

Speech for new students Fall 2026

Good morning and welcome to RHU.

Congratulations to class of 2027.

You have succeeded in earning a place at RHU.

You should be proud of yourself.

Depending on your major you will be taking 30 or 40 different courses at RHU.
The courses will provide you with technical skills needed to survive out there.

I am here to tell you about the three most important conceptual skills that you should acquire by the time you are ready to graduate.

- 1 Ability to think (system thinking)
2. Ability to make decisions
3. Ability to add value in everything that you do.

Your whole life as a professional, as an executive, and as a family person, you will be thinking and making the best fit decisions.

If you were to master this skill along with technical skills that you have acquired in your courses, you will do well in life.

I challenge you to make the next three or four years at RHU full of purpose.

Now,

I want all the students to rise.

I want you to introduce yourself and shake hands with the person to your right, left, front and back. Say Hi my name is

You just made 4 new friends, make sure to meet new people.

Establish new friendships and make sure that the library is your social stage.

I want a mom and a dad with me here on the stage.

The student (male/female) steps on a pedestal and try to pull up mom or dad.

Then, mom or dad tries to pull down the students.

It is easier to be pulled down than pulled up.

Now, What is the moral of this exercise?

No one should pull you down.

The Case of the 6th Grade Classroom Challenge:

An instructor gave the 6th grade class a writing assignment: "**What do you want to be when you grow up?**".

- **The Dream:** I want to be an engineer, doctor, lawyer, pilot, *"I want to be on TV."*
- **The Humiliation:** Because of his severe stutter, his teacher called him to the front of the room and publicly humiliated him. She asked him how someone who couldn't even talk normally could ever be on television.
- **The Calling:** The teacher called his parents, accusing him of being a "smart aleck".
- **The Father's Advice:** His father handed him the essay and told him to read it every morning and every night.
- His estimated annual income is \$45 million per year, through his career as a TV host, comedian, radio personality, author, and producer.
- His total net worth is around **\$300 million**.
- Who is he. **Steve Harvey**.

Now, a few words of advice:

Do not miss classes

Take your studies seriously

Study hard

Study daily

Take notes in class

Review your notes daily

Prepare for your exams at least two weeks ahead of time

Submit your assignments on time

Talk to your faculty.

Befriend your advisor

Do not get counsel from your fellow students.

If you have any academic issues, challenges, or concerns, the deans, the VPs, the Provost, and I are here to help. We have an open-door policy, and we will be delighted to see you, help you, and get you acquainted with RHU.

Assume leadership for your life and your career

Now, I am asking all the incoming students to rise, raise your right hand,
Please repeat after me.

I call it the RHU Oath:

I will not miss class.
I will not be late for class
I will submit all my assignments on time
I will succeed
I am determined to graduate on time

Today, you step onto a bridge toward not just a degree or a career,
But to endless open possibilities.

University is not simply a place of lectures and late-night studying.
It's a launching pad for ideas that dare to question the status quo.
Let me offer this: don't rush to become. Instead, dare to unfold.

Dare to speak up in class, even when your voice shakes.
Dare to sit with someone different from you at lunch.
Dare to build—ideas, friendships, long-lasting relationships.

You are not here to fit in. You are here to expand what's possible.

And (the RHU family faculty and staff) we are here to cheer you on, to challenge you, and to believe in you even on the days you don't.

This campus is not your destination. It's your runway.

Welcome to the journey.