Tuition

Challenge tuition is $224.40 per course, which includes a 2% credit card fee; the same course taught on campus is $929.

Students who upload documentation of financial need at the time of registration (free/reduced lunch eligibility or counselor/administrator verification letter) pay $51.00 per course, which includes a 2% credit card fee. The same document must be uploaded in subsequent registration periods.

Registration

Enroll online at pdx.edu/challenge-program.

Our online registration system will require a valid email address. Important registration information will be sent directly to the student via email. If you don’t receive an email within 2 days, check your spam and trash folders.

Payment is by credit card only. If you don’t have a credit card, you can use a prepaid Visa or MasterCard.

Registration, drop, and withdrawal deadlines are listed on the back of this brochure.

Program deadlines must be met. There are no refunds.

Questions? Email The Challenge Program at challengeprogram@pdx.edu
PSU’s Challenge Program

Challenge is Portland State University’s nationally accredited dual credit program, offering college courses in area high schools for over 40 years. Our mission is equivalency of experience to the campus course, academically as well as culturally. Challenge courses are rigorous and exceed regular high school programming, which promotes transferability of credit. As with our on-campus students, we require a 3.0 cumulative GPA for participation. This is to help ensure students are prepared for the rigor and college expectations in our classrooms, and that this early college experience is both a successful and authentic one.

Credit and Credit Transfer

Challenge credit transfers nationally to many institutions and all state universities. We also have successfully argued for credit transfer at institutions with restrictive dual credit policies. It is important for our students to be their own advocates as well. Save your work, be willing to demonstrate your learning and most importantly, research dual credit policies in order to make informed decisions about your college choices. We recommend you ask visiting college recruiters about their credit transfer policies. Finally, we want to remind you that credit can transfer as direct credit, or be recognized indirectly as advanced placement or a prerequisite waiver, all of which save time and money.

Reasons to Consider Challenge

- Research indicates that students in these programs are better prepared for college expectations.
- Our courses provide multiple and varied assessments to evaluate work instead of one final, norm-referenced exam.
- Challenge students have access to PSU services – computer accounts, the library with its research databases and available training, and on-campus activities.
- It’s a great deal. Students pay a program fee, which is approximately a 75% savings over regular college tuition.
- Successful completion of coursework results in college credit from a four-year university recorded on an official transcript.
- PSU actively seeks opportunities for partnership; students are invited to campus for special events and lectures. Challenge Program adjunct instructors and PSU faculty meet for professional development workshops, engaging in rich professional development.

Courses mapped to PSU Quarters

These courses align with PSU quarters – Fall, Winter, and Spring.

The Global City (5, 5, 5 credits)
$220 per course ($660 total). Keldorf

HON 101 - Study of the representation of the city and what it means to think of the city as both a space and as an idea.

HON 102 – Development of a critical perspective of how the city of the present can be placed in relationship to the city of the past and how it is shaped by that past.

HON 103 – Integration of the different approaches and methods of the humanities, the social and the natural sciences, in order to develop a basic framework for thinking about professional and scholarly studies of the city.

Geology: Dynamic Earth: Interior & Lab (4 credits)
G 201 & G 204 Fall quarter only. ($220). Preacher

Explores the Earth’s structure and composition, why continents and oceans form, and how plate tectonics provide a unifying model to explain geological observations. Topics include the concept of deep time, the relationship between geology and topography, plate tectonics, volcanism, earthquakes, magnetism, rocks and minerals, mountain building, basin formation.

Writing Research Papers (4 credits)
WR 222 Spring term only. ($220). Keldorf

This course covers the techniques for compiling and writing research papers. Attention to available reference materials, use of library, taking notes, critical evaluation of evidence, and conventions for documenting academic papers. Practice in organizing and writing a long expository essay based on use of library resources.