Key Rankings

- Ranked No. 15 by U.S. News & World Report
- No. 18 in The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings for 2017
- One of only three tier-one universities in Texas
- Top 100 world universities in 2016–17 rankings by Times Higher Education
- Princeton Review’s No. 1 school for student happiness and race/class interaction
- No. 1 in Texas and No. 4 nationally on Money magazine’s best colleges list
- No. 4 on Greatist’s list of healthiest colleges
- One of “50 Schools That Launch Careers by Going Beyond the Classroom”
- One of the U.S. Department of Education’s 23 schools with low costs that lead to high incomes
- Two Nobel Prize winners in chemistry
- Two National Medal of Science faculty winners

School Facts

- 3,910 undergraduate and 2,809 graduate students
- Students and scholars representing 89 countries and regions
- Undergraduate student-faculty ratio approximately 6:1, with a median class size of 14
- 90 percent of reporting freshmen graduated in top 10 percent of high school class
- 20 consecutive years of NCAA conference championship athletic teams

Undergraduate Education

U.S. News & World Report
- No. 15 overall; consistently ranked among top 20 American universities
- No. 5 among national universities with strong commitment to undergraduate teaching
- No. 14 among 50 national universities ranked as best values (2017)

Princeton Review
- No. 1 for “happiest students” and “lots of race/class interaction”
- No. 9 for best quality of life
- No. 20 for best health services (2017)

Money Magazine
- No. 4 among the nation’s best colleges for delivering a great education at an affordable price and preparing students for rewarding careers
- No. 16 among most affordable private colleges
- No. 33 among 50 colleges that add the most value (2016)

Forbes Magazine
- No. 4 among top 21 STEM colleges
- No. 7 among most important STEM colleges for women
- No. 5 of the 10 most diverse top colleges (2016)

Forbes’ “America’s Top Colleges”
- A+ financial health grade
- No. 20 among America’s best value colleges
- No. 8 among private colleges
- No. 18 among research universities
- No. 4 among colleges in the South (2016)

Niche.com
- No. 6 nationally (2017)
- Overall grade of A+ (2017)

Graduate Education

U.S. News & World Report
- No. 9 for bioengineering, No. 10 for atomic/molecular/optical specialty in physics, No. 14 for entrepreneurship, No. 14 for part-time MBA, No. 24 for environmental engineering, No. 20 for computer science, No. 27 for civil engineering and No. 27 for electrical engineering (2017)

Research

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

Leiden Ranking
- No. 4 for mathematics and computer sciences, No. 6 for physical sciences and engineering, No. 22 for social science and humanities, and No. 9 for all sciences among the world’s top universities (2015)

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. 5 undergraduate architecture program
- No. 8 graduate architecture program (2017)
George R. Brown School of Engineering

PayScale
• No. 1 best value college for engineering majors (2016)

U.S. News & World Report
• No. 4 for undergraduate biomedical engineering, No. 18 for undergraduate engineering and No. 17 for materials science
• No. 9 for graduate biomedical engineering, No. 11 for graduate programming languages, No. 20 for graduate computer engineering and No. 20 for graduate environmental engineering (2016)

American Society of Engineering Educators
• In the top 10 for percentage of degrees going to women, including No. 8 for bachelor’s degrees, No. 1 for master’s degrees and No. 4 for doctoral degrees

Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business

U.S. News & World Report
• No. 14 entrepreneurship program
• No. 24 part-time MBA program
• No. 25 overall for full-time MBA (2016)

Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine
• Ranked among the top 10 six years in a row
• No. 6 for graduate entrepreneurship (2015)
• No. 3 for most competitive students (2015)

Financial Times
• Executive MBA: No. 7 nationally for percentage salary increase, No. 2 for aims achieved and No. 7 overall; No. 4 globally for entrepreneurship
• Full-time MBA: No. 17 for percentage salary increase nationally and No. 35 globally, No. 7 globally for entrepreneurship, No. 24 overall and No. 24 for current salary nationally (2016)

Bloomberg Businessweek
• No. 3 part-time MBA
• No. 19 full-time MBA (2015)

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; and the Metropolitan Opera orchestra
• Opera Studies program produced recent winners in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, with alumni in the Houston Grand Opera Studio and the L.A. Opera’s Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist Program
• Youngest recipient of the Pulitzer Prize in Music (2015): Caroline Shaw, BMus ‘04

School of Humanities

• Faculty members have won awards, grants, fellowships or honors from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Iowa Poetry Prize, American Council of Learned Societies, American Academy of Arts and Letters, Mellon Foundation, Ford Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts and the Carnegie Foundation, among others.

School of Social Sciences

College Factual
• No. 14 in undergraduate economics programs (2015)

U.S. News & World Report
• Ranked among the top 50 best graduate political science schools and programs (2013)

Wiess School of Natural Sciences

• Nobel Prize winners in chemistry (1996): Professors Richard Smalley and Robert Curl
• Wolf Prize winner in chemistry (2016): Professor K.C. Nicolaou

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

Times Higher Education World University Rankings
• No. 32 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
• No. 18 among U.S. think tanks
• No. 2 among energy and resource policy think tanks (2015)

Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship

• Home to the world’s richest and largest graduate student startup competition, which awarded more than $1.7 million in 2016
• More than 1,700 startups have participated in programs since 2001 and have raised more than $3.3 billion in funding

Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine
• Top five best U.S. graduate entrepreneurship programs (2010–2016)

Athletics

• No. 4 in the nation for academic progress rate and No. 5 for federation graduation rate among Football Bowl Subdivision schools

2015–16 Highlights
• Rice captured C-USA titles in four of 16 sports (women’s cross country, men’s and women’s tennis, and women’s outdoor track and field), matching Western Kentucky University for the most conference crowns in sports Rice offers.
• Baseball and men’s and women’s tennis qualified for NCAA team competition, while men’s and women’s tennis, women’s swimming, men’s and women’s cross country, and men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track sent individuals to NCAA championships. Katherine Ip (tennis) and Evan Karakolis (track) earned honorable mentions. The Owls earned 56 C-USA weekly individual performance awards — 17 more than their closest competitor.
• Rice again led C-USA by placing 243 student–athletes on the 2016 Commissioner’s Honor Roll and earned the C-USA Institutional Excellence Award for the ninth time in 11 years as a member of the conference.
• Rice opened new track and soccer facilities as well as the Brian Patterson Sports Performance Center and announced the start of projects at Reckling Park to support baseball and 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.