



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
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Contact: Angela Daidone
201-684-7477
news@ramapo.edu

First-Year Seminar Students Display Desire for Diversity, Unity through Artwork

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Students in the First-Year Seminar course, "City Streets and Hallways: Cultural Analyses of Linguistic Landscapes," were introduced throughout the semester to linguistic landscape, cultural geography and anthropology of representation. For their final project, students were asked to create pro-active posters to emphasize diversity and unity at the College. The posters will be displayed throughout campus.

"I hope these posters bring a sense of unity and diversity to the campus," said Adelisa Kolenovic '23. Fellow student Erika Larsen '23 added, "This project was very eye-opening. It was interesting to see my peers' points of view and, hopefully, we can be the change we want to see."

"The students were very enthused about the project and were excited to be creative for the topic," said Neriko Doerr, assistant professor of anthropology and international studies, who taught the course.

Jessica Guccione '23 said she used a rainbow background to represent Ramapo's openness to everyone. Elijah Bracy '23 said, "This was a fun and creative way to be part of how we can change the community for the better."

First-Year Seminar is the first course in the Ramapo College general education curriculum and serves as the introduction to general education and liberal learning. The goal is to develop students' critical thinking skills using open discussion, reading, writing and experiential learning. First-Year Seminar courses are open only to first-semester, first-year students and they are designed expressly to acclimate new Ramapo College students to the higher academic expectations they will be asked to meet throughout their years of college study.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice, and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, data science, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to master's degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Data Science, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.