

Liberal vs Scientific Education

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As someone who was educated in the sciences, particularly a Bachelor of Science in Engineering, I appreciate the value of a scientific education. However, given the way the world is going, I think more emphasis should be placed on a liberal education.

In engineering, we did pages and pages of calculations with little opportunity for reading and writing. The textbooks were studied one page at a time trying to discern what the applied science was to solve a physics type problem. Despite the advance of the sciences in recent decades, we have no exhausted scientific enquiry. But are we producing too many graduates in the sciences?

Students believe that their chances of getting a good job by taking science. That may no longer be true. Anecdotally, I know of a PhD in Chemistry who could not find a job. He wrote a test for a government position as a chemist. Out of 2000 test takers, he finished 8th and still was not offered a job. As my friend told, "I thought all 2900 PhD should have gotten a job.

The education in engineering did not prepare me for the world of construction management. There were a few skills that were applicable such as critical path scheduling. In fact, my boss, an engineer, told me that there is no difference between someone with a degree and someone without. I was paid the same as a person without any degree. So even getting a BScE is no ticket to the upper middle class professionals

With the advent of scientific education following WWII regarded as a necessity to outpace the Soviet Union, we ended up with a generations that stopped believing in God. Atheism became popular, where in the previous centuries, atheism was rare. Apostasy lead to moral licence until today we witness the breakdown of the nuclear family, the rise of homosexuality, common drug use, fornication,

illegitimacy etc. -a whole host of social ills. The western civilization is Godless whereas once the Catholic Church was the foundation of Western culture. We are living through the collapse of the American Empire and Western civilization as the pinnacle of our age.

The solution is to return to a liberal education. Most of what I learned in engineering is never used. Two years in technical school would have been enough. Instead, I spent 6 years getting 206 credit hours. The degree required only 180 CH, whereas an Arts degree is 110 CH. I took the introductory courses in about 8 different subjects which is partially why I can do research in so many fields. I am a polymath because of a broad education. I think university students should be pursuing a broad education as opposed to a narrow one. In engineering, we didn't have the opportunity to do a lot of reading nor writing -two essential skills to be well educated. I function on what I learned in Enriched English in High School.

A broad education is more necessary with the global world. There is no stopping it, even if we elect presidents such as Donald Trump. The world is quickly becoming multicultural. Knowledge of languages, various religions, cultures, and philosophies are required for the new world. I suggest Arts students be totally free to choose what they want to study at university. Instead of job training that universities do a poor job, graduates should have a broad education. They should be literate in world affairs and peoples of all cultures. Perhaps an Arts degree could establish one narrow technology for job training.

Faith in God has fallen off with the result of a Godless outlook and the death of religion. A friend asked, why would I believe in God? I've never seen Him?" Of course, you have never seen Him because

He is insensible. He has no mass. Education in the sciences leads to a bleak outlook and threatens the very existence of humans how can we know about an insensible being? By the study of Pure Math. Even Applied Math doesn't qualify, only Pure Math. That is how we "see" God. Women tend to be better at sensing the unseen. It's probably because they must read the mind of an infant or child who needs their help. Plato's World of Forms may apply in so much that it doesn't rely on visual clues.

Now we come to cost. Many times, I was going to enroll in Arts, but cannot justify spending \$10,000 per year on tuition to get a degree where there may no job at the end. Education in the arts should offered inexpensively. Education should not be reserved for the wealthy considering that student pay only 20% of the cost of their education; the taxpayer pays the rest. An Arts degree is not worth the investment of \$40,000.

Our local university is too expense for me to take courses casually. What is the point of having a university in your city if it is out of reach economically? Universities should seek to enhance the education of the citizens. With the advent of distance education, the student has more options for university study to ear that coveted Arts degree. Universities should not merely be technical schools producing workers for the industrial machine; it is about enriching the student so that he or she has a better life.

I wish I had taken Liberal Arts. There is an excellent university locally and a dedicated liberal arts university in the capital city nearby. I hunger for knowledge of History, Philosophy, and Humanities. I think a human education would bring citizens back to the fold of believe in God which is necessary for advancement of humanity.