

# GRADES AT REED

Since its founding Reed College has adhered to a distinctive educational philosophy, a critical component of which is the evaluation and grading of student academic work.

## **ACADEMIC RIGOR**

The average GPA for all students in 2010–11 was 3.10 on a 4.00 scale. This figure has scarcely changed in the past 27 years. **Reed has experienced little or no grade inflation.** During that period, only ten students have graduated from Reed with perfect 4.00 grade averages.

## **2010–11 GRADUATING CLASS**

10% graduated with a GPA of 3.71 or higher  
25% graduated with a GPA of 3.49 or higher  
Average GPA—3.21

The absence of grade inflation at Reed reflects the rigor of the academic program and the high standards set by the faculty, rather than any deficiency in the quality of the student body.

## **GRADING POLICY**

Students are encouraged to focus on learning, not on grades. Students are evaluated rigorously, and semester grades are filed with the registrar, but by tradition, students do not receive standard grade reports. Papers and exams are generally returned to students with lengthy comments but without grades affixed. There is no dean's list or honor roll, and Reed does not award Latin honors at graduation.

## **THE ENTERING CLASS 2011–12**

Reed's average SAT scores are among the top dozen or so of all liberal arts colleges in the nation. Average SAT (critical reading, mathematics, and writing)—2,076  
Average high school GPA—3.94

## **SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP AWARDS**

Over the years, Reed students and alumni have won:

- 31 Rhodes Scholarships (the second highest from a liberal arts college)
- 79 Fulbright Scholarships
- 64 Watson Fellowships
- 25 Mellon Fellowships since 1983
- 139 National Science Foundation fellowships

Eighteen members of the National Academy of Sciences are Reed alumni. Nearly 10 percent of Reed alumni have been, or currently are, CEOs or presidents of private companies.

## **RANKINGS OF GRADUATES**

Reed ranks third in the nation among all institutions of higher learning in the per capita production of future Ph.D.s in all disciplines. It ranks first in history, second in biological sciences, third in mathematics and physical sciences, and fourth in anthropology, chemistry, physics, and the social sciences. (Source: National Science Foundation and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System data).

Reed ranked fourth in the percentage production of Ph.D.s in the fields of science and engineering. ([www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf08311/?govDel=USNSF\\_178](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf08311/?govDel=USNSF_178)). July 2008

*For further information, please call the Reed College registrar's office, 503/777-7793.  
You can also reach us by fax at 503/777-7795 or email at [registrar@reed.edu](mailto:registrar@reed.edu).*