Portland Center Program at Portland State University

- Wide variety of elective classes
- Portland is an attractive, safe American city

Location: Portland, Oregon, USA

Title: Portland Center (Fall cohort)

Application Requirements

TOEFL/IELTS: iBT 36, ITP 460, or IELTS 5.5 minimum at time of program start; expected to achieve an iBT 61/ITP 500 minimum by Winter Term.

GPA: GPA of 2.00 or higher

Nationality: This program is open to any nationalities whose first language is NOT English.

Dates:

TBD (September 23, 24, or 25) Arrival in Portland
TBD (2-3 days after the arrival date) Orientation
September 30 -December 13 Fall Term (includes final exams week)
December 14-January 5 Winter Vacation
January 6 –March 20 Winter Term (includes final exam days)
March 21–29 Spring Vacation
March 30 –June 12 Spring Term (includes finals week)
June 21–August 15 Summer Term (Optional)
**Summary:**

The Portland Center program requires students to take 4 credits of Academic English class per term. This Academic English course is open only to Portland Center Program students. This is advantageous to our students because they have an English class tailored to their specific needs.

Students with qualifying TOEFL scores may also take regular PSU electives. There is no program restriction on what electives they take; however, PSU departments may put restrictions (major, class standing, and matriculation) on the elective courses.

Students are also invited to take "Community-Based Learning" classes at Portland State University. These classes help our students learn more about Americans and American society.

**Courses load based on TOEFL level**

**TOEFL iBT 36-70 (ITP 460-523)**

- Portland Center course*¹ (4 credits)
- ESL course*² (4 credits)
- PSU course*³ #1 (4 credits)
- PSU course #2 (4 credits) – Optional

Total credits: 12-16 per term (12 credits are required to maintain your immigration status)

**TOEFL iBT 71 and above (ITP 527 and above)**

- Portland Center course or ESL course (4 credits)
- PSU course #1 (4 credits)
- PSU course #2 (4 credits)
- PSU course #3 (4 credits) – Optional

Total credits: 12-16 per term (12 credits are required to maintain your immigration status)

---

*: Portland Center Course:
- is a course we offer to our in-bound study abroad students not regular PSU undergraduates.
- has no prerequisites.
- is centered around the culture and geography of Portland and how it is the same and different from other places in the United States.
- offers students to practice research writing presentations and other academic skills.
- is not a straight ESL class but an applied skills class to assist students with their regular PSU courses
- awards ESL/English Language credits

*: ESL: Open for Portland Center program students and other international students.

*: PSU Courses: Regular elective courses offered throughout the university
**Students with a TOEFL score 36-70 on iBT (ITP 460-523)**

Waseda students with an iBT 36-70 are allowed to take up to 2 PSU elective courses (up to 8 credits, excluding business courses). This arrangement is only offered to Waseda students and will not be advertised on our regular materials or webpage. However, we recommend students with a lower TOEFL score to choose one PSU course especially for the first term and to see our ESL instructor to get authorized for additional PSU elective course. We strongly encourage students with a lower TOEFL score to take PSU elective course listed on the following page because they are seen as less demanding courses and better suited to students needing more ESL support. Those courses are still PSU regular courses that PSU domestic students register for. If students with a lower TOEFL score wishes to take a class not on this list, we will consider their request but we cannot guarantee their placement.

**Students with a TOEFL score 71+ on iBT (ITP 527+)**

Students with iBT scores above 71 may take up to 3 PSU elective courses (up to 12 credits) offered at the university. Please note that some upper division courses (300-400 level) may have prerequisites and students may need to get instructor’s approval to get overridden (usually students need to show their transcript to show those prerequisite courses are completed at Waseda University).
Sample PSU Courses

Courses available to Portland Center students with TOEFL iBT score over 36 (students with TOEFL iBT score over 71 are eligible to take any course offered at the university*)

**Anthropology**
ANTH 103 Introduction to Social/Cultural Anthropology

**Art**
ART 100 Introduction to Communication Design for Non-Art Majors
ART 261 Digital Photography
FILM 331U Understanding Movies

**Business**
BA 101 Introduction to Business & World Affairs
BA 205 Business Communication
BA 211 Financial Accounting
BA 331 FIN Understanding Personal Finance

**Communications**
COMM 100 Introduction to Communication
COMM 215 Introduction to Intercultural Communication
COMM 218 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
COMM 220 Public Speaking

**Computer Science**
CS 161 Introduction to Program and Problem Solving

**Engineering**
ME 120 Introduction to Engineering
EAS 211 Statics
EAS 212 System Controls
EC 201 Principles of Microeconomics
ECE 101 Exploring Electrical Engineering

**Economics**
ECON 332 Economics of Environmental Issues

**English**
ENG 100 Introduction to Literature
WR 115 Introduction to College Writing

**Environmental Sciences**
ESM 100 Portland’s Environmental Policy
ESM 222 Environmental Science & Policy
ESM 230 Environmental Chemistry
UNST 224 Environmental Sustainability

**Geography**
GEOG 230 Environment & Society: Global Perspectives

**Interdisciplinary Studies**
UNST 254 Popular Culture

**International Studies**
INTL 201 Introduction to International & Global Studies
INTL 321U Globalization & Identity in Comparative Studies
INTL 323U Tradition & Innovation in Comparative Cultures

**Linguistics**
LING 232 Language & Society
LING 390 Introduction to Linguistics

**Math**
MTH 251 Calculus I
MTH 256 Applied Differential Equations

**Native American Studies**
NAS 201 Native American Studies

**Urban and Public Affairs**
PA 311 Introduction to Civic Engagement
PHE 444U Global Health

**Philosophy**
PHL 201 Introduction to Philosophy
PHL 210 Philosophy of Religion

**Political Science**
PS 101 US Government

**Psychology**
PSY 200 Psychology as a Natural Science
PSY 204 Psychology as a Social Science

**Sociology**
SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology
SOC 320 Globalization
SOC 342 Social Psychology: Self, Attitudes, and Social Influence

**Theater**
TA 101 Theatre Appreciation
TA 102 Introduction to Acting
TA 241 Improvisational Acting

**Urban Studies**
USP 325U Community and the Built Environment
UNST 421 Bicycle Barriers: Alternative Transportation Issues in Portland
UNST 421 Civic Leadership for Social Change
USP 300U Introduction to Urban Studies

**Gender Studies**
WS 101 Introduction to Women’s Studies

* Standard departmental and university course
Housing and Meal Plan:

Students have two housing options:

**Option #1:** Dormitory room (single or double, based on availability) ranging between $1500-$3500 per term. The application fee is $50 (non-refundable) and you also need to make a $140 deposit (refundable) at the time of application. A meal plan is available, but students have kitchens to do their own cooking or they can eat at local restaurants or on campus. Most furnished rooms on campus are double-occupancy and we try our best to pair you with a non-PC roommate (but not guaranteed). *There may be a case that Waseda students live with Japanese students in the same room and/or unit.

This is the Academic Year 2019-2020 (Fall, Winter, and Spring) contract. Students are required to sign a 3 term housing contract, so it is NOT possible to switch to a Homestay mid-year. *(It may be a possible to switch to a Homestay mid-year only in the case students file a cancelation form by the date specified in the contract and pay a cancelation fee )


**First Year Experience:**
FYE is a program that helps traditional first-year students transition to an urban campus, find academic support, and develop a home on the PSU campus. The community is supported by student staff and professionals who understand the needs of the first-year students and create communities that help students find social connections, enjoy Portland and campus communities and develop a healthy lifestyle.

All first year students live in a FYE community and will select from the options below. The majority of first year students live in Broadway and Ondine.

*Students graduated high school prior to September 2018 are eligible to opt out of FYE.*

**Option #2:** Homestay costing about $2,925 per term ($225 per week, including 3 meals per day). Their application fee is $400 (non-refundable). Please see [www.andeo.org](http://www.andeo.org) for more information.

*There may be a case that Waseda students live with Japanese students in the same room and/or unit.

It is possible to start in a homestay and then switch to a dormitory room (if available) after one or two terms.

Opportunities for Learning through Experience:

Portland State University is famous for its "Community Based Learning" courses. These courses are open to Portland Center students and are an opportunity for them to work on a project with Americans that benefits a local community non-profit. The Portland Center staff helps students find volunteer placements in Portland. Our students have volunteered as Japanese language assistants at local schools, helpers at the local animal shelter, and as playgroup leaders for children at the state refugee center.

Portland State has many student organizations/clubs that our students may join (please see [http://www.pdx.edu/recreation/rec-clubs](http://www.pdx.edu/recreation/rec-clubs) and [http://salpsync.orgsync.com/studentorg](http://salpsync.orgsync.com/studentorg) for current lists.

Program field trips are offered each term and have included beach trips, rafting, baseball and NBA games, museum trips, and festivals, as well as short-term volunteer experiences.
Facilitation Plan:

The Portland Center Office serves students Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm. Students receive their mail at the office. All staff serve students in one capacity or another (e.g. advising, assisting with registration, resolving housing problems, etc…). Students are given an emergency contact card with the cell telephone numbers of all staff. There is a very high level of academic and personal support to Portland Center students.

Estimated Tuition: $20,500/ whole duration of the program: 9 months (3 terms)

Estimated Living Expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>$670 per month</td>
<td>X 9 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$430 per month (meals are included in the homestay fee)</td>
<td>X 9 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>$1170 per quarter (estimated)</td>
<td>X 3 quarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$421 per quarter (estimated)</td>
<td>X 3 quarters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact

Sally Strand Mudiamu                      Anri Zama
Director                                    Program Manager
strand@pdx.edu                                anriz@pdx.edu
(+1)503-725-5726                             (+1)503-725-5728

Mailing address:

Portland State University
PO Box 751-WASA
Portland, OR 97207-0751
USA