

RAMP POLICY AND PROCEDURE

for the

College of Intercultural Studies and Seminary & School of Ministry

BA/BS Graduation Requirements:

1. Complete bachelor's degree core requirements, including Bible and Theology requirements, Education foundation and distribution requirements, and Leadership Development/Christian Service Learning requirements.
2. Complete major/minor requirements as described in the catalog.
3. Complete sufficient electives to total 126 semester hours.

Rapid Advancement for Ministry/Missions/Marketplace Placement (RAMP):

Students who meet the admissions requirements for graduate-level education at CIU may submit a learning contract authorization form for early entry (RAMP) into a graduate-level program. This process allows an undergraduate student to waive up to six (6) semester hours of "open electives," and complete an undergraduate degree with a minimum of 120 semester hours. To receive the waiver, students must:

1. Consult with the appropriate undergraduate major program director to confirm that their program will allow them to meet graduation requirements and waive up to six (6) hours of elective credit.
2. Complete the application process and receive approval for conditional acceptance into the proposed graduate-level degree from the Graduate/Seminary Admissions Director. Students must be conditionally accepted before they can be considered for RAMP.
3. Consult with the Office of Student Financial Services to discuss any changes in their financial aid packages.
4. Receive approval to pursue the proposed graduate-level degree via RAMP from the dean of the college that offers the degree.
5. Submit the completed authorization form to the University Registrar, who reviews it and places it in the student's official file.

Students who receive formal approval to RAMP into a graduate-level program may take graduate-level courses (at 5000 or 6000 level) as defined within the approved learning contract without submitting an academic petition. Graduate-level courses used to waive undergraduate elective hours must be completed with grades of "B" or higher prior to graduation with a bachelor's degree.

Limitations:

1. Students may take advantage of the RAMP waiver only if they enter a graduate-level degree immediately after completing their BA/BS.
2. Courses may not be "grandfathered" into a RAMP waiver after undergraduate graduation. Students must apply for RAMP waiver prior to undergraduate graduation.
3. If students fail to complete the graduate-level degree within _____ years, the waived hours revert to the completed BA/BS degree.

For further information, an undergraduate student should contact the college dean for the appropriate graduate-level program at CIU. This waiver may only be used for graduate-level courses enrolled at Columbia International University. Note that the College of Education has a separate application and procedure for a RAMP semester in the M.A.T. program.