

PNCA TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY STATEMENT

Students with previous college credits are welcome and valued members of the educational community at PNCA. Transfer students bring to the College a diversity of ideas, experience and expertise that stimulate both the creativity and growth in the classroom.

PNCA offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in the following majors: Graphic Design, Illustration, Animated Arts, Intermedia, Photography, Video and Sound, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, General Fine Arts and Creative Writing. Much of a student's success in this program is based on the completion of PNCA's Foundation First Year prior to study within a specified major. If you are a transfer student accepted for admission to the College at an advanced level (beyond Foundation First Year), you must have taken courses and earned credit that reflects a foundation level experience similar to our program as outlined in our catalog.

It is the school's intention to accept foundation level experience earned from colleges with programs that vary from PNCA's. This sometimes means that credit earned in those programs may not be equivalent to what is required at PNCA. In such cases, required courses may be waived with credit hours added to studio electives following transcript evaluation by the Academic Advising/Registrar's Office. Courses can be waived, but credit cannot.

For example, PNCA requires 3 credits of foundation 3-D design, whereas some schools require only 2 credits. We will accept those 2 credits as fulfilling our requirement, and waive the remaining course requirement, adding the remaining credit hours to studio electives.

Your level of placement beyond Foundation First year is determined by your credit earned towards your degree and major. It is based primarily on your portfolio/slides of artwork in relation to studio courses taken at other colleges and how they apply to PNCA's curriculum. Liberal Arts credits are distributed categorically. You must complete any remaining foundation requirements during your first year at PNCA, schedule permitting. These cannot be deferred to the senior year. If you were accepted at the foundation level with studio transfer credits, you must complete all Foundation studio requirements except those specifically waived.

You must fulfill the total number and distribution of credit requirements for graduation as published in the catalog. You will have access to your Degree Audit in the SAGE for Students portal which can be reviewed with your Department Chair (Program/major Advisor).

TRANSFER PARTNER COLLEGES WITH TRANSFER AGREEMENT - PNCA Admissions website

See the PNCA website for information regarding transfer pathways and partner college agreements.
<https://pnca.willamette.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-agreements#transferPartner>

See the PNCA website for TRANSFER EQUIVALENCY GUIDE
<https://pnca.willamette.edu/pdf/transfer-equivalency-general-guide.pdf>

CRITERIA FOR TRANSFER CREDIT

PNCA will accept credit from any academically accredited two-year or four-year institution. There is no time limit on the transfer of credits. The College may, on a case-by-case basis, accept credits from an institution that is a candidate for accreditation or an institution accredited under the category of trade school. Only credits earned with a grade of C- or better will be considered for transfer, and a cumulative gpa. of 2.30. PNCA will accept a maximum of 73 transfer credits. In the case of a college closure, PNCA may accept up to 90 credits. To request such an exception, submit a request in writing to the Registrar for review.
registrar@willamette.edu

PNCA's requirements for a BFA degree (121 credits) include a minimum of 76 required and elective credits in studio art (this includes the 1 credit first year seminar).

The remaining portion, 45 semester credits, are in the areas of liberal arts and sciences, and art history. All or part of these credits may be transferred from another institution. To be eligible, coursework must be relevant to PNCA's degree requirements. Please refer to the Willamette - College of PNCA Course Catalog for course descriptions and more information about these requirements.

Comparing course descriptions is a major part of credit transfer. For credit to transfer, courses previously taken must relate, in content and depth, to courses described in PNCA's current catalog. PNCA credits are earned on a semester basis. Credits at other institutions may, however, be earned on a semester or a quarter basis. A quarter credit is worth 2/3 of a semester credit earned (upon calculation fractions will be rounded down). Regardless of the amount of credit earned, a transfer student must complete a minimum of two years (48 semester credits) at PNCA to receive a BFA degree from the College. Credits earned at another college are not transferred until the Registrar receives an official transcript from the institution where those credits were earned. Veterans eligible for benefits must submit their military transcript for review to determine if any credit is eligible for transfer.

Examples of relevant areas of liberal arts and sciences study include:

Humanities

Languages
Literature
Philosophy
Cultural Geography
Speech (upper division coursework only)
Religious Studies (upper division coursework only)
Journalism (upper division coursework only)

Social Sciences

Sociology
Psychology
Anthropology
Archeology
Economics
Political Science
History
Philosophy
Women's Studies

Other Areas of Study

Business Administration
Music History

Natural Sciences

Botany
Chemistry
Geology
Physics
Zoology
Atmospheric Sciences
Biochemistry
Biophysics
Physical Geography
Microbiology
Entomology
Biology
Astronomy
Oceanography

To fulfill requirements for upper division liberal arts and science, the transfer credit should be at the 300 (junior) level or above. Though this is ultimately up to the discretion of the Registrar

and the Department Chair to decide if lower level liberal arts and science transfer to allow students to more freely focus on Studio Course requirements.

Students who enter with a previous Bachelors degree from an accredited four-year college are assumed to have fulfilled the liberal arts and sciences requirements. This does not include the Art History sequence. Art History transfer credits only apply to comparable Art History requirements at PNCA; they do not count toward general Liberal Arts.

Students seeking advanced placement or course waivers should consult with the Department Chair for their major and/or the PNCA Academic Advisor assigned to them..

CHALLENGE TO PLACEMENT

Students may challenge their placement if they feel their year level placement in a course is not appropriate. A challenge to placement must be brought by the student to the department chair responsible for that course, and be reviewed by that department chair. The student may choose to challenge placement prior to the beginning of the semester of the student's original enrollment semester.

Or a challenge to placement must be made prior to the Add/Drop deadline for classes if you need to replace challenged credits hours with a new course or courses in order to maintain full-time status for the semester (12 credit hours).

ADVANCED STUDIO PLACEMENT AND LOWER DIVISION LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Occasionally a transfer student who has been placed at sophomore or junior standing in their major will still need to complete one or more lower division liberal arts & science courses. The College acknowledges that the needs of some transfer students might best be met with more challenging upper division courses. Each applicant will be reviewed on a case by case basis to determine the best course of action for that student. The following decision(s) will then be made:

- a. One or more courses may be waived and the required credit added to upper division seminar(s). For example, if Perspectives in Society and Culture is waived, 3 credits will be added to Social Science Seminar. Or, if a section of Writing in Context is waived, 3 credits will be added to Literature Seminar.
- b. If the College decides that one or more of these lower division courses would be of benefit to the student, the requirement may be fulfilled in one of two ways:
 - by taking the required course(s) at PNCA, schedule permitting, or
 - by taking an equivalent course at one of the local colleges or universities, if there is a schedule conflict with a required PNCA studio course.

The College encourages students with advanced studio placement to stay on track and in sequence with their required studio art courses at PNCA. Therefore, this option is recommended only in cases where there is a schedule conflict. The student should talk with a Financial Aid Counselor regarding the possible impact on their financial aid package.