

3 X 3

ENGAGING
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS IN

NEW STUDENT OUTREACH

WITH CULTURAL WISDOM

3 THINGS TO KNOW

- 1** Year-Round: NSO happens year-round each time a new student steps off the plane. Connecting ASAP and serving practical needs builds trust.



- 2** Tabling: Flags, world maps, int'l languages, food, and music can attract attention at tables and make int'l's feel more at home.



- 3** Persistent Invitations: Multiple invites are needed in some cultures. Grad students may take longer than short-term students to explore organizations.

X THINGS TO AVOID

- 1** Assumptions: Don't assume homogeneity. Culture, English proficiency, etc. may vary. Be a learner. Notice their assumptions.

American = Christian

- 2** False Advertising: Be sure publicity identifies your group as Christian and invites mention Christian activities so expectations are clear. tiny.cc/evan-ethics

- 3** Gender Boundaries: Some cultures have strict gender segregation. Avoid 1-to-1 follow-up, touching, or being too friendly with the opposite gender.



3 THINGS TO TRY

- 1** Cooperation: Work with your school's international student office or provide services they can't, like tours, furniture, and American cultural experiences.



- 2** Personal Follow Up: When you meet, exchange phone numbers or messenger IDs. Expect longer visits to homes. Learn to pronounce their native names.



- 3** Genuine Friendship: Go deep with a few rather than befriending 100. It may lead to meeting their entire networks.



MORE RESOURCES

Questions? Email Brian bhart@intervarsity.org

Put "NSO 3x3" in subject line.

Displays and Giveaways for NSO tiny.cc/ism-nso

4 videos to help you start outreach among internationals tiny.cc/ism-pop

Starting International Small Groups guide tiny.cc/sisg

3X3 resources give you quick tips and tools to help you engage international students.

Check out more 3X3s at tiny.cc/3BY3



INTERVARSITY
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MINISTRY