

## RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS

**Criteria for Selection** that should be addressed, as appropriate, in a letter of recommendation:

### Literary and scholastic attainments

Energy to use one's talents to the full, as exemplified by fondness for and success in sports [this need not be addressed as strictly as other criteria]

Truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindliness, unselfishness and fellowship

Moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in one's fellow beings

### Academic Merit

1. **Evidence of Academic Background that is Strong and Relevant.** Does the transcript show evidence of high academic achievement? Does this coursework prepare the candidate for the planned field of study? Is there other evidence of high-level performance (e.g. merit scholarships, academic prizes, research results, artistic creations, publications)?
2. **Knowledge of Proposed Courses and Supervisors.** Has the candidate established the relevance of the proposed academic programme to his or her scholarly and career plans and, in the case of a research proposal, provided evidence of substantive engagement with the proposed supervisor(s)? Is there a compelling academic rationale for doing the work at the University of Oxford?

### Leadership Potential

1. **Ability to Deliver Results.** Can the candidate demonstrate how he or she delivered results from a position of leadership - whether by organizing, mobilizing or inspiring others? This may have been through his/her intellectual or artistic contributions or in other ways. Is there evidence that the candidate initiated something and carried it through to an outcome? Is the candidate likely to attain a position of influence in his/her field of expertise?
2. **Strength of Purpose.** Has the applicant demonstrated courage of conviction, persistence, and determination in the pursuit of his or her goals? Do the candidate's extra-curricular activities indicate commitment?
3. **Creativity.** Is there evidence of creativity and innovation in the candidate's approach to answering questions or solving problems?
4. **Self-Awareness.** Is there evidence of a strong desire to contribute to society? Is the candidate aware of his or her role in particular activities and impact on other people? Can the candidate explain what changed as a result of his or her involvement in something?