

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

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

Northwest Academy Courses 2025–26

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 French

FR 201 (4 credits) \$224.40. Berger. **Register by September 30**

FR 202 (4 credits) \$224.40. Berger. **Register by February 17**

FR 203 (4 credits) \$224.40. Berger. **Register by April 14**

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

This course is taught in a sequence of three: FR 201, FR 202, and FR 203. It is preferable to take the sequence in order.

Expected preparation: FR 103.

Registration, Drop, and Withdraw Deadlines

FALL REGISTRATION – September 30th Deadline

FR 201: 2 nd Year French	Drop: Oct. 20
SPAN 201: 2 nd Year Spanish	Withdraw: Nov. 3
SPAN 301: 3 rd Year Spanish	
STAT 243Z: Elementary Statistics I	Drop: Nov. 3
	Withdraw: Dec. 16
ENG 254: American Lit.	Drop: Dec. 16
MTH 251Z: Diff. Calc.	Withdraw: April 13
MTH 252Z: Integral Calc.	
WR 222: Research Papers	

WINTER REGISTRATION – February 17th Deadline

FR 202: 2 nd Year French	Drop: March 2
SPAN 202: 2 nd Year Spanish	Withdraw: March 9
SPAN 302: 3 rd Year Spanish	
STAT 244: Introduction to Probability and Statistics II	Drop: March 16
	Withdraw: May 4

SPRING REGISTRATION – April 14th Deadline

FR 203: 2 nd Year French	Drop: May 4
SPAN 203: 2 nd Year Spanish	Withdraw: May 18
SPAN 303: 3 rd Year Spanish	

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*

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 I (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.*

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.*