

# 國立中山大學 101 學年度碩士暨碩士專班招生考試試題

科目：英文作文【外文系碩士班甲組】

題號：4022  
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“What price the advanced study of the humanities in a time when the world economy crumbles? Some might say that to teach and research papyrus fragments of ancient Greek drama or the reading habits of sixteenth-century gentlewomen at such a time is to fiddle while Rome burns.”

Jonathan Bate

The humanities are threatened not just in Taiwan but also worldwide. Public funding for the humanities has been severely curtailed; humanities students are facing challenges upon graduation. How do you justify the study of art, literature, history, and philosophy that foster and defend human creativity and civilization in relation to other disciplines that have the immediacy of “public value”? Are the humanities today the humanities of the past? How do you make a smart claim in your own terms?

Write a 400-500 word argumentative essay on this global debate (100%). You may cite any writer, thinker, artist, or critic ancient or modern to argue your case. You may also answer the question from your personal observations.

You will be evaluated according to the quality of thinking and academic writing, not necessarily your critical position.