

## Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

### Want a good job, good pay and a happy boss? Do an Arts degree

- 90 per cent of humanities, culture and social sciences graduates are in full time employment three years after graduating
- Their salary is on par with other graduates at \$82,000
- Employers have a 91 per cent satisfaction rate with humanities, arts and social sciences graduates<sup>1</sup>

## Our members support a National Skills Taxonomy & National Skills Passport

### Our members want to:

- Engage with Generative AI experts
- Help meet Australia's skills shortage
- Help increase productivity
- Work more closely with the VET sector
- Help improve recognition of prior learning for Australian students
- Help improve pathways between qualifications
- Support and cultivate life-long learning
- Make an Arts degree affordable
- Work with other disciplines to improve outcomes for all students and employers
- Help Australia meet its National Science and Research Priorities
- Preserve, protect and promote our disciplines
- Support students to pursue an Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities education

## What are the skills you get from studying Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities?

- Communication
- Creative thinking and analysis
- Critical & analytical thinking
- Research
- Writing
- Close reading
- Data analysis
- Problem solving
- Understanding processes of change

- Data collection
- Question assumptions & applied logic
- Communication of complex research findings
- Ability to overcome bias
- Systematic attention to detail
- Cultural competence
- Online safety
- Intercultural understanding

- Understanding democracy, justice, fairness, equality and the rule of law
- Critical understanding of the self
- Critical understanding of the world
- Communication in languages other than English

## Top 10 in demand skills 2025

1. Analytical thinking
2. Resilience, flexibility and agility
3. Leadership and social influence
4. Creative thinking
5. Motivation and self-awareness
6. Technological literacy
7. Empathy and active listening
8. Curiosity and lifelong learning
9. Talent management
10. Service organisation and customer service <sup>2</sup>

## Australia's Sovereign Capabilities

### Graduates keep Australia safe as

- Diplomats
- Language experts
- Intelligence and national security operatives
- China, Russia and US relations experts
- International development workers
- Journalists
- Children's online safety specialists
- Mis and disinformation analysts

## Work Smarter not Harder

- Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences graduates **drive economic growth** by applying analytical, creative and adaptive skills that lift productivity across industries.
- They strengthen inclusion, widen the talent pool, and **deliver the innovation and problem-solving capacity** employers need to stay competitive.
- By building pathways, recognising prior learning and engaging with emerging technologies, **HASS disciplines boost workforce mobility**, address skills shortages
- HASS disciplines create the foundations for a **stronger, fairer and more resilient economy**
- From Google to the diplomatic corps these disciplines are the **key to unlocking Australia's productivity**.

Graduates need vocational skills to meet worker shortages and we fully support the development of a National Skills Taxonomy that will enable greater workforce mobility and lifelong learning.

## How we help

### The Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

- Recognise interdisciplinarity
- Help educators and students identify and translate cognitive and higher order skills
- Capture a full suite of skills needed to ensure good economic outcomes, regional security and a healthy democracy
- Increase pathways that enable lifelong learning and employment mobility Improve mobility between VET and higher education
- Meet actual employer demand for workers who can think critically, analyse and cope with change
- Deliver on the critical need for Australia to identify and apply new knowledge

These are **trans-vocational cognitive and comprehension-based skills** which critical for many jobs across every industry, though some more than others. Each of **these skills can be assessed, measured and reported** on by arts, social sciences and humanities educators.

1: Source: Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching graduate outcomes, student experience and employer satisfaction surveys

2: World Economic Forum. (2025, January 7). *The Future of Jobs Report 2025*. Geneva: World Economic Forum, <https://www.weforum.org/publications/series/future-of-jobs/>