



RICE

Unconventional Wisdom

What They're Saying About Rice

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

Fast Facts

- Consistently ranked among top 20 universities in U.S. overall and for Hispanic students
- No. 57 among world's top 100 universities
- One of only three Tier One universities in Texas
- Top Carnegie classifications for "very high research activity" and "comprehensive doctoral program"
- No. 1 worldwide in materials science research
- No. 1 happiest students
- No. 2 best quality of student life
- No. 2 best value among private universities
- Two Nobel Prize winners in chemistry
- Two active faculty winners of National Medal of Science
- 77 percent of freshmen graduated top 5 percent of high school class
- 6:1 student-faculty ratio, with median class size of 13
- 3,708 undergraduate and 2,374 graduate students from 82 countries, 49 U.S. states and two U.S. territories
- 17 consecutive years of NCAA conference championship athletic teams
- In 2012, Rice students or alumni were named recipients of five Fulbright Scholarships, three Goldwater Scholarships, two Truman Scholarships, two Watson Fellowships and one Udall Scholarship.

Undergraduate Education

U.S. News & World Report

- Ranked among top 20 national universities (every year since the rankings began in 1983)

Princeton Review

- No. 1 happiest students (2012, 2013)
- No. 2 best quality of student life (2013)
- No. 2 best-run colleges (2013)
- No. 2 "their students love these colleges" (2013)
- No. 5 town and gown relations (2012, 2013)
- No. 7 lots of race/class interaction (2013)
- No. 13 great financial aid (2013)
- No. 13 best athletic facilities (2013)

Fiske Guide to Colleges

- A "Best Buy School" (2012 edition)

Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine

- No. 2 best value among private universities (2012-13)

Forbes.com/Center for College Affordability & Productivity

- Ranked among top 25 of America's Best Colleges (2010)

Huffington Post and unigo.com

- One of the "New Ivies — Top 10 Colleges Where You'll Find the Next Generation of Excellence"

PayScale/Bloomberg Businessweek

- Best return on investment in education among Texas colleges and universities and No. 29 nationally based on career earnings versus the cost of education

Center for World University Rankings

- No. 57 among top 100 universities in the world
- No. 41 among top universities in the United States

Graduate Education

U.S. News & World Report

- No. 8 bioengineering
- No. 9 atomic/molecular/optical specialty in physics
- No. 16 environmental engineering
- No. 12 geophysics and seismology specialty in Earth sciences
- No. 12 programming language specialty in computer science
- No. 14 entrepreneurship
- No. 20 computer science
- No. 20 computer engineering

Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies

- One of the nation's largest providers of professional development for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate teachers
- More than 14,000 enrollees in credit and noncredit courses a year

Research

Carnegie Foundation (2011)

- Top classifications for "Very high research activity" and "comprehensive doctoral program"

Leiden Ranking (2012)

- No. 4 among the world's top 500 universities for the quality and impact of Rice's scientific publications

School of Architecture

Design Intelligence

- No. 3 undergraduate architecture program (2011)
- Among top 20 graduate architecture programs (2011)

George R. Brown School of Engineering

National Medal of Science

- National Medal of Science recipient (2011): Richard Tapia

U.S. News & World Report

- No. 6 undergraduate biomedical engineering (2012)
- No. 17 undergraduate engineering program (2012)
- No. 7 graduate bioengineering program (2013)
- Among top 25 graduate departments: chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, programming language in computer science, environmental engineering/environmental health and computer engineering (2013)

Princeton Review

- Among top 50 undergraduate computer game design programs (2010)

Times Higher Education

- No. 1 worldwide in materials science research (2010)

Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business

U.S. News & World Report

- No. 14 entrepreneurship program, No. 21 MBA for professionals and No. 25 for full-time program (2012)

The Economist

- No. 1 MBA program in Texas and the Southwest (2010)

Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine

- No. 4 graduate entrepreneurship program in U.S. (2012)

Princeton Review

- Among top 15 for finance and accounting in Student Opinion Honors (2010)
- No. 6 best professors (2010)

Financial Times

- Among full-time MBA programs, No. 4 on “Best in Finance” list (2010), No. 9 on “Best in Accountancy” list (2010) in top 20 overall in U.S. (2012)

BusinessWeek

- No. 10 intellectual capital full-time MBA program (2010)

The Shepherd School of Music

- The only college selected for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Conservatory Project six years in a row
- One of the top orchestral training programs in the country, with alumni in the New York Philharmonic; the Cleveland Orchestra; the Boston, Chicago and San Francisco symphonies; and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in New York City.

Fiske Guide to Colleges

- Among top 10 undergraduate music programs (2010)

School of Humanities

U.S. News & World Report

- No. 33 history graduate program (2012)
- No. 38 English graduate program (2012)

School of Social Sciences

National Research Council

- Ranked among top 20 political science departments (2010)

The Journal of Economic Literature

- No. 6 in public economics and No. 19 in mathematical economics (2008)

Wiess School of Natural Sciences

Nobel Prize

- Nobel Prize winners in chemistry (1996): Richard Smalley and Robert Curl

U.S. News & World Report

- No. 9 in atomic, molecular, optical physics (2012)
- No. 12 in geophysics and seismology (2012)

James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania

- No. 17 among university-based think tanks in the world
- No. 24 among all think tanks in the U.S.

Domestic and Foreign Policy Research Institute

- Ranked as a top 40 think tank in the U.S. (2008–10)

Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship

- Helped launch more than 250 technology companies, more than 40 based on Rice University technology
- Home to world’s richest and largest graduate business plan competition in the world, awarding more than \$1.3 million in cash and prizes

Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine

- No. 4 graduate entrepreneur program in U.S. (2012)

Additional

Kaplan/Newsweek Finding the Right College for You guide (2011)

- No. 10 for Most Desirable Urban Schools
- No. 25 for Most Desirable Colleges Overall

Hispanic Magazine

- Selected as one of top 20 colleges and universities for Hispanic students

DormSplash.com’s “Dormy Awards” (2011)

- No. 1 best resident associates
- No. 11 best overall dorms

Athletics

2011–12 Highlights

- Baseball, men’s and women’s basketball, and women’s tennis earn postseason berths
- Head coaches Wayne Graham (baseball) and Ron Smarr (men’s tennis) are named to their respective sports’ halls of fame
- Baseball extends its streak to 18 consecutive NCAA berths — one of only four teams to do so
- Baseball coach Wayne Graham surpasses 950 wins in his 21 seasons at Rice and is named 2012 C-USA Baseball Coach of the Year
- Eight Rice baseball players selected in 2012 Major League Baseball Draft, including J.T. Chargois as the 72nd player selected overall. Matthew Reckling is named the C-USA Pitcher of the Year; second team All-America honoree by Collegiate Baseball magazine
- Coach Ben Braun wins his 600th career game, and men’s basketball receives an invitation to its first postseason tournament since 2005, winning multiple postseason games for the first time in the program’s history
- Becky Wade earns All-America honors in cross country, indoor and outdoor track. She qualifies for the Olympic Trials, is awarded a Watson Fellowship and graduates Phi Beta Kappa
- Elizabeth Schmidt shares the C-USA women’s tennis Coach of the Year honors
- Women’s tennis earns its first berth in the Sweet 16 by posting its first-ever wins in the NCAA Championship
- All 16 programs exceeded the NCAA’s Academic Progress Rate (APR) standards, while five Rice teams earned perfect scores of 1000
- Rice places a league-high 232 student-athletes on the 2011–12 C-USA Commissioner’s Honor Roll
- Each of Rice’s 16 sports compile GPAs of 2.90 or better for the first time in school history, including 14 of 16 finishing above a 3.0
- Rice shared the league lead as three Rice student-athletes earn C-USA Scholar-Athlete Awards for their respective sports: Becky Wade for women’s track and field, Sam Garforth-Bles for men’s tennis, and Connor Frizzelle for men’s basketball. The award is based on GPA, athletic achievement and community service
- For the seventh consecutive year, Rice’s intercollegiate athletic teams earn the NCAA’s Division I Academic Performance Program public recognition awards. The six Rice sports honored are football, men’s golf, women’s cross country, women’s basketball, women’s swimming and women’s tennis

“What They’re Saying About Rice” is available as a PDF at www.rice.edu/aboutrice. For comments and additions, contact pubaffrs@rice.edu. (Last updated 10/24/12)