



RICE

What They're Saying About Rice

Rice University is considered one of the nation's premier institutions of higher education. Here's why:

(Last updated 9/25/19)



Key Rankings

- Consistently ranked among top 20 universities in U.S. overall
- No. 1 lots of race/class interaction
- No. 4 best quality of life
- No. 5 best value among private universities nationally
- One of U.S. Department of Education's 23 four-year schools with low costs that lead to high incomes
- No. 15 in CNBC's top 50 U.S. colleges that pay off the most
- Two Nobel Prize winners in chemistry
- Two National Medal of Science faculty winners

School Facts (Fall 2018)

- 3,992 undergraduate and 3,132 graduate students
- Students and scholars representing 89 countries and regions
- Undergraduate student-faculty ratio approximately 6:1, with median class size of 14
- 89% of reporting freshmen graduated in top 10% of high school class

Universitywide rankings

U.S. News & World Report (2020)

- Ranked among top 20 national universities every year since first ranked in 1988; No. 17 (tie)
- No. 8 among national universities for best undergraduate teaching
- No. 13 among 50 national universities ranked as best values
- No. 13 among the top 20 national universities for providing students with a strong learning community
- No. 20 (tie) for providing students with senior capstone projects that offer culminating experiences at the end of their college careers

Princeton Review (2020)

- No. 2 best college newspaper
- No. 8 happiest students
- No. 6 best run college
- No. 6 college with great financial aid
- No. 10 LGBTQ-friendly
- No. 6 best career placement

Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education (2019)

- No. 16 among U.S. colleges
- No. 7 for top schools for resources

MONEY Magazine (2019)

- No. 24 best college for your money in U.S., highest-ranking Texas school

Kiplinger's Best College Values (2019)

- No. 5 among private universities
- No. 8 among private and public colleges

Niche (2020)

- No. 1 best college in Texas
- No. 1 best value college in Texas
- No. 1 top private university in Texas
- No. 5 best value college in America
- No. 10 best college in America
- No. 10 top private university in America

Forbes (2019)

- No. 2 top college in the South

Research

Carnegie Foundation

- Top classifications for very high research activity and comprehensive doctoral program

Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies

- One of the nation's largest providers of professional development for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate teachers
- Attracts students from more than 100 countries with more than 20,000 enrollments a year in credit and noncredit courses

School of Architecture

Niche (2020)

- No. 2 best college for architecture

DesignIntelligence

- No. 2 undergraduate architecture program (2019)
- No. 7 graduate architecture program (2018–2019)

Architectural Record (2019)

- No. 2 undergraduate architecture program
- No. 7 graduate architecture program

George R. Brown School of Engineering

U.S. News & World Report (2020)

- No. 8 graduate biomedical engineering program
- No. 20 undergraduate engineering program

Niche (2020)

- No. 4 best college for engineering
- No. 15 best college for computer science

Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business

U.S. News & World Report (2020)

- No. 26 best business school (tie)
- No. 17 part-time MBA program (tie)

The Princeton Review (2019)

- No. 3 best graduate entrepreneurship program
- No. 5 most competitive students — full-time MBA
- No. 6 best MBA for finance (only school in Texas)
- No. 6 best classroom experience

The Shepherd School of Music

- One of the top orchestral training programs in the country, with alumni in the Philadelphia and Cleveland orchestras; the Chicago, Boston, National and San Francisco symphonies; Los Angeles Philharmonic; and the Metropolitan Opera orchestra.
- Opera studies program produced recent winners in the George London Awards Competition and the Jensen Foundation Vocal Competition and the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions with alumni in the Houston Grand Opera Studio, the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and the Washington National Opera's Domingo-Cafritz Young Artists Program.
- The Shepherd School of Music was the first and only U.S. conservatory program to have partnered with the New York Philharmonic Global Academy Fellowship Program.
- The Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra made two appearances at Carnegie Hall in New York City (winter 2014, fall 2016).
- Recent graduate quartets from the String Quartet Residency Program have won top prizes in international competitions: Banff International String Quartet Competition (2016); Rolston String Quartet; Avery Fisher Career Development Grant (2017); Dover String Quartet.
- Shepherd School alumni include Pulitzer Prize (2013) and Grammy Award winners (2017, 2018, 2019).

School of Humanities

- The school's 112 faculty members are outstanding researchers, teaching and researching in 56 languages and regularly winning prestigious fellowships (Humboldt, NEH, NEA, Carnegie, etc.). They also are award-winning teachers, earning 21 of Rice's top teaching prizes.

U.S. News & World Report (2020)

- Two graduate programs ranked among the top 50 best graduate schools and programs: No. 35 English, No. 34 history

Niche (2020)

- Four undergraduate programs ranked among the top 50 best colleges by major: No. 5 art, No. 12 English, No. 13 political science, No. 14 economics

School of Social Sciences

U.S. News & World Report (2020)

- Three graduate programs ranked among the top 50 best graduate schools and programs: No. 33 political science, No. 42 economics, No. 50 psychology

College Factual (2020)

- Two undergraduate programs ranked among the top 50 best colleges by major: No. 12 economics, No. 31 sociology

Niche (2020)

- Five undergraduate programs ranked among the top 50 best colleges by major: No. 1 sports management, No. 5 psychology, No. 7 anthropology and sociology, No. 13 political science, No. 14 economics

Wiess School of Natural Sciences

Nobel Prize

- Nobel Prize winners in chemistry (1996): Richard Smalley and Robert Curl '54
- Nobel Prize winner in physics (1978) Robert Woodrow Wilson '57

Wolf Prize (2016)

- Wolf Prize winner in chemistry: K. C. Nicolaou

U.S. News & World Report (2020)

- No. 8 graduate atomic, molecular, optical physics program
- No. 24 graduate earth sciences program

Times Higher Education World University Rankings (2019)

- No. 49 worldwide in physical sciences

Niche (2020)

- Four undergraduate programs ranked among the top 50 best colleges by major: No. 1 kinesiology and physical therapy, No. 9 chemistry, No. 10 biology, No. 12 math

James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy

University of Pennsylvania Think Tanks and Civil Societies

Global Go to Think Tank Index (2018)

- No. 1 top energy and resource-based think tank (Center for Energy Studies)
- No. 3 best university-affiliated think tanks in the world
- No. 17 out of 89 top think tanks in the U.S.

Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship

- Home to world's richest and largest graduate student startup competition; awarded more than \$1.5 million in cash and prizes in 2019
- More than 604 teams have participated in programs since 2001 and have raised more than \$1.9 billion in funding

Rice Athletics

- The Owls placed 244 student-athletes on the 2019 Commissioner's Honor Roll, the highest in the conference, and have earned 11 C-USA Institutional Excellence Awards over the past 13 years.
- The Owls lead C-USA by placing a school-record 256 student-athletes on the 2018 Commissioner's Honor Roll and earn the C-USA Institutional Excellence Award for the 11th time in 13 years as a member of the conference.
- Rice ranks among the best institutions in the nation for graduation success rate, with six of Rice's athletic teams (golf, soccer, swimming, volleyball, women's basketball and women's tennis) graduating 100% of their student-athletes who were enrolled from 2008 to 2011.
- Since 1952, Rice student-athletes have been awarded more than 100 CoSIDA Academic All-America awards.
- Seven of Rice's 14 teams were honored by the NCAA with 2018 Public Recognition Awards given to teams that rank in the top 10% of the NCAA's Academic Progress Rate rankings.