

Paul Kane Challenge Procedures for 2016 - 2017

Background

Alberta Learning has developed a course challenge policy that allows high school students who believe that they already possess the expected knowledge, skills, and attitudes, as defined by the Program of Studies for a given course, to challenge the expectations for that course by participating in the formal assessment process, be given a final mark, and if successful, credits in that course.

1. Philosophy and Rationale

St. Albert Public Schools remains committed to the belief that each student, as much as possible, should be able to work at his or her appropriate level of curriculum and rate of learning. This commitment means, of course, that schools must continue to provide opportunities to readjust students' study patterns and streaming.

One of the advantages to the student of challenging a course rather than having a prerequisite course waived is that the final mark (percentage) awarded can be used for scholarship purposes.

Who Might Challenge A Course?

The opportunity to challenge a course is open to any student who feels that he or she already has mastered the learning in a particular course.

Course Challenges are intended to:

- meet the diverse needs of students,
- facilitate placement of students according to the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they have already achieved,
- encourage students' ownership of their learning, and
- provide for students' best educational interests.

The District Board Policy, Board Regulations, and Administrative Regulations are based on the beliefs that:

- High school students who already possess the knowledge, skills, and attitudes prescribed by the Program of Studies for a course should be allowed to demonstrate these through assessment opportunities other than those provided in regular classroom assessment.
- It is important for schools to acknowledge the learning that students acquire in a variety of settings is not necessarily limited to schools.

- A student's eligibility for a course challenge should be based on what is in the student's best educational interest.
- Students should take responsibility for the progress of their learning as part of their preparation for life-long learning.
- Course challenges must be administered and evaluated, by teachers.
- Assessment procedures for course challenges must include a variety of strategies.

Global Language Challenge Assessment Procedures & Assessment (2016 — 2017)

Information about course challenges will be communicated to parents and students periodically through the school newsletter and student bulletin.

Definition — Course challenge is a provision that allows senior high school students to challenge the expectations for a course by participating in a formal assessment process, rather than taking the course.

Procedures

- Students will have the option to request to challenge a course within the first three weeks of either semester.
- **It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request to challenge a course, complete a Course Challenge Request Form and to submit the form to the corresponding language teacher.**
 - **Chinese 30- Mrs. Li, room 169**
 - **French 30 - Mrs. Lajoie, room 168**
 - **Japanese 30 - Mrs. Allen, room 147**
 - **Spanish 30 - Ms. Runge, room 218**
- **This application form must be signed by a parent or guardian and returned by the due date. Late applications will not be accepted.** In consultation with the language teacher, an initial review of the student's request to challenge the course will be completed and a recommendation to the administrator will be made. The administrator in consultation with the student, teacher, and parents will decide if the course challenge will go forward or stop at this point.
- It is the student's responsibility to prepare for the course challenge assessment process, including a written, an oral, a listening, and a portfolio component.
- It is the student's responsibility to meet the specified timeline for completion.
- A student who has taken the same course in school and has failed it will not be deemed eligible to challenge that course.
- A student who is successful in the course challenge will receive a "Pass" standing for prerequisite courses. Furthermore, a numerical grade will be assigned to the challenged course.

- A student who does not receive a passing grade will receive no credits and that percentage will be forwarded to Alberta Education.
- If a student begins the process and does not complete all of the steps, the mark will be representative of work completed and submitted to Alberta Education.
- **A student shall attempt a particular course challenge only once.** If the student is unsuccessful but wants credit in the course or wishes to raise his/her mark, the student is required to take the course.
- Students may not challenge a course and take the course in the same semester.
- Upon acceptance of the Portfolio project, the student is required to complete the examination process. Failure to complete the Portfolio project within specified department timelines will result in the termination of the course challenge process.
- Evidence of plagiarism will invalidate the course challenge. Use of computer translators is prohibited (i.e. *Babelfish.com*).

Assessment

To pass a Language Course Challenge at Paul Kane, each of the following sections of the assessment must be successfully completed:

i.	Thematic Project	50%
ii.	Interview	15%
iii..	Final Examination	
	1. Written	20%
	• 10% multiple choice/grammar	
	• 5% written production	
	• 5% written comprehension	
	2. Listening Comprehension	15%
		<hr/>
	FINAL GRADE	100%

Language Challenges 2016 - 2017

The dates below must be adhered to in order for the challenge to continue. Failure to meet these will lead to a stop of a challenge process, and, therefore, no mark assigned.

Semester One

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Signed Challenge Form submitted | by September 30 |
| 2. | Portfolio Project | November 30 |
| 3. | Interview | End of 1 st Semester |
| 4. | Written Examination | End of 1 st Semester |
| 5. | Listening Comprehension | End of 1 st Semester |

Semester Two

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Signed Challenge Form submitted | by February 28 |
| 2. | Portfolio Project | May 5 |
| 3. | Interview | End of 2 nd Semester |
| 4. | Written Examination | End of 2 nd Semester |
| 5. | Listening Comprehension | End of 2 nd Semester |

Students are required to arrange with the appropriate teacher a date to complete the speaking and listening portions of the Challenge Exam.

Students will write the written portion of their Challenge Exam during exam week with the rest of the language classes. If there is a conflict, students must make arrangements with their teachers.

ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED WITH THIS APPLICATION

1. Names of two previous teachers/instructors in this subject area.
2. Examples of student work in this subject area as specified by the Department Head at his/her discretion.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

1. Complete application
Due date for the return of this application as follows:
 - September 30 for January writing
 - February 28 for June writing
2. Names and phone numbers of references
3. Compile specified subject work
Due date for the return of the subject work as follows:
 - November 30 for January writing
 - May 5 for June writing

Please sign and return to the corresponding language teacher.

- Chinese 30- Mrs. Li, room 169
- French 30 - Mrs. Lajoie, room 168
- Japanese 30 - Mrs. Allen, room 147
- Spanish 30 - Ms. Runge, room 218

I have read and understand the attached policies regarding Language Challenges.

I have read and I understand the attached policies regarding Language Challenge assessment.

I understand that my daughter/son is prepared to demonstrate her/his understanding of

course content for _____ (*course*) at the

(please check):

_____ January semester end

_____ June semester end

Parent signature: _____

Student signature: _____

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PAUL KANE HIGH SCHOOL
CHALLENGE ASSESSMENT APPLICATION FORM 2016-2017

Student ID #: _____ Date: _____

Student Name: _____
Last name First Name & Initials

NAME OF COURSE TO BE CHALLENGED: _____

Please Note: Course being challenged cannot have been attempted during current semester.

- Challenging a higher-level course earns a "P" for pass in the lower level **course and course** credits.
- To be eligible for a scholarship it is recommended the course exams be written in each course level.
- Please see the Department Head for details.

PREVIOUS COURSES TAKEN IN THIS SUBJECT AREA:

COURSE	TEACHER/SCHOOL	MARK
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

REASONS FOR THE CHALLENGE ASSESSMENT REQUEST (be specific)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Application: Approved _____ Rejected _____

Principal's Signature: _____

Dept. Head Signature: _____

Date of Assessment: _____ Mark Received _____

Course Code and Name : _____