The Challenge Program

Ida B. Wells-Barnett High School 2025–26

PSU's Challenge Program

Challenge is a nationally accredited dual credit program offering Portland State University (PSU) college courses at Wells. 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

Registration, Drop, and Withdraw Deadlines

FALL REGISTRATION – September 30th Deadline

G 201/204: Dynamic Earth: Interior and Lab	**Drop:** Nov. 3 **Withdraw:** Dec. 16
PHY 211/214: General Physics (with Calculus) and Lab	**Drop:** Dec. 16 **Withdraw:** April 13

WINTER REGISTRATION – February 17th Deadline

G 202/205: Dynamic Earth: Surface and Lab	**Drop:** March 16 **Withdraw:** May 4

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."

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

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(503) 725-3430 | challengeprogram@pdx.edu | www.pdx.edu/challenge-program

Wells Courses 2025–26

Courses Mapped to Semesters

This courses is taught in a sequence of two aligned with the high school semesters. Students register and pay twice.

Geology

G 201 & G 204* - Dynamic Earth: Interior and Lab (4 credits) $224.40. Brown. **Register by September 30**
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.

G 202 & G 205* - Dynamic Earth: Surface and Lab (4 credits) $224.40. Brown. **Register by February 17**
Explores how weather and climate alter the Earth's surface and landscapes over time due to rock weathering, mountain building, the action of streams, glaciers, wind, and ocean waves and currents. Embedded in these topics is the discussion of human practices impacting the natural environment.
**Laboratory work involves basic geologic principles and processes emphasizing rocks, minerals, topographic and geologic maps.*

Courses mapped to Academic Year

This course is taught as a year-long course. Students register and pay once.

Physics

PHY 211 & PHY 214 – General Physics with Calculus and Lab (5 credits) $224.40. Muralidharan.
Register by September 30

Introductory physics for students majoring in science and engineering. The student will explore statics and dynamics using the methods of calculus. Prerequisite MTH 251Z.