

Rhodes University Courses Offered and Entry Requirements 2026

Introduction

Rhodes University is one of South Africa's most prestigious public universities, renowned for academic excellence, small class sizes, and strong research output. Located in Makhanda (Grahamstown) in the Eastern Cape, the university consistently ranks among the top institutions in Africa. If you are planning to apply for admission in 2026, understanding the **Rhodes University courses offered and entry requirements** is essential for a successful application.

This comprehensive guide covers all major faculties, undergraduate and postgraduate programs, general admission requirements, and frequently asked questions. Whether you are a local or international student, this article will help you make an informed decision about studying at Rhodes University in 2026.

Why Choose Rhodes University?

Rhodes University stands out for several reasons:

- Strong academic reputation nationally and internationally
- Small student-to-lecturer ratio for personalized learning
- Excellent research facilities and output
- Vibrant campus culture and student life
- Highly respected degrees across multiple disciplines

With a focus on critical thinking and independent learning, Rhodes prepares students for both professional careers and postgraduate studies.

Faculties and Courses Offered at Rhodes University (2026)

Rhodes University offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs across six main faculties.

1. Faculty of Humanities

The Faculty of Humanities is one of the largest and most diverse faculties at Rhodes University. It focuses on social sciences, arts, languages, and education.

Popular Courses Offered:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Journalism
- Bachelor of Social Science (BSocSci)
- Bachelor of Fine Art (BFA)
- Bachelor of Music (BMus)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)

Key Departments:

- Psychology
- Sociology
- Political and International Studies
- Journalism and Media Studies
- English Studies
- History
- Philosophy
- African Languages

2. Faculty of Commerce

The Faculty of Commerce offers programs designed to equip students with analytical, managerial, and economic skills for the business world.

Popular Courses Offered:

- Bachelor of Commerce (BCom)
- Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting)
- Bachelor of Economics
- Bachelor of Business Science
- Postgraduate Diplomas in Accounting and Management
- Honours and Master's degrees in Commerce-related fields

Key Departments:

- Accounting
- Economics
- Information Systems
- Management
- Finance and Taxation

3. Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science provides strong theoretical and practical training in natural and applied sciences.

Popular Courses Offered:

- Bachelor of Science (BSc)
- BSc with specializations in:
 - Computer Science
 - Biotechnology
 - Environmental Science
 - Chemistry
 - Physics
 - Mathematics and Statistics

Key Departments:

- Computer Science
- Life Sciences
- Geography
- Geology
- Chemistry
- Physics and Electronics

4. Faculty of Law

Rhodes University's Faculty of Law is well respected for producing graduates with strong legal reasoning and research skills.

Courses Offered:

- Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice
- LLM (Master of Laws)
- PhD in Law

5. Faculty of Pharmacy

The Faculty of Pharmacy is one of the leading pharmacy schools in South Africa.

Courses Offered:

- Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm)
- Master of Pharmacy (MPharm)
- PhD in Pharmacy

This faculty emphasizes community engagement, clinical training, and research.

6. Faculty of Education

The Faculty of Education focuses on teacher training and educational research.

Courses Offered:

- Bachelor of Education (BEd)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)
- Honours, Master's, and Doctoral degrees in Education

Rhodes University Entry Requirements for 2026

Admission to Rhodes University is competitive. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

General Undergraduate Entry Requirements

Applicants must have:

- A National Senior Certificate (NSC) or equivalent qualification
- Bachelor's degree pass
- Proficiency in English (the language of instruction)
- Strong academic performance in relevant subjects

Faculty-Specific Entry Requirements

Humanities:

- NSC Bachelor's pass
- Strong English results
- Some programs may require additional selection criteria

Commerce:

- Mathematics is compulsory
- Strong performance in Mathematics and English
- Accounting is recommended but not always required

Science:

- Mathematics and Physical Sciences are compulsory
- Life Sciences required for biological fields
- High academic performance is essential

Law:

- Bachelor's pass
- Excellent English proficiency
- Strong overall academic results

Pharmacy:

- Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Life Sciences
- Very competitive selection process

Education:

- Relevant school subjects depending on teaching specialization
- English proficiency
- Additional assessments may apply

Postgraduate Entry Requirements

Postgraduate applicants must:

- Hold a relevant undergraduate or honours degree
- Meet departmental academic thresholds
- Submit research proposals (for research degrees)
- Provide academic transcripts and references

How to Apply to Rhodes University for 2026

1. Apply online through the Rhodes University website

2. Submit all required documents (certified copies)
3. Pay the application fee (if applicable)
4. Monitor your application status
5. Respond to offers before deadlines

Early application is highly recommended due to limited spaces.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Is Rhodes University hard to get into?

Yes, Rhodes University is highly selective due to its academic standards and limited intake.

2. Does Rhodes accept international students?

Yes, international students are welcome and must meet equivalent academic requirements.

3. What is the language of instruction at Rhodes University?

English is the primary language of instruction.

4. Can I apply for more than one course?

Yes, applicants may apply for more than one program, depending on application rules.

5. Are there residence facilities for first-year students?

Yes, Rhodes University offers on-campus accommodation, though space is limited.