

# COMPARATIVE WORLDVIEWS: 12 MAJOR WORLDVIEWS THAT SHAPE OUR NEIGHBORS AND THEIR WORLD

**Fall 2024 Online**

**Instructor:** Robert Osburn, PhD  
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## Course description:

14-session online course helps you discover the assumptions behind the 12 major worldviews that cause your neighbors and their societies to flounder or flourish around the globe. Also, learn how a Christian worldview exposes the weaknesses of other worldviews while also uniquely offering great redemptive hope centered on Jesus Christ. **Course charge: \$99/person.**

## Course goals:

1. Understand how the concept of "worldview" relates to the search for truth
2. Learn the four major functions of worldviews
3. Learn the five criteria for evaluating and assessing worldviews
4. Learn how the 12 major worldviews answer the nine major questions that most people ask
5. Discover how worldviews help shape cultural outcomes
6. Enhance your ability to introduce Jesus Christ to your international & domestic friends
7. Download reproducible resources (including course slides) that can be used with others

## Method

30-minute Instructor-led narrated slide presentation on video (watch online before class), followed by 60-minute in-class live discussion supplemented by 15-minute optional continued class discussion (total of 75 minutes for each discussion). **If you cannot make every class session, each class session is video recorded and posted online within 24 hours after the class session.**

## Instructor

A Senior Fellow with Wilberforce International Institute, which he founded in 2009, Robert Osburn trains international students as redemptive change agents and writes and teaches about international development, comparative worldviews, corruption, education policy, and wealth creation. For seven years he taught courses at the University of Minnesota. He has a PhD in comparative and international development education from the University of Minnesota, a ThM from Dallas Seminary, and a BA from the University of Michigan. He authored *Taming the Beast: Can We Bridle the Culture of Corruption?* (Revised and Updated, 2022) and *Developing Redemptive Change Agents: Discipleship That Helps Nations Flourish Rather Than Flounder* (2021). Married for 48 years, Bob and Susan are the parents of four sons, and grandparents to 13.

Fall 2024 class schedule: Mondays 9-10 am Central time (optional additional discussion till 10:15 am)

September 9: *Why Learn about Comparative Worldviews?*

September 16: *How to Evaluate Worldviews*

September 23: *Christianity*

September 30: *Animism*

October 7: *Hinduism*

October 14: *Buddhism*

October 21: *Confucianism*

October 28: *Judaism*

November 4: *Islam*

November 11: *Naturalism*

November 18: *Nihilism*

November 25: *Existentialism*

December 2: *New Age*

December 9: *Postmodernism*

**For more information on enrollment, please go to**

**<https://www.wilberforceii.org/programs/comparative-worldviews-course/>**

