

Time to Add the A to the STEM!

If you are someone who belongs to a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) background, then chances are that either you must have never studied Humanities or Social Sciences Subject or you seriously undermine them.

However, it is time to crawl out of your ionic bond, bubble, or whatever, and change that little thought of yours. Unlike the equations, you study in Mathematics that have a definite answer, Humanities and Social Sciences does not revolve around ONE definite answer.

In fact, the answer carries on and it depends upon your analytical skills how well you can delve deeper to find the answer, and how well you frame it when you find it.

Humanities and Social Sciences Is ALSO All Around Us

So you must think that the world revolves around the laws of Physics only? Or the chemical reactions of Chemistry or the biological processes we study in Biology? NO! We live in a world where every subject carries immense importance.

Yes, it is true that the current era has been taken over by technology, but everything that we seem around us has elements of Social Sciences and Humanities.

For example, we are all so intrigued by the Google Voice Search option and so many of us now rely on simple voice searches instead of typing our query. Little does everyone know, that behind the technology of the Voice Search option we have input from Linguistics experts too. YES Linguistics experts. How you may ask? Linguistics is the study of language in depth, which is why people who have majored in this subject can help in identifying sounds and the various complexities of language.

A Linguistics expert can be a great Speech Therapist, a Writer and much more. In fact, you can easily teach a programming language to a Linguistics expert and they will understand it very well.

Let's take another example; Economics! No matter how great of a technology we introduce in the market, if we do not understand basic Supply and Demand and the functioning of the economy, we will in the end fail to market and sell our product with success. Economics is a Social Science that should be taught to all students regardless of what they are majoring in.

So, What's the Fix? Embracing STEAM?

In the previous days, there have been debates such as the STEM vs. STEAM debate which revolves around the addition of Arts in STEM education. Pro STEM people argue that STEM should be left alone and not interfered with, while Pro STEAM people argue that we need to instill the importance of Arts and Humanities in the minds of our students.

Studying Arts subjects develops our analytical and critical thinking skills as well as our writing skills. Being equipped with these crucial skills in the end helps us paving the path for success in every aspect of life that we follow.

STEM based subjects revolve around definite solutions, while Arts encourages us to delve deeper and think beyond the surface. As such, keeping Arts subjects from a primary level will

not only enhance the learning curve of our next generation, but allow them to think beyond the surface as well.