

GETTING STARTED:

Building Up Your “Credit Hours” and Finishing Faster!

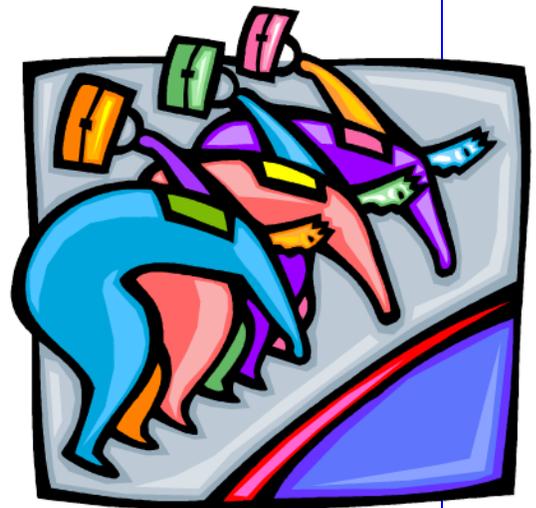
For any degree program, there are several general study and “free elective” semester credit hours needed. While Crossroads’ evening and online programs are “degree completion” by design and require a minimum level of 45 semester hours and two-years of post-secondary experience (college or marketplace), it is possible to work through several options to accumulate the necessary hours to start and complete the program with success.

Today’s educational environment offers multiple options for those general education and free elective hours, and many of these could constitute the first two years of a traditional college education. Crossroads College offers adult learners a selection of online (six-week classes), distance education (fourteen-week classes), and exam-for-credit options, as well as courses through the traditional daytime programs at Crossroads and other local colleges.

The three Bachelor of Science degrees offered in our Compass Adult Studies program requires approximately 33 semester hours in degree-specific studies (including an internship), 18 hours in Biblical and Theological studies, 30 – 40 hours in General Education studies, and some other minimal degree-specific requirements. For graduation, a total of 120 semester hours are necessary. Some of those hours may be granted or waived based on previous work-related training or significant life-experience.

Those General Education electives include:

- **Communications** (English, Speech)
- **Natural Sciences and Quantitative Thought** (Math, Science)
- **Social Sciences** (History, Anthropology, Political Science, Government, Sociology, Psychology)
- **Humanities** (History, Literature, Music, Arts, Philosophy).



For options that are readily available for adult learners, please go to the next page...

EXAM-FOR-CREDIT OPTIONS (CLEP® or DSST/Dantes®)

CLEP® (“College-Level Examination Program”) provides the opportunity to receive college credit for what you already know by earning passing scores on any of the CLEP® examinations. CLEP offers 33 exams in five subject areas, covering material taught in courses that you may generally take in your first two years of college. By passing a CLEP exam, you can earn 3 or more college credits. Study materials are available online at www.collegeboard.com/CLEP, or can be found through larger booksellers either online or at major retail outlets (i.e. Barnes and Noble, Amazon, etc.).

DSST/Dantes® (“Dantes Subject Standardized Tests” / “Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support”) allows students to receive college or continuing education credit to advance competency and increase life-changing credentials. DSST/Dantes® has over 30 exams offered on a wide range of academic, technical and business topics, including Mathematics, History, Education, Psychology, Counseling, Finance, Business, Physical Science, Writing, Ethics, World Religions, etc. Study materials are available at the www.getcollegecredit.com website, or can be found through larger booksellers either online or at major retail outlets (i.e. Barnes and Noble, Amazon, etc.).

ONLINE OR DISTANCE COURSE

www.CrossroadsCollege.edu, click on “Adult Studies”

Crossroads College offers online courses in general education (Communications, Mathematics, Physical Science, Social Sciences, and Humanities), and we also offer online courses in Ministry and Bible/Theology required for many of our degrees.

Courses are developed and taught by field-experienced instructors, and the courses are fully accredited for college programs and degrees. With faculty from Crossroads College and in partnership with other Christian Colleges nationally, our online courses offer a rich mix of practical instruction around the Biblical foundation of truth.

ONLINE: Online courses are usually six weeks in length, and demand active engagement between participants and instructors around the content and discussions. Online courses require regular and consistent internet use during the class, using Outlook Express for discussions and logging into the course content for assignments and written lectures. Online courses also require a one-time, one-week orientation class to be satisfactorily completed prior to the first official online class. This orientation can be taken for credit or audit.



DISTANCE: Working with other Christian Colleges and their faculty, special distance “correspondence” courses are available that are generally fourteen weeks in length, and depend upon the student’s reading and research adequately demonstrated through assignments and writing. These courses are good options for Bible electives or can be used toward free elective requirements. These courses are offered during regular Fall and Spring terms, and in the Summer term on a limited basis.

Options include the following courses: Restoration Movement, Intro to Islam, Youth Ministry Dynamics, Bible Lands and Lifeways, Life of Christ (four sections), Foundations of World Religions, Creative Bible Teaching, Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, Personal Evangelism, Church History, and Children’s Ministry.

No orientation class is required for distance courses.

LIFE-EXPERIENCE ESSAYS (L.E.E.)



Many adult learners come to Crossroads College with college-level competencies that have been developed experientially or attained outside the traditional college classroom. Students may obtain college credit for such competencies through “life-experience essays” (LEE). Credit may be earned and/or awarded for military training, business and industry training, or other life experiences as well.

Students requesting credit through a life-experience essay must provide appropriate evidence for each claimed competence and submit these documents for review. Evidence may include certificates, demonstrations, examinations, interviews, job descriptions, licenses, memoirs, papers, products, publications, publicity, references, and other appropriate materials. Students must demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and philosophical grounding normally taught in a course(s) required for academic program. “Interesting” life experiences may not necessarily qualify as a learning experience worthy of college credit. Documentation should include the level of quality in the instruction received, and the amount of instruction time in the classroom or through the experience.

Requests for life-experience credit should demonstrate and highlight instructional learning time, competency of trainers or instructional institution, content and quality of learning, and application to student’s degree program. Those written requests should be presented to the Compass Adult Studies Office in Crossroads’ Academic Department, and are often reviewed by the Director of Adult Studies, the Vice President of Academics, and one of Crossroads’ professors in the area of study with which this credit would be closely associated.



COMPASS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science in Ministry

Intro to Life-Long Learning (Communications elective, required): 3 semester hours
Intro to World Views (Humanities elective, required): 3 semester hours
Natural Science and Quantitative Thought: 8 semester hours
Social Sciences: 2 semester hours
Humanities: 5 semester hours
General Education: 10 semester hours
Biblical and Theological Core: 18 semester hours
Ministry Core: 33 semester hours
Free Electives: 38 semester hours

Bachelor of Science in Counseling

Intro to Psychology (required prerequisite): 3 semester hours
Principles of Leadership (required): 3 semester hours
Intro to Life-Long Learning (Communications elective, required): 3 semester hours
Communications: 2 semester hours
Natural Science and Quantitative Thought: 5 semester hours
Humanities: 8 semester hours
General Education: 9 semester hours
Biblical and Theological Core: 18 semester hours
Counseling Core: 31 semester hours
Free Electives : 41 semester hours

Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management (Business)

Intro to Life-Long Learning (Communications elective, required): 3 semester hours
Statistics (Natural Science and Quantitative Thought elective; required): 3 semester hours
Natural Science and Quantitative Thought: 5 semester hours
Social Sciences: 2 semester hours
Humanities: 5 semester hours
General Education: 10 semester hours
Biblical and Theological Core: 18 semester hours
Organizational Management Core: 33 semester hours
Free Electives: 41 semester hours

