GRADUATE EDUCATION AT RIT
CREATING THE EXCEPTIONAL BY EMBRACING DIFFERENCE
Graduate Education at Rochester Institute of Technology is exciting, vibrant, and growing.

At RIT, our goal is to become the global university of choice for innovative graduate education. We are quickly becoming a prominent academic research institution that offers unparalleled excellence in graduate education.

Our masters and doctoral degrees range from research-based programs that serve as launching pads to prominent appointments at the nation’s top universities and government agencies to professional programs that prepare students for coveted positions in business, industry, and the private sector.

Doing Different Better

“Many of our programs stand out in distinctive ways because of a specialized focus or because they lie at the intersection of technology, the arts, and design. We believe our graduate students and faculty are conducting creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial research that will change the world.”

–Twyla Cummings, Dean, Graduate Education

RIT recognizes that in order to create the innovators, leaders, and visionaries of tomorrow, a fundamental rethinking of how we teach and train our students is required.

The Office of Graduate Education is charged with growing graduate education at RIT by introducing exciting new degree offerings as well as developing partnerships between our graduate students and industry, business, and the private sector. The focus of the Office is to support a diverse group of 3,300 graduate students by creating an environment in which they can be successful in their programs of study, as well as their research and creative endeavors.

We focus on creating personalized learning experiences, hosting opportunities for students to showcase their work, and offering workshops and services to accelerate students’ professional development.

• In response to emerging needs in industry, research, the arts, and technology, RIT is adding to its more than 80 master’s and doctoral degree programs with cutting-edge offerings. In fact, we have added 14 new programs in just the past 10 years.

• Working closely with our corporate partners, we continue to establish professional pathways for our graduates.

• RIT is committed to creating innovative, flexible, and multidisciplinary pathways to achieving graduate degrees.

• Our students have access to cutting-edge resources, subject matter experts, and accomplished scholars.

• Sponsored research has increased to more than $70 million annually—proof that industry, foundations, government, and corporations are all taking notice of our mounting successes.

• The active promotion of critical thinking at all levels encourages our students to question assumptions, embrace their curiosity, and explore their options. This ensures that our students are always ahead of the rest.
• Extraordinary students need an extraordinary faculty, and at RIT that’s exactly what they get. Whether they are teaching, mentoring, or pursuing influential research, RIT faculty members are thought leaders who are shaping the future in their areas of expertise.

Looking Forward

“Our graduate programs will be launching pads for prime positions in industry, academia, and government, and through world-class research our students and faculty will create things that never existed before. The success of graduate education is vital to RIT’s future and I am excited about where that future is headed.”

–David C. Munson, RIT President

“Our rich, diverse, and inclusive curricula expose all graduates to leadership skills in addition to their individual program knowledge and competencies. This allows them to solve current and emerging problems with impactful and creative solutions.”

–André Hudson, Associate professor and head of the Thomas H. Gosnell School of Life Sciences

Moving forward, RIT is continuing to enhance our world-class student experience. This means increasing access to global work and study abroad opportunities, expanding experiential learning programs, and boosting funding for scholarships, grants, and fellowships.

In particular, a major priority for graduate education is the creation of a successful graduate student community, with a goal of providing academic and social support during the entire course of the graduate journey.

To do this, we work in close partnership with graduate student leadership to find ways to further enrich the graduate student experience. The results of these efforts take many forms, including: an increase in interdisciplinary exposure, networking, and professional events; and providing a platform to showcase research, academic, and creative endeavors.

RIT Graduate Education Rankings

[Rankings table]

U.S. News & World Report

#4 among graduate study in photography

#31 among the nation’s best online MBA programs

#33 among universities offering fine arts graduate studies

#68 among the nation’s best computer science graduate programs

Princeton Review

#7 nationally for Top Schools for Video Game Design for 2018—graduate programs

#8 Top 25 Online MBA Programs for 2018

“The world runs on actions, not ideas and not intentions. A graduate education challenges us to apply our learning into actions and activities that make an applicable difference in society. A graduate education challenges us to take our ideas learned from our education and create activity and actions that promote a new, different, and improved society.”

–Mark Davitt, CEO of ConServe in Rochester, N.Y.
RIT in Brief
Founded in 1829, Rochester Institute of Technology is a diverse and collaborative community of engaged, socially conscious, and intellectually curious minds. Through creativity and innovation, and an intentional blending of technology, the arts and design, we provide exceptional individuals with a wide range of academic opportunities, including a research program that ranks in the top 100 in the country and an internationally best-in-class education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Beyond our main campus in Rochester, New York, RIT has international campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai, and Kosovo. And with almost 19,000 students and nearly 125,000 alumni worldwide, RIT is driving progress in industries and communities around the world.

Graduate degrees offered:
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
- Master of Architecture (M.Arch.)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Engineering (ME)
- Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
- Master of Science (MS)
- Master of Science in Secondary Education (MSSE)
- Master of Science in Teaching (MST)

Colleges:
- College of Art and Design
- Saunders College of Business
- B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences
- Kate Gleason College of Engineering
- College of Engineering Technology
- College of Health Sciences and Technology
- College of Liberal Arts
- National Technical Institute for the Deaf
- College of Science

Other degree-granting academic units:
- Golisano Institute for Sustainability
- School of Individualized Study

Join Us!

RIT’s ambitious growth in graduate education reflects our rapid upward momentum as a university. With more than 25,000 graduate alumni, the Office of Graduate Education stays connected by engaging with our graduates, hosting alumni awards and events, making recommendations for association awards, and more. Alumni engagement is a key driver of graduate success.

Become part of our story by getting involved:

Connect with RIT Alumni Relations: rit.edu/alumni
Support RIT’s graduate education initiatives: rit.edu/giving

“RIT taught me how to learn new things quickly. That’s something I’m always doing at SWBR because we’re always trying new things and doing things in new and creative ways. The curriculum taught me to think on my feet more.”
–Sam Elliot (’16 Architecture)