combining it with your existing programs.

#### Next Steps:

- Contact the INSIGHT National Office at [insightnationaloffice@uscwm.org](mailto:insightnationaloffice@uscwm.org).
- Share this opportunity with others in your church or other churches in your area.

#### Ministry Opportunities

INSIGHT offers opportunities to use your gifts and skills to nurture mission vision and commitment in the lives of young adults. The INSIGHT National Office, which oversees curriculum, relationships with partner colleges, communication with INSIGHT locations, and development of new programs, has openings in the areas of marketing, training, and administration. The INSIGHT student program at the US Center for World Mission is seeking an administrator. Opportunities exist for those who join

the US Center for World Mission staff in these and other capacities to also be involved in students' lives as mentors and classroom discussion leaders. Contact [insight@uscwm.org](mailto:insight@uscwm.org) to express interest in any of these opportunities. The US Center for World Mission seeks volunteer and support-raised staff, and offers training and coaching throughout the support-raising process.

May God transform the minds and wills of students whose hearts have already been captured by mission experiences, to make life and vocational decisions that are kingdom-oriented. To Him be the glory! 🌐

#### Get Connected With:

U.S. Center for World Mission

[www.uscwm.org](http://www.uscwm.org)

Adopt-A-People

[www.adopt-a-people.org](http://www.adopt-a-people.org)

Mission Frontiers

[www.missionfrontiers.org](http://www.missionfrontiers.org)

International Journal of Frontier Missiology

[www.ijfm.org](http://www.ijfm.org)

Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

[www.perspectives.org](http://www.perspectives.org)

Global Prayer Digest

[www.global-prayer-digest.org](http://www.global-prayer-digest.org)

INSIGHT Program

[http://uscwm.org/insight\\_iis.php](http://uscwm.org/insight_iis.php)

World Christian Foundations

[www.worldchristianfoundations.org](http://www.worldchristianfoundations.org)

William Carey International University

[www.wciu.edu](http://www.wciu.edu)

William Carey Library

[www.missionbooks.org](http://www.missionbooks.org)

**SAVE THE DATE**

#### You are cordially invited to... Frontiers' 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquets

**Saturday, March 15, 2008: Pasadena, California**

**Saturday, March 29, 2008: Phoenix, Arizona**

Join Frontiers' founder Greg Livingstone, new International Director Tim Lewis, and U. S. Director Bob Blincoe to learn about exciting new ventures to bring help and hope in Christ to Muslims around the world.

Don't miss the Reunion Events, Receptions and Seminars all weekend long!

Details and online registration at:

**[www.frontersonline.org/RSVP](http://www.frontersonline.org/RSVP)**

or call the 25th Anniversary Desk toll-free at 800-462-8436

