

## Shadow Scholar

The Shadow Scholar is mystery. He seeks not simply to battle the tide of shadow, but also to gain both knowledge and power from it. He understands that more can be gained by studying shadow than by simply destroying it.

Select this advanced class if you want your character to learn to master the power of Shadow, and be able to turn it back upon its denizens.

The fastest path to this advanced class is through the Dedicated Hero basic class, but other paths are possible.

### REQUIREMENTS

To qualify to become a Shadow Scholar, a character must fulfil the following criteria.

**Base Attack Bonus:** +2

**Skills:** Knowledge (arcane lore) 6 ranks, Knowledge (history) 6 ranks, and any 2 of Listen 6 ranks, Research 3 ranks, Sense Motive 6 ranks, and Spot 6 ranks.

**Special:** The character must be able to both read and speak a non-human language, and must have used this ability in a non-hostile encounter with a creature of shadow.

### CLASS INFORMATION

The following information pertains to the Shadow Scholar advanced class

#### Hit die

The Shadow Scholar gains 1d8 hit points per level. The character's Constitution modifier applies.

#### Action points

The Shadow Scholar gains a number of action points equal to 6+ one-half his character level, rounded down, every time he attains a new level in this class.

#### Class skills

The Shadow Scholar's class skills are as follows.

Concentration (Con), Intimidate (Cha), Listen (Wis), Knowledge (arcane lore, current events, history, theology and philosophy) (Int), Profession (Wis), Read/Write Language (none), Research (Int), Sense Motive (Wis), Speak Language (none), Spot (Wis), Use Magic Device (Cha).

**Skill Points at Each Level:** 5+ Int Modifier

Table: The Shadow Scholar

<u>Class Level</u>	<u>BAB</u>	<u>Fort Save</u>	<u>Ref Save</u>	<u>Will Save</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Defense Bonus</u>	<u>Reputation Bonus</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	+0	+0	+0	+2	Ritual caster	+0	+1
2 <sup>nd</sup>	+1	+0	+0	+3	Secret of shadow	+1	+1
3 <sup>rd</sup>	+2	+1	+1	+3	Bonus feat	+1	+1
4 <sup>th</sup>	+2	+1	+1	+4	Aware/Faith	+1	+2
5 <sup>th</sup>	+3	+1	+1	+4	Secret of shadow	+2	+2
6 <sup>th</sup>	+4	+2	+2	+5	Bonus feat	+2	+2
7 <sup>th</sup>	+5	+2	+2	+5	Secret of shadow	+2	+3
8 <sup>th</sup>	+5	+2	+2	+6	Ageless, intuition	+3	+3
9 <sup>th</sup>	+6	+3	+3	+6	Bonus feat	+3	+3
10 <sup>th</sup>	+7	+3	+3	+7	Secret of shadow	+3	+4

### CLASS FEATURES

All of the following features pertain to the Shadow Scholar advanced class.

#### Ritual Caster

A Shadow Scholar is an expert at casting Incantations. He adds half his class level to any skill checks he makes related to casting Incantations. This includes Research checks to find an Incantation, Knowledge (arcane lore) checks for casting, and other skill checks tied to the casting process. He also gains access to the Use Magic Device skill, as detailed on page 293 of the D20 Modern Core Rulebook.

### Secret of Shadow

At 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> level, the Shadow Scholar uncovers an ancient secret from beyond the veil of Shadow. He may choose a single ability from the following table. His class level plus Wisdom determines which secrets he may choose from.

Level + Wis Modifier	Secret	Effect
1	Instant Mastery	Gain a +3 competence bonus to any one skill.
2	Applicable Knowledge	Any one feat*
3	Arcane Protection	Spell Resistance 5+class level**
4	Inner Strength	+1 luck bonus on all Will saves
5	True Stamina	+1 luck bonus on all Fortitude saves
6	Danger Avoidance	+1 luck bonus on all Reflex saves
7	Weapon Trick	+1 competence bonus to all attack rolls
8	Dodge Trick	+1 dodge bonus to defense
9	Inner Power	Gain either the Divine Heritage, Magical Heritage, Shadow Heritage or Wild Talent feat, ignoring prerequisites.
10	Innate Arcana	Pick any one 1 <sup>st</sup> level spell. The Shadow Scholar can cast this spell by expending an action point. His caster level is equal to his class level. The save DC is based on his Wisdom score.

\*As if gained through levelling up.

\*\*If the Shadow Scholar has higher SR from another source, add his class level to previous SR instead.

### Bonus feats

At 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> level, the Shadow Scholar gets a bonus feat. The bonus feat must be selected from the following list, and the Shadow Scholar must meet all the prerequisites of the feat to select it.

Alertness, Archaic Weapons Proficiency, Attentive, Blind-fight, Educated, Focused, Frightful Presence, Iron Will, Renown, Studious

### Aware/Faith

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, a Shadow Scholar becomes intuitively aware of his surroundings. He adds his base Will saving throw bonus to listen or Spot checks to avoid surprise. If he already possesses this ability from the Dedicated Hero basic class, he instead gains the Faith talent.

### Ageless

After achieving 8th level, a Shadow Scholar no longer suffers ability penalties for aging and cannot be magically aged. Any penalties he may have already suffered, however, remain in place. Bonuses still accrue, and the Shadow Scholar still dies of old age when his time is up. In addition, he gains a +2 on all saves versus level- or statistic-draining abilities, such as a vampire's energy drain, and on saves versus death effects.

### Intuition

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, a Shadow Scholar has an innate ability to sense trouble in the air. He may make a Will saving throw (DC 15). On a successful save, he gets a hunch that everything is all right, or he gets a bad feeling about a specific situation, based on the GM's best guess relating to the circumstances. This ability is useable a number of times per day equal to the Shadow Scholar's class level.