

SOME EXAMPLES OF DISCIPLINARY COMBINATIONS

- University of Melbourne, Bachelor of Arts
- Ancient World Studies + Latin = Archaeology
 - Art History + French = Art curatorship
 - Criminology + Psychology + Sociology = Forensic psychology
 - Development Studies + History = Local government, NGOs
 - English + Theatre Studies + History = Teaching, live theatre industry, filmmaking
 - Geography + Environmental Studies + Chinese = Translation
 - Linguistics and Applied Linguistics + Creative Writing = Journalism
 - Media and Communications + Applied Linguistics = Speech pathology
 - Psychology + Media and Communications = Marketing
 - Sociology + Psychology = Social work

Monash University, Bachelor of Arts

- Arts and Criminology
- Arts and Fine Art
- Arts and Music
- Business and Arts
- Commerce and Arts
- Education and Arts
- Engineering and Arts
- Information Technology and Arts
- International Business and Arts
- Laws and Arts
- Marketing and Arts
- Politics, Philosophy and Economics and Arts
- Science and Arts

Deakin University, Bachelor of Arts

Arts degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts/Master of International Relations
- Bachelor of Arts/Master of Teaching (Secondary)
- Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws
- Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Health Sciences/Bachelor of Arts

Communication degrees:

- Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Communication (Advertising)
- Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Communication (Digital Media)
- Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Communication (Journalism)
- Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Communication (Public Relations)

Criminology degrees

- Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Cyber Security
- Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Laws
- Bachelor of Forensic Science/Bachelor of Criminology

International studies degrees

- Bachelor of International Studies/Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of International Studies

Studying the Humanities won't help me succeed in other fields

YES IT WILL!

“The Australian education system may not be fully imparting the skills required for a competitive knowledge economy. A multi-dimensional approach is needed where STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) skills are built strongly, but are properly complemented by capability in areas such as humanities and social sciences (HASS) in order to understand the culture and societies in which Australia seeks to operate or engage.”

(Withers et al., 2015)

“Engineering Australia's chief executive, Bronwyn Evans, has similarly argued that 'the future of engineering requires a diversity of students beyond the technical'; she notes that double degrees, such as engineering-law and engineering-arts 'are very important for a really well-rounded engineering graduate.'”

(Dodd, 2020; Lunn, 2020)

With so many people doing double degrees, humanities graduates end up everywhere:

“Double-degree students have significantly higher full-time employment rates around six months after course completion for second degrees in humanities and social sciences.”

(Carroll et al., 2021)

“Humanities graduates are everywhere. They enrich every industry. Every other industry, whether it's teaching, medicine, public service, small business, is enriched by understanding how society works. They understand how power works and can process all the enormous amounts of information that you need to know to run a business.”

(Laura Newman, Social Education Victoria)

“We've now reached a point in modern knowledge where the big problems lie between [academic] disciplines. ... To tackle them, the next generation will have to be able to think across disciplines, and think globally.”

(David Christian, Macquarie University, cited in Marks, 2015)



STUDYING THE HUMANITIES ALONGSIDE OTHER DISCIPLINES LEADS TO INNOVATION IN:

MEDICINE AND CAREGIVING

“ There is compelling evidence that humanities can advance the care of patients providing insight into the nature of the environment and communication that advance the healing process.”

(Neuroscientist and professor Mike Spyer, cited in British Academy, 2010)

ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY

PSYCHIATRY

“ The humanities remind us that there is truth in the subjective as well as the objective. These truths promote empathy, understanding, curiosity, and growth. And these are also the very qualities that make psychiatry so very special.”

(Schlozman, 2017)

“ Grief management and consolation are ‘at the core of what the humanities deal with: human experience, how it is expressed in the miracle of language and what we might learn from it.’”

(Han Baltussen, Professor of Classics at the University of Adelaide, cited in Marks, 2015)

CLIMATE CHANGE

“ Technical ingenuity alone is not enough to solve or study climate change.”

(Ivison, 2020)

“ History teaches communities when the deadliest fire days occur. It teaches the distinctive pattern that bushfires follow, and whether they may escalate into ... a ‘firestorm’. Communal memories may fade, but history and good storytelling keep alive such valuable insights.”

(Tom Griffiths, director of the Australian National University, cited in Marks, 2015)

“ The world’s reefs face extinction within a few decades. Such ‘wickedly complex’ challenges ... require humanities scholars to exploit their storytelling and visual skills to ‘persuade the public of the absolute importance of their engagement.’”

(Iain McCalman, cited in Marks, 2015)

“ Current threats like global warming and COVID raise existential questions that the humanities and social sciences are uniquely placed to address. These vast challenges require multi-disciplinary responses; communicate scientific and economic developments and socio-political and cultural implications.”

(Australian Academy of the Humanities, 2020; Edgar & Edgar, 2020; Slattery, 2020; Smith, 2020)

ETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

“ The general cultural and democratic climate of freedom of expression has supported innovation and ideas through the humanities and social sciences. It is notable for example that Australian thinkers in these areas contributed greatly to three of the great revolutions in social understanding and change in the later 20th century namely:

- Female Liberation: Germaine Greer, *The Female Eunuch*, 1970
- Gay Liberation: Denis Altman, *Homosexual: Oppression and Liberation*, 1971
- Animal Liberation: Peter Singer, *Animal Liberation*, 1975.”

(Withers et al., 2015)

BUSINESS

“ I have led privately owned and quoted companies and public sector organisations for more than half of my working life. Rarely have technical problems been the rate-limiting step to progress. Invariably it has been about the nature of people: how well they have learned to understand and appreciate each other and being prepared to cooperate for the greater good, exacerbated by the remorseless advance of globalisation. Faculties of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences are a rich and largely untapped resource for helping the world of business to address this and therefore make the kind of progress we would all like to see.”

(George Greener, former CEO of Mars Confectionery and current Chairman of the London National Health Service, cited in British Academy, 2010)

“ A humanities background helps people with pivoting. You learn how to pitch yourself into new contexts to enrich things, and bring value to the organisation or problems being faced.”

(Suzanne Cremen, Humanities 21)

The humanities helps you to pivot between disciplines.

The benefits of combining the humanities with other disciplines:
Approaching a subject, problem or domain from a separate domain provides a new perspective on a problem.

“ Interdisciplinarity can fill gaps, point out blind spots, and highlight rigidities and incapacities in traditional disciplines.”

(Condee, 2016)

“ The most successful Australian companies rely on ‘skills mixing’, bringing together humanities, arts and social science skills, with science, engineering and mathematics.”

(Australian Academy of the Humanities, 2020)

