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| List of Academic Disciplines: Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities and Interdisciplinary StudiesSciences Studies of the natural and physical world. Scientists use quantitative and objective research methods that support the pursuit of scientific discovery. |
| **Agriculture** The study of all processes and services, both nonfarm and farm, involved in producing products from plants and animals for the consumer.  **Astronomy** The study of celestial bodies, their composition, distances, motions, and the laws that control them.  **Biology** The study of living organisms.  **Botany** The study of plant life.  **Chemistry** The study of the composition, structure, and properties of matter and of changes in matter.  **Engineering** The study of the properties of matter and the sources of power in nature that are made useful in structures, machines, and manufactured products.  **Geology** The study of the history of the earth, forces or agencies acting on the earth, and particularly the evidences of such history as revealed in rock formations and earth strata.  **Mathematics** The science that explains the relations existing between quantities and operations.  **Medicine** The science and art dealing with the prevention, cure, or alleviation of disease.  **Oceanography** The study of the sea, including the sea's physical boundaries, the chemistry and physics of sea water, and marine biology.  **Military Science** The study of methods of war or armies.  **Physics** The study of matter and energy, including the study of phenomena associated with mechanics, heat, wave motion, sound, electricity, magnetism, light, and atomic and nuclear structure |
| Social Sciences Studies of people and institutions. Social scientists also use quantitative methods, but their research may include qualitative and subjective methods as well. |
| **Anthropology** The study of human beings, including physical characteristics, racial, geographical, and historical distribution, classification, and relationships, and cultural, environmental, and social development and relationships.  **Business** The study of commercial or industrial enterprises.  **Communications** The study of the psychological, sociological, and physical components in the transmission, reception, and recording of verbal and nonverbal messages.  **Economics** The study of production, distribution, and consumption of commodities having exchange value and of the related social phenomena.  **Education** The study and art of making available to each generation the organized knowledge of the past.  **Geography** The study of the earth, including land, water, air, the distribution of plant and animal life, man and his industries, and the interrelations of these factors.  **History** The study of the recording and critical representation of past events.  **Law** The study of the binding custom or practice of a community.  **Language** The faculty of verbal expression and the use of words in human communication.  **Political Science** The study of political facts and the logical and causal relations among them; the study of political authority in all its forms, viewed historically, descriptively, comparatively, and theoretically.  **Psychology** The study of adjustments of organisms, especially the human organism, to changing environment.  **Sociology** The study of human social grouping and behavior, dealing particularly with the origins, development, purposes, functions, problems, adjustments and peculiarities of human society. |
| Humanities Studies of human thought, expression and culture. Research in the Humanities takes a variety of forms, including comparative and narrative analysis. |
| **Fine Arts** The pursuit of painting, sculpture, photography, architecture and other visual arts.  **Literature** The study of the written or printed productions of a country or a period, but more especially that written or printed matter which has high quality and style.  **Music** The art and science of creating and delivering tomes expressive of and simulating to human feelings.  **Philosophy** Seeks to organize an systematize all fields of knowledge as a means of understanding and interpreting the totality of reality; usually regarded as comprising logic, ethics, aesthetics, metaphysics, and epistemology.  **Religion** The study of encounters with that which is viewed as divine or as ultimate reality. |
| Interdisciplinary Studies Studies incorporate content from more than one field of research and can draw upon methodologies used by different academic disciplines. |
| **American Studies** Study of American history, culture, and institutions and their effects on the American nation. May include history, political science, economics, sociology, literature, arts, religion, and more.  **Area Studies** Examines a specific geographic region, including such aspects as economics, political science, anthropology, sociology, psychology, biology, zoology, literature, or culture.  **Environmental Studies** Examines our relationship with our surroundings, including pollution, resources, conservation, and transportation. Draws from pure sciences, economics, engineering, resource management, political sciences, and more.  **Ethnic Studies** Closely related to American Studies. Focuses on the cultural heritage, history, and contemporary concerns of American ethnic groups.  **Womens' Studies** Examines the roles, history, and contributions of women. Draws from literature, art, sociology, psychology, political science, history and other fields. |