

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Saturday June 24 2023, 12.01am, The Times

It’s all academic

Sir, Your recent debate about the value of studying humanities ([“We should cheer decline of humanities degrees”](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/we-should-cheer-decline-of-humanities-degrees-5pp6ksgmz), Emma Duncan, Jun 16, and letters, [Jun 17](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/times-letters-boris-johnson-and-the-ghost-of-the-1974-elections-l7dzcs8bj), [19](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/times-letters-dogfight-over-the-legacy-of-douglas-bader-h9kqqchlq) and [22](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/times-letters-labour-plan-to-flood-lords-with-new-peers-v6ggr5tvc)), and the comment about the price of music in St Mark’s Square ([letter, Jun 23](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/times-letters-interest-rate-rise-and-controlling-inflation-clrpr6zhr)), reminded me that, when I was a junior doctor working for Professor James Neuberger in Birmingham, he used to despair when anyone used the term “academic” to mean irrelevant or of little value.  
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