Key Rankings

• Consistently ranked among top 20 universities in U.S. overall
• Top Carnegie classifications for “very high research activity” and “comprehensive doctoral program”
• One of only three Tier One universities in Texas
• No. 1 best quality of life
• No. 1 lots of race/class interaction
• No. 8 best value among private universities nationally and No. 1 in Texas
• One of “50 Schools That Create Futures”
• One of U.S. Department of Education’s 23 four-year schools with low costs that lead to high incomes
• Two Nobel Prize winners in chemistry
• Two National Medal of Science faculty winners

School Facts, fall 2017

• 3,970 undergraduate and 2,934 graduate students
• Students and scholars representing 89 countries and regions
• Undergraduate student-faculty ratio approximately 6:1, with median class size of 14
• 89 percent of reporting freshmen graduated in top 10 percent of high school class
• 20 consecutive years of NCAA conference championship athletic teams

Universitywide rankings

U.S. News & World Report
• Ranked among top 20 national universities every year since first ranked in 1988; currently tied for No. 14 (2018)
• No. 3 among national universities with strong commitment to undergraduate teaching (2018)
• No. 14 among 50 national universities ranked as best values (2018)

• No. 12 colleges that pay you back without aid
• No. 17 top colleges that pay you back
• No. 22 best career placement

Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education
• No. 14 among U.S. colleges (2018)

MONEY Magazine
• No. 12 national ranking for “2017 Best Colleges for Your Money,” highest of any other Texas school in the guide
• No. 2 best colleges in the South

Kiplinger’s Best College Values (2018)
• No. 5 among private universities
• No. 8 on the combined private and public colleges

Niche.com
• No. 1 colleges with best student life in America (2018)
• No. 5 best colleges (2018)
• No. 5 top private universities in America (2018)

Payscale
• No. 1 best colleges in Texas by salary potential (2017)

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

Design Intelligence
• No. 4 undergraduate architecture program (2017)
• No. 9 graduate architecture program (2017)

Architectural Record
• No. 6 undergraduate architecture program (2018)

George R. Brown School of Engineering

Payscale
• Top 20 best schools for engineering majors by salary potential (2017)

U.S. News & World Report
• No. 20 undergraduate engineering (2018)
• No. 9 graduate biomedical engineering, No. 11 graduate programming languages specialty, No. 20 graduate computer engineering, No. 20 graduate environmental engineering (2016)

American Society of Engineering Educators
• Rankings for the percent of degrees going to women include No. 8 for bachelor’s degrees, No. 1 for master’s degrees, No. 4 for Ph.D.s

Research

Carnegie Foundation
• Top classifications for “very high research activity” and “comprehensive doctoral program” (2015)

Leiden Ranking
• No. 5 social sciences and humanities, No. 8 mathematics and computer sciences, No. 38 physical sciences and engineering, No. 64 for all sciences among the world’s top universities for the quality and impact of Rice’s scientific publications (2015)
School of Humanities
The School of Humanities, like Rice combines the best of a research university with the best of a liberal arts college.
- Our ca. 120 faculty are outstanding researchers who regularly land prestigious fellowships (Humboldt, NEH, NEA, Carnegie, etc.). They are also outstanding teachers, garnering Rice’s top teaching prizes and consistently high marks from Rice students.
- We develop students for careers after graduation through faculty advising, internships and alumni mentoring opportunities. Our students attend the top graduate, medical and law schools and pursue a wide range of for-profit and nonprofit careers.

School of Social Sciences
U.S. News & World Report
- Three graduate programs ranked among the top 50 best graduate schools and programs (2017): No. 33 political science, No. 42 economics, No. 50 psychology.

College Factual
- Three undergraduate programs ranked among the top 50 best colleges by major (2018): No. 15 economics, No. 27 anthropology, No. 44 sociology.

Niche
- Three undergraduate programs ranked among the top 50 best colleges by major (2018): No. 6 psychology, No. 18 political science, No. 23 economics.

Wiess School of Natural Sciences
Nobel Prize

Wolf Prize
- Wolf Prize winner in chemistry, K. C. Nicolaou (2016)

U.S. News & World Report
- No. 10 graduate atomic, molecular, optical physics (2015)
- No. 25 graduate earth sciences (2015)

Times Higher Education World University Rankings
- No. 50 worldwide in physical sciences (2015)

James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy
Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania
- No. 4 among university-affiliated think tanks in the world (2016)
- No. 17 among all think tanks in the U.S. (2016)
- No. 2 among the world’s energy and resource policy think tanks (2016)

Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship
- Home to world’s richest and largest graduate student startup competition; awarded more than $1.9 million in cash and prizes in (2017)
- More than 2,000 startups have participated in programs since 2001 and have raised more than $3.7 billion in funding

Rice Athletics Highlights (2015–16 Academic Year)
- Rice captures C-USA titles in four of 16 sports (women’s cross-country, men’s and women’s tennis, baseball), matching UTEP and WKU for the most conference crowns in sports Rice offers.
- Baseball and men’s and women’s tennis qualify for NCAA team competition. Baseball’s appearance is its 23rd consecutive, the third-longest active streak in the nation, while women’s tennis earned its sixth consecutive bid.
- Men’s tennis, women’s swimming, men’s and women’s cross-country, men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track produce individual qualifiers to compete in their respective NCAA championships, with decathlete Scott Fillip earning first-team, All-America and Austin Riddle (hammer throw) earning honorable mention.
- The Owls again lead C-USA by placing 255 student-athletes on the 2017 Commissioner’s Honor Roll and earn the C-USA Institutional Excellence Award for the 10th time in 12 years as a member of the conference.
- Rice unveils a new set of brand standards that include new wordmarks and a new representation of the Rice Owl.
- Rice opens the Brian Patterson Sports Performance Center and debuts new video boards at Rice Stadium and Reckling Park, which also allow the Owls to produce ESPN3 compliant game broadcasts while completing renovations to Tudor Fieldhouse to support golf, men’s and women’s track and field/cross-country and soccer.

“What They’re Saying About Rice” is available as a PDF at www.rice.edu/aboutrice. For comments and additions, contact pubaffrs@rice.edu.