

A short analysis or a reflective essay for the 1st week's class of (IDH)

What is Humanities ?

According to me humanities isn't exactly a process or a curriculum , its this overall idea that if you want to learn about the world or something about yourself that's sacred and that's very meaningful and that's what I think humanities is , but I do have another idea that what people think , why do they think like that and what they make out of it , it basically depends on our understanding of who we are , and help us find meaning and beauty out of our lives.

What is the difference between critical analysis, critical thinking and critical methods ?

Critical Analysis:

- **What it is:** Looking closely at something (like a book, article, or argument) to understand it better and figure out if it's good or bad.
- **Example:** Reading a book and analyzing whether the characters are well-developed and if the plot makes sense.

Critical Thinking:

- **What it is:** Using your brain to carefully think through information, question things, and make smart decisions.
- **Example:** Deciding whether you should buy a new phone by weighing its pros and cons and considering if it's really worth the price.

Critical Methods:

- **What it is:** The specific techniques or steps you use to analyze or think critically.
- **Example:** Using a particular method to review a study or argument, like comparing it to other studies or checking how the evidence was gathered.

A short history about digital humanities

Humanities originates from the classical greek term paideia, in the early middle ages , church fathers , adopted paideia and humanities or liberal arts to Christian education , including mathematics , linguistics , history , philosophy and science .

Fifteenth century Italian humanities used studia humanitatis to describe secular literary and scholarly activities focused on classical studies , but later it was criticized for its narrow approach to latin and greek texts.

What different philosophers think about humanities

- **Wilhelm Dilthey:** He saw the humanities (like history, literature, and philosophy) as focusing on understanding people and their experiences, which are different from studying physical things like atoms or planets.
- **Heinrich Rickert:** He believed that the humanities are special because they use methods to understand specific cultures and experiences, rather than just looking at general laws or patterns.
- **Martha Nussbaum:** She thinks the humanities are crucial because they help us understand each other better, support democratic values, and encourage us to be good global citizens.

How humanities was perceived outside Europe

- **Islamic scholarship:** Studied language, poetry, and moral philosophy.
- **China's Six Arts:** Covered rituals, music, archery, chariot driving, writing, and math.
- **Guoxue and Renwen:** Guoxue is traditional Chinese studies, while Renwen is a term borrowed from Japanese, meaning humanities.

During the mid-19th century, the Industrial Revolution brought about significant changes in how materials were produced, including a boom in printing and book production. This made books more accessible and affordable, which, in turn, fueled a growing interest in education. As more public schools and universities were established, there was a need to organize knowledge into different fields of study.

During this time, subjects like literature, philosophy, and classics started to emerge as distinct disciplines, separate from the natural and physical sciences. New areas of study, such as archaeology, art history, and linguistics, also began to take shape.

By the 20th century, English departments at universities started to specialize even further, focusing on specific periods like medieval or Renaissance literature, and more recent developments like modern philology. Over time, fields like comparative literature and postcolonial studies were added, reflecting a broader interest in understanding literature and culture from a global perspective.