

# The Challenge Program

Northwest Academy 2025–26



## PSU's Challenge Program

Challenge is a nationally accredited dual credit program offering Portland State University (PSU) college courses at Northwest Academy. 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 and available training. 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](https://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](https://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](https://pdx.edu/challenge-program/credit-and-transcripts)

## Northwest Academy Courses 2024–25

### Courses mapped to PSU Quarters

These courses are taught in a sequence of three that aligns with PSU quarters – Fall, Winter, and Spring. Students register and pay three times a year.

### Second-Year American Sign Language

**ASL 201** (4 credits) \$224.40. Blea. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

**ASL 202** (4 credits) \$224.40. Blea. \*\*Register by February 17\*\*

**ASL 203** (4 credits) \$224.40. Blea. \*\*Register by April 14\*\*

Expansion and refinement of first-year comprehension and production skills; expansion of grammatical and lexical repertoires through task-based instruction in transactions such as asking/giving directions, making plans, describing and identifying people, places and things, giving simple instructions, and telling what happened. Expected preparation: ASL 103 for ASL 201, ASL 201 for ASL 202, ASL 202 for ASL 203

## Registration, Drop, and Withdraw Deadlines

### FALL REGISTRATION – September 30th Deadline

<b>ASL 201:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year American Sign Language <b>SPAN 201:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Spanish <b>SPAN 301:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Spanish	<b>Drop:</b> Oct. 20 <b>Withdraw:</b> Nov. 3
<b>STAT 243Z:</b> Elementary Statistics	<b>Drop:</b> Nov. 3 <b>Withdraw:</b> Dec. 16
<b>ENG 254:</b> American Lit. <b>MTH 251Z:</b> Diff. Calc. <b>MTH 252Z:</b> Integral Calc. <b>WR 222:</b> Research Papers	<b>Drop:</b> Dec. 16 <b>Withdraw:</b> April 13

### WINTER REGISTRATION – February 17th Deadline

<b>ASL 202:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year American Sign Language <b>SPAN 202:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Spanish <b>SPAN 302:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Spanish	<b>Drop:</b> March 2 <b>Withdraw:</b> March 9
<b>STAT 244:</b> Introduction to Probability and Statistics II	<b>Drop:</b> March 16 <b>Withdraw:</b> May 4

### SPRING REGISTRATION – April 14th Deadline

<b>ASL 203:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year American Sign Language <b>SPAN 203:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Spanish <b>SPAN 303:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Spanish	<b>Drop:</b> May 4 <b>Withdraw:</b> May 18
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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."

### Second-Year Spanish

**SPAN 201** (4 credits) \$224.40. Middleton. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

**SPAN 202** (4 credits) \$224.40. Middleton. \*\*Register by February 17\*\*

**SPAN 203** (4 credits) \$224.40. Middleton. \*\*Register by April 14\*\*

Intensive review of basic materials introduced in First-Year Spanish and further development of communication skills.

*Recommended: SPAN 103.*

### Third-Year Spanish

**SPAN 301** (4 credits) \$224.40. Comandich. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

**SPAN 302** (4 credits) \$224.40. Comandich. \*\*Register by February 17\*\*

**SPAN 303** (4 credits) \$224.40. Comandich. \*\*Register by April 14\*\*

Spanish language study to help develop advanced proficiency. Intensive grammar instruction in preparation for upper division courses in culture, linguistics and literature. Emphasis on speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing skills for analysis and research. *This course is taught in a sequence of three: SPAN 301, SPAN 302, and SPAN 303. It is preferable to take the sequence in order. Expected Preparation: SPAN 203*

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### Courses Mapped to Semesters

These courses are taught in a sequence of two that aligns with high school semesters. Students register and pay twice a year.

#### Probability and Statistics

**STAT 243Z – Elementary Statistics** (4 credits) \$224.40. Hanes. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

A first course in statistics focusing on the interpretation and communication of statistical concepts. Introduces exploratory data analysis, descriptive statistics, sampling methods and distributions, point and interval estimates, hypothesis tests for means and proportions, and elements of probability and correlation. Technology will be used when appropriate. This is the first course in a sequence of two: Stat 243Z and Stat 244 which must be taken in sequence. *Prerequisite: Completion of high school precalculus with a grade of C- or above.*

**STAT 244 – Introduction to Probability and Statistics II** (4 credits) \$224.40. Hanes. \*\*Register by Feb. 17\*\*

A basic course in statistical analysis including estimation, tests of significance, experimental design and analysis of variance, linear regression and correlation, nonparametric statistics, selected topics, applications, and use of statistical computer packages. A broad nontechnical survey designed primarily for non-math students who need to utilize the subject in their own fields. This is the second course in a sequence of two: Stat 243Z and Stat 244 which must be taken in sequence. *Prerequisite: Stat 243Z.*

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### Courses mapped to Academic Year

These courses are taught as year-long courses. Students register and pay once for each course.

**ENG 254 - Survey of American Literature** (4 credits) \$224.40. Wiggins. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

An introduction to American literature from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.

**WR 222 - Writing Research Papers** (4 credits) \$224.40. Ellington. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

Introduction to academic inquiry, with focus on evaluating and engaging with secondary research and on conventions for documentation.

**MTH 251Z – Differential Calculus** (4 credits) \$224.40. Campbell. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

This course explores limits, continuity, derivatives, and their applications for real-valued functions of a single variable. These topics will be explored graphically, numerically, and symbolically in real-life applications. This course emphasizes abstraction, problem-solving, modeling, reasoning, communication, connections with other disciplines, and the appropriate use of technology. *Prerequisite: Completion of MTH 112Z, preferably with a grade of B or above.*

**MTH 252Z- Integral Calculus** (4 credits) \$224.40. Hanes. \*\*Register by September 30\*\*

This course explores Riemann sums, definite integrals, and indefinite integrals for real-valued functions of a single variable. These topics will be explored graphically, numerically, and symbolically in real-life applications. This course emphasizes abstraction, problem-solving, modeling, reasoning, communication, connections with other disciplines, and the appropriate use of technology. *Prerequisite MTH 251Z.*