



The Challenge Program

Adrienne C. Nelson High School 2025–26

PSU's Challenge Program

Challenge is a nationally accredited dual credit program offering Portland State University (PSU) college courses at Nelson. In addition to earning college credit at a greatly discounted rate, Challenge students have access to PSU services, including student ID cards, computer accounts, and the library with its online databases. A 3.0 cumulative GPA is required to participate in Challenge to help ensure students are prepared for the rigor and expectations of a college course.

Registration

Make sure to read the instructions before you begin! There are some differences to the process based on whether you are a new or returning Challenge student.

To get started on your registration, visit:

pdx.edu/challenge-program/challenge-program-registration

Tuition

At \$224.40 per course (or \$51 if you qualify for financial aid), Challenge courses cost a fraction of regular college tuition (which is \$1275 per course on campus this year). It's a great deal!

For information on Challenge tuition, visit:

pdx.edu/challenge-program/about-challenge-program

Credit and Credit Transfer

Challenge credit transfers nationally to many institutions and all state universities.

For detailed information on Challenge credit and credit transfer, visit:

pdx.edu/challenge-program/credit-and-transcripts

Adrienne C. Nelson Courses 2025–26

These courses align with the first or second high school semester. Students register and pay once per course.

WR 121Z – Composition I (4 credits) \$224.40. Smith or Wiles. **Register by September 30**

Engages students in the study and practice of critical thinking, reading, and writing. The course focuses on analyzing and composing across varied rhetorical situations and in multiple genres. Students will apply key rhetorical concepts flexibly and collaboratively throughout their writing and inquiry process.

WR 222 - Writing Research Papers (4 credits) \$224.40. Smith or Wiles. **Register by February 17**

Introduction to academic inquiry, with focus on evaluating and engaging with secondary research and on conventions for documentation. *Recommended prerequisite: WR 121Z.*

Registration, Drop, and Withdraw Deadlines

FALL REGISTRATION – September 30th Deadline

WR 121Z: Composition I	Drop: November 3 Withdraw: December 16
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WINTER REGISTRATION – February 17th Deadline

WR 222: Writing Research Papers	Drop: March 16 Withdraw: May 4
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Dropping a course means there will be no record of the course on the student's college transcript.

Withdrawing will leave the course on the student's college transcript with a grade of "W."