

**Institutions that have accepted Challenge Program credit include:**

*Please note that this list, garnered from our annual survey of former Challenge students, is only as comprehensive as the responses we receive*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Alabama, Birmingham, University of       | Miami University                            |
| Albertson College                        | Milwaukee School of Engineering             |
| Arizona, University of                   | Montana State University at Bozeman         |
| Arizona State University                 | Montana, University of                      |
| Azusa Pacific University                 | Mount Holyoke College                       |
| Barry University                         | Mt. Hood Community College                  |
| Baylor University                        | New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology |
| Boise State University                   | New York University                         |
| Boston College                           | Northern Arizona University                 |
| Boston University                        | Northwest Nazarene College                  |
| Brigham Young University                 | Occidental College                          |
| California, Berkeley, University of      | Oklahoma Baptist University                 |
| California, Davis, University of         | Oklahoma Christian University               |
| California, San Diego, University of     | Oregon Institute of Technology              |
| California, Santa Barbara, University of | Oregon State University                     |
| California, Santa Cruz, University of    | Oregon, University of                       |
| California Polytechnic (SLO)             | Pace University                             |
| California State University, Chico       | Pacific University                          |
| Carlton College                          | Pacific Lutheran University                 |
| Carroll College                          | Pepperdine University                       |
| Cedarville College                       | Pitzer College                              |
| Chapman University                       | Point Loma Nazarene University              |
| Charleston, College of                   | Pomona College                              |
| Chemeketa Community College              | Portland, University of                     |
| Clackamas Community College              | Portland Community College                  |
| Clark College                            | Portland State University                   |
| Clatsop Community College                | Redlands, University of                     |
| Colorado at Boulder, University of       | Richmond, University of                     |
| Columbia Christian College               | Ricks College                               |
| Concordia College                        | Saint Louis University (Spain)              |
| Connecticut, University of               | Saint Olaf College                          |
| Cumberland University                    | San Francisco State University              |
| Denver, University of                    | Santa Clara University                      |
| Eastern Oregon University                | Seattle University                          |
| Eastern Washington University            | Seattle Pacific University                  |
| Embry Riddle Aeronautical University     | Skidmore College                            |
| Emerson College                          | Stevens Institute of Technology             |
| Evergreen State College                  | Southern California, University of          |
| Fisk University                          | Southern Oregon University                  |
| Foothill College                         | Stanford University                         |
| George Fox College                       | Trinity University                          |
| Georgia, University of                   | Utah, University of                         |
| Gonzaga University                       | Vanguard University of Southern California  |
| Heald College, School of Technology      | Virginia, University of                     |
| Howard University                        | Warner Pacific College                      |
| Idaho, University of                     | Washington, University of                   |
| Illinois, University of                  | Washington State University                 |
| Kilgore College                          | Western Baptist College                     |
| Knox College                             | Western Oregon University                   |
| Lane Community College                   | Westmont College                            |
| La Salle University                      | Wheaton College                             |
| Lewis & Clark College                    | Whittier College                            |
| Linfield College                         | Whitworth College                           |
| Linn-Benton Community College            | Wichita State University                    |
| Lower Columbia College                   | William and Mary, College of                |
| Loyola Marymount University              | Wisconsin, University of                    |
| Macalester College                       | Xavier University                           |
| Marquette University                     | York College of Pennsylvania                |
| Massachusetts Institute of Technology    |   |

# Challenge Program

## College credit courses for high school seniors



*Grant High School PSU Writing 222 class with Dr. Dreyer*



Are you a high school student who would like to know:

*What will a college course be like?*

*If you can handle college-level work?*

*How to make your college application more competitive?*

Take PSU courses in your high school. Smart students don't go off to college without them!

*“Challenge is unique because it unites the high school and college campus. It is an example of best practices in assessment because students are evaluated often, grades are determined by the teacher, and credit is earned as it is on campus, not by a single high-stakes exam. I am an enthusiastic Challenge advocate because of what my students gain. They earn the second year Spanish college credit they deserve at a fraction of what it will cost as college freshmen. It allows them to continue on in Spanish at college in the appropriate placement with credit for levels they have already achieved. Indeed, it motivates them to continue in Spanish when they see how much closer they are to a BA or minor or double major. Instructors also benefit, through the sharing of expertise, resources, and ideas”*

—Celeste Colasurdo, Southridge High School, PSU Spanish Instructor & IB Coordinator

*“Skeptics doubt whether Challenge courses truly deserve to be thought of as college courses. They do. I’ve worked with many teachers over the years, and there’s little doubt in my mind that they are teaching the course we teach on campus. If anything, students in the Challenge Program tend to be better writers than many of our students on campus.”*

—Duncan Carter, PSU English Faculty and long-time Challenge Writing Faculty Partner

*“My Challenge Program writing and English literature courses were both excellent preparation for my future college courses. I found them invaluable in terms of understanding the subject matter, and I am convinced that my Challenge Program courses helped me do well in my college classes.”*

—Former Challenge Program student



### Challenge: A strong advanced placement option

PSU Challenge is a partnership linking Portland State University with secondary schools.

Through this partnership, high schools offer qualified seniors the opportunity to enroll in PSU courses for credit. Courses are offered in high school classrooms during the regular school day. They are taught by high school teachers who meet the criteria to be hired as a college instructor at PSU and have been given a PSU adjunct appointment. Instructors partner with a PSU department faculty member to coordinate texts and syllabi. Faculty partners visit the classroom at least once a quarter.

### 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 60 percent savings over regular college tuition.
- ← Successful completion of coursework results in college credit from a four-year university. Your transcript doesn't distinguish your Challenge coursework from on-campus coursework.
- ← 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 dialogue.

### Blended Challenge and AP/IB courses

In some disciplines, the content for our PSU Challenge courses match up with content requirements in an AP or IB course. With approval from our departments, some of our participating high schools offer courses that are both Challenge and AP or IB. Many students opt to take the course for college credit. In this way, they still have the AP or IB designation on their high school transcript but also have the assurance of college credit through their enrollment in PSU, without the stress of taking a single, high stakes exam.

### Choosing courses

The Challenge Program is demanding. Because these are university-level courses, they examine the subjects in greater depth, take more time, and require more work. Students and parents should be aware of the rigorous study necessary to succeed in a Challenge Program course and should realize that a Challenge Program grade will become part of a student's permanent college record.

Only courses that are listed in the PSU catalog as departmental offerings at the 100 and 200 undergraduate level are eligible to be taught through the Challenge Program, with rare exceptions.

School districts partner with us to select courses based on individual high school needs and teacher qualifications. This means that different high schools will offer one or some of the courses listed below. Each of these courses earns 4 college credits.

### ENGLISH

- ← Eng 107, 108 World Literature. Narrative prose, drama, and poetry.
- ← Eng 204, 205 Survey of English Literature. From Beowulf through the Victorian Period.

- ← Wr 121 College Writing. Focus on critical thinking abilities, rhetorical strategies, writing processes, and textual conventions

### FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Challenge offers second-year foreign language instruction in German, French, and Spanish. (Second-year, college-level foreign language instruction is roughly the equivalent of fourth-year high school instruction). These courses provide an intensive review of basics introduced in first-year courses and further development of communication skills. Course numbers and titles are:

- ← Fr 201, 202, 203 Second-Year French
- ← Span 201, 202, 203 Second-Year Spanish

### HISTORY

- ← Hst 101, 102, 103 History of Western Civilization. Hst 101: Antiquity to Renaissance; Hst 102: Late Medieval to Enlightenment; Hst 103: Enlightenment to present.
- ← Hst 104, 105, 106 World History. HST 104: Emergence of Human Societies; HST 105: 1000-1600, Developments in Science & Technology and Impact on Social and Economic Patterns and Structures; HST 106: Major Characteristics of the World Since the 18th C.
- ← Hst 201, 202 History of the United States. HST 201: The colonial era to the Civil War; HST 202: Reconstruction of the South to present.

### MATHEMATICS:

- ← Mth 251, 252, 253 Calculus I, II, III. Differential and integral calculus of functions of a single variable, analytic geometry, infinite series and applications. (Follows full year of high school pre-calculus.)
- ← Stat 243, 244 Introduction to Probability and Statistics. A basic course in statistical analysis. (Follows second-year high school algebra.)

### Eligibility

Seniors with a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or above after the completion of six high

school semesters who have been recommended by their teachers and counselors, are eligible to enroll in Challenge. Juniors may be accepted with approval. In all cases, students must meet any posted pre-requisites prior to taking PSU coursework

### Enrollment and fees

Challenge is a self-support program which charges a program fee in order to cover administrative costs. Enrollment is handled by the high school instructor who also collects the program fee payment and sends both the registration and payment to us. The program fee for one 4-credit class is based on the current year's on-campus tuition and is approximately a 60% savings. Students may enroll for a maximum of two classes per quarter. The program fee is nonrefundable.

### Transferring Challenge credit

Decisions about credit transfer are ultimately up to the individual universities but it is our intention to put our students in the best possible standing for credit transfer nationally. We do this both by maintaining our accreditation with the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP), which gives the Challenge Program national recognition for its quality and rigor, and, for the handful of small, private schools who restrict credit transfer from concurrent enrollment programs, by lobbying for an exception on a case-by-case basis. As a result, we have a very good record of credit transfer nationally.

Challenge Program  
Portland State University  
PO Box 751--CLAS Dean's Office  
Portland, Oregon 97207-0751

[www.pdx.edu/challenge-link](http://www.pdx.edu/challenge-link)  
[challenge-link@pdx.edu](mailto:challenge-link@pdx.edu)  
503-725-3430 • Office: SMU M304/308