

Responses (364)

Text Analysis

My Categories (1)

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Showing 19 responses for Liberal Arts [Clear](#)

- ☐ History of Science is the best concentration of all time. Period. I currently work with a young woman who was also a 2007 Hist of Sci major, and we are always talking about how we would recommend the major to anyone. Liberal arts educations aren't intended to "qualify" you for any particular job, but Hist of Sci provides you with a truly broad based, well rounded education, and teaches you novel ways of looking at the world which have been invaluable to me as a lawyer and as a human being.
12/4/2013 10:22 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Categorize as...](#)
- ☐ At the most general level, in terms of critical thinking in the classic liberal arts way. More specifically, it was good training for my career in science and technology policy More recently, it's been a handy tool for my work as a playwright Side note: while I was a graduate student at MIT I taught a history of science seminar at Harvard on the portrayal of science in the theatre. It was a pretty good course (if I say so myself), and one of the highlights of my career at the time.
12/4/2013 10:40 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Categorize as...](#)
- ☐ For my work as a journalist, I need to know a little bit about a lot of subjects, but not necessarily be an expert in any of them. History & Science helped provide the liberal arts foundation that enables me to intelligently explore many topics. The flexibility and open-mindedness of the concentration enabled me to take a semester abroad in Nepal (back when that wasn't common) and explore a lot of disparate subjects - which is pretty much what I still do 30 yrs later. At a school not known for being that flexible, His & Sci gave me room to move and study. That has continued to serve me well in my professional life.
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Showing 46 responses for Think Critically [Clear](#)

- ☐ It was the most flexible, versatile, and practical concentration on campus. It prepared me for both research endeavors within the halls of academia as well as the critical thinking skills needed for graduate degree coursework.
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- ☐ Hist and Sci taught me how to think about health and health care in a much more holistic, contextual way. It also helped me hone my critical reading and writing skills. People are always so interested to hear what hist and sci is! It really is a unique course of study, very relevant to a broad range of future careers.
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- ☐ I cite my History and Science training ALL the time! Hist and Sci equipped me with excellent critical thinking skills that strongly shaped my professional worldview. As a psychologist-in-training I often think back to Dr. Harrington's Madness & Medicine class. That was probably one of the most influential courses I took in college. Also Hist and Sci made me literate in multiple fields (sciences and humanities).
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- ☐ I was unusual in that I combined 20th century US history with computer science, so I'm not sure my experience is that typical. However, I'd say that the applied math (as it was known) coursework was directly relevant to my eventual career and the critical thinking and problem solving skills I developed in H&S were very valuable.
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My Categories (1)

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Showing 4 responses for **Exposure** [Clear](#)

- ☐ It definitely helped with a foundation in science for later pursuits. While I approached industries such as aviation, communications, and engineering from the business side personally, I had enough of a background to understand what was happening on the science side. Plus, it was a great exposure to seeing how science, society, and economy could mesh.
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- ☐ Exposure to track in History and the Developing World was helpful for my global experience
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- ☐ Wonderful exposure to cross-disciplinary thinking; rigorous research and analysis; and a strong focus on clear writing.
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- ☐ Many jobs are driven by technological expertise. But the human being, his immediate family and society at large depend on the wise application of that technology. This requires that the person who has technological skills also has a sensitivity to individual and societal needs, which is developed by an exposure to social studies and humanities. The History of Science is the beginning of this.
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Q

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Showing 53 responses for **Understand** [Clear](#)

- ☐ I loved the major. The most valuable lesson I learned was not to take "facts" at face value. It's important to take a step back and really understand the whole story first
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- ☐ I LOVED Hist & Sci. I miss it. I think it prepared me well -- in many ways the factual part of patent litigation is history of science; I have to figure out and understand the state of the art at a given point in time (generally a priority date within the last 20 years) for whatever science or technology is at issue in the case, how new ideas developed, what ideas worked and didn't, what would have been obvious to a skilled person at that time and what wouldn't, etc.
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- ☐ It was a wonderful concentration. People are surprised, especially by virtue of my training in medicine, that I was not a science major in college. It has allowed me to broaden my perspectives and critically think and analyze. Admittedly, I did not see the tangible benefits during the first two years of medical school, where I had to absorb and process many discrete facts in the medical sciences. However, now that I am a third year medical student with the privilege of interacting with patients on a daily basis, I have experienced first-hand how instrumental my education has been in understanding my patients, who come from many walks of life.
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- ☐ It was ideal. First, I got my teaching job through the Dept. (and because I took 4 physics courses as part of my concentration) Second, my ability to write, think, analyze, understand science and technology etc. were

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Showing 5 responses for Breadth [Clear](#)



History and Science prepared me very well to be a teacher of many different subjects. I taught Social Studies with Teach for America, I teach Math now and plan to pursue teaching Science at some point as well. My current school wants me to teach a History of Science elective to 11th & 12th graders too. For the same reason I loved concentrating in History and Science (for the variety of subject matter and balance of science and writing), the concentration has given me invaluable skills and knowledge to be a teacher with a lot of breadth.

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I liked it because of its breadth.

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the discipline of having to do a thesis, and the requirement to do not just narrow science, but relate to social science issues, I feel was very important preparation for challenging jobs in a world in which breadth and creativity is going to be ever more important.

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History of Science gave me the breadth to explore a diverse set of interests, until I was able to bring them into focus. Many of the subjects I first encountered in the department are still current in my research activities.

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