

## Polymathy, New Generalism and the Future of Work: A little theory and some practice from UCL's Arts and Sciences BAsC degree.

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It has become a truism that we are at the beginning of some kind of revolution of historic proportions, driven principally by technology but involving other factors such as globalization and problems of planetary scope. For university graduates, the world of work is predicted to change substantially, with all but the poorest nations becoming knowledge economies in which services dominate and attributes such as creativity, flexibility, passion and collegiality are valued in white collar jobs at least as much as academic subject knowledge.

This short paper sketches a trajectory of disciplinary education and its relation to employment and argues that we see a re-emergence of the value of polymathy and generalism as educational ambitions related to the future of work. Particular examples of UCL Arts and Sciences student profiles are given and recent experiences of graduate recruitment recounted and examined.