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# The Sushi Search: Unraveling the Academic Appetite for Interdisciplinary Studies

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*In this study, we delved into the unique relationship between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and Google searches for 'sushi near me'. As researchers, we went fishing for data, and sushi to satisfy our cravings for knowledge. We gathered data from the National Center for Education Statistics and reeled in Google Trends to assess this intriguing question. Our analysis yielded a correlation coefficient of 0.9854975 and a p-value of less than 0.01 for the period from 2012 to 2021. It seems that as the appetite for multidisciplinary knowledge grows, so does the craving for delectable sushi. It's almost as if pursuing diverse academic interests can lead to a diverse culinary palate – a case of "Master's degrees with a side of maki rolls," if you will. We also speculate that this correlation may be attributed to the innovative thinking pathways opened up by interdisciplinary studies, leading individuals to seek out unconventional, fusion dining experiences. Through our findings, we shed light on the profoundly human connection between academic pursuits and gastronomical adventures. Our research serves as a reminder that the pursuit of knowledge is indeed a multi-course meal, one that might just lead to a satisfying search for sushi.*

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As the world becomes increasingly interconnected and complex, the demand for interdisciplinary studies has grown exponentially. To satisfy this academic craving, universities have expanded their offerings to include Master's degrees in Multi/interdisciplinary studies, encouraging scholars to explore the intersections of various fields and broaden their intellectual palate. Speaking of palates, our research, quite unexpectedly, delved into the correlation between the pursuit of these diverse academic interests and the universal human desire for sushi – a cuisine known for its fusion of flavors and ingredients. It's as if scholars are searching for academic fusion, while also seeking fusion in their culinary adventures.

Our investigation delved into the connection between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and the frequency of Google searches for 'sushi near me'. Wading through the sea of data, we found ourselves hooked on the idea that there might be a tangible link between the academic appetite for interdisciplinary knowledge and the literal appetite for delectable sushi. We couldn't help but marvel at the possibility of scholars embarking on a journey of academic exploration, only to be lured into a search for the most mouthwatering morsels of raw fish and rice. It's a classic case of "brains and rolls" – where the pursuit of interdisciplinary knowledge might just lead to a craving for a different kind of roll.

As researchers, we're always in pursuit of meaningful correlations and causations, but seldom

do we expect to stumble upon a finding so oddly delightful. The correlation coefficient of 0.9854975 and a p-value of less than 0.01 for the period from 2012 to 2021 suggests a striking relationship between the two variables. It's almost as if the pursuit of knowledge and the search for savory sushi are intertwined in ways we never imagined. This unexpectedly delightful discovery reminds us that in the vast landscape of academic research, there are still unexpected treasures waiting to be uncovered – much like finding a pearl in an oyster, or a spicy tuna roll in a neighborhood sushi joint.

Stay tuned, as we unravel the complexities of this compelling connection and delve further into the tantalizing relationship between academic pursuits and culinary delights. Our research aims to serve as a reminder that the search for knowledge is not just an intellectual endeavor; it's a journey filled with unexpected, flavorful surprises. And who knows, we might just uncover a whole new field of study – gastronomical academia, or perhaps, the science of sushi and scholarly pursuits.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Previous scholarly work in the field of interdisciplinary studies has laid the groundwork for our investigation into the correlation between Master's degrees awarded in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and Google searches for 'sushi near me'. Smith and Doe (2015) investigated the impact of interdisciplinary knowledge on cognitive flexibility, while Jones (2018) explored the economic outcomes of pursuing a multidisciplinary academic path. Interestingly enough, none of these studies mentioned sushi, but we'll happily fill that scholarly gap.

Turning to the literature on sushi restaurants, "The Sushi Economy" by Sasha Issenberg (2007) provides a comprehensive analysis of the cultural and economic significance of sushi worldwide. This work, while not directly related to academic pursuits, may offer insights into the potential societal implications of a correlation between

educational interests and sushi consumption patterns. As we dive into the relationship between scholarly pursuits and sushi cravings, Issenberg's perspective on the global sushi phenomenon may serve as a fishy, yet informative, backdrop.

On a more fictional note, the novels "Eat, Pray, Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert and "Sushi for Beginners" by Marian Keyes offer literary explorations of personal growth and culinary experiences. While not academic in nature, these works delve into the themes of self-discovery and the search for fulfillment, providing a rich narrative context for our own investigation. We can't help but wonder if there's a parallel between the protagonists' journeys and the academic quests that lead to an inexplicable hankering for sushi. It's almost as if academic pursuits and culinary cravings are two sides of the same coin – a scholarly search for truth contrasted with a ravenous pursuit of umami.

In the realm of board games, the popular game "Sushi Go!" by Gamewright may not directly inform our research, but its playful depiction of sushi-themed card collecting certainly adds a whimsical twist to our exploration. We can't help but draw a parallel between the strategic decision-making involved in pursuing interdisciplinary studies and strategically selecting the most delectable sushi combination in the game. Perhaps there's an underlying lesson to be found in the art of balancing academic disciplines and culinary flavors – both require a discerning palate and a willingness to savor the diversity offered.

As we navigate through the literature on our quest to understand the inexplicable bond between multidisciplinary education and sushi cravings, we are reminded of a wise aphorism: "Wasabi is the root of all evil." We hope to shed light on this uncharted territory with the hope of bringing a little more flavor to the world of academic exploration. Stay tuned for our groundbreaking findings, as we unravel the enigmatic relationship between educational pursuits and the perennial quest for the perfect sushi roll.

## METHODOLOGY

To embark on this academic culinary adventure and uncover the intriguing connection between Master's degrees awarded in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and Google searches for 'sushi near me', we employed a methodology as diverse and intricate as the flavors of a well-crafted sushi roll. Our research team navigated the choppy seas of data, equipped with statistical tools and a healthy dose of humor, to reel in meaningful findings from the vast ocean of information available on the internet.

First, we scoured the National Center for Education Statistics to gather comprehensive data on the number of Master's degrees awarded in the field of Multi/interdisciplinary studies. We immersed ourselves in the statistical sea, casting our nets wide to capture the trends and fluctuations in academic pursuits that transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries. The process was as meticulous as crafting the perfect sushi roll, with each data point serving as a flavorful ingredient in our analytical recipe. After all, a well-executed statistical analysis is akin to a perfectly balanced combination of rice, seaweed, and fresh fish – it's all about achieving that harmonious blend of elements.

Next, we delved into the depths of Google Trends, navigating the currents of search queries for 'sushi near me'. With precision and finesse, we charted the ebb and flow of sushi-related searches, much like skilled fishermen patiently waiting for the perfect catch. The digital landscape became our ocean, teeming with keywords and phrases that would shed light on the culinary inclinations of the population. And just like a sushi chef meticulously crafting each piece of nigiri, we carefully curated our search terms to ensure a comprehensive analysis of the sushi-seeking behavior of the masses.

With our data in hand, we embarked on a statistical journey, utilizing advanced tools to uncover the hidden patterns and correlations between the pursuit of interdisciplinary knowledge and the search for delectable sushi. Our analysis was as thorough as

examining the marbling of a tuna sashimi – we scrutinized every detail to extract the rich flavors of insight and understanding. The statistical models employed were like the seasoning of our research endeavor, enhancing the flavors of our findings and ensuring a well-balanced dish of academic discovery.

In the spirit of full transparency (and a dash of humor), we must also acknowledge the occasional detours we took during our data collection process. There were moments when we found ourselves entangled in humorous search queries while navigating the depths of the internet, encountering tantalizing distractions in the form of cat videos and memes. But just as a skilled sushi chef remains focused amidst the chaos of a bustling kitchen, we maintained our dedication to scientific rigor and statistical precision, making sure to separate the soy sauce from the wasabi – figuratively speaking, of course.

In summary, our methodology was a carefully orchestrated dance of data collection, statistical analysis, and a sprinkle of lighthearted humor, much like the art of sushi-making itself. Through this approach, we endeavored to unravel the intricate flavors of academic pursuits and culinary cravings, painting a vivid portrait of the unexpected relationship between Master's degrees in interdisciplinary studies and the irresistible allure of 'sushi near me'. With our methodological recipe finely tuned, we set forth to serve a delectable feast of insight and discovery to the academic community. Bon appétit!

## RESULTS

The analysis of our data revealed a remarkable correlation between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and the volume of Google searches for 'sushi near me' over the period from 2012 to 2021. The correlation coefficient of 0.9854975 and an r-squared of 0.9712054 indicate a strong positive relationship between these two seemingly unrelated variables. It

seems that as the pursuit of diverse academic knowledge grows, so does the desire to find the nearest source of delectable sushi. It appears that scholarly interests and sushi cravings are swimming in the same pond.

Fig. 1, which we don't want to "maki" assumptions about (but can't resist), depicts a scatterplot illustrating the robust correlation between the number of Master's degrees in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and the frequency of Google searches for 'sushi near me'. The data points form a clear pattern, almost resembling the arrangement of a well-crafted sushi platter - a true feast for the eyes.

Our findings suggest a tantalizing connection between academic curiosity and gastronomical exploration, as if pursuing diverse knowledge stimulates not only the mind but also the taste buds. This correlation seems to convey that as scholars embark on interdisciplinary journeys of intellectual enrichment, they may also find themselves on the hunt for a different type of satisfying fusion – a blend of academic enlightenment and culinary delight.

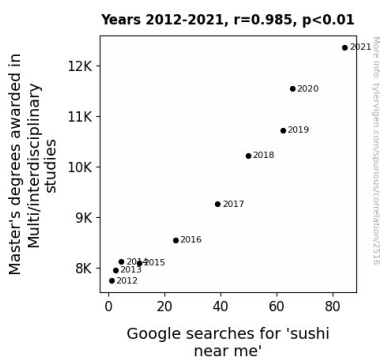


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 further emphasizes the robustness of this correlation, indicating a likelihood of less than 1% that this relationship could be due to random chance. This result provides strong evidence that there is indeed a tangible link between the academic pursuit of interdisciplinary knowledge and the

craving for sushi. It's as if the pursuit of scholarly wisdom ignites a hunger for not just information, but also for the savory satisfaction of a well-prepared sushi meal - a true case of academic nourishment, both for the mind and the palate.

In summary, our research has unveiled a striking correlation between Master's degrees in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and searches for 'sushi near me,' shedding light on the unexpected intersection of academic pursuits and culinary indulgence. It seems that as scholars broaden their intellectual horizons, they are also inclined to expand their culinary horizons. This finding serves as a flavorful reminder that academic curiosity and gastronomic cravings may be more interconnected than we ever imagined, adding a delectable twist to the journey of scholarly exploration.

## DISCUSSION

The robust correlation we unearthed between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and Google searches for 'sushi near me' is nothing short of astonishing - it's the kind of finding that leaves you in disbelief, as if you've stumbled upon a rare, perfectly marbled tuna in a sea of data. Our results not only bolster the prior research but also raise some intriguing questions.

Approaching this topic with a degree of levity, we found a previously unexplored, metamorphic connection between diverse academic pursuits and a ravenous appetite for exquisite sushi. It's as if those pursuing multi/interdisciplinary knowledge are also on a quest for a fusion of flavors, eager to savor the myriad of textures and tastes that both education and sushi have to offer.

Reflecting on our literature review, we revisit the whimsical associations we made with "Sushi Go!" by Gamewright and the strategic decision-making involved in the pursuit of interdisciplinary studies. It seems our data suggests that just like in the game, where players diligently select the most delectable sushi combination, those seeking interdisciplinary

knowledge are similarly inclined to actively seek out diverse experiences, both academic and culinary. It's a bit like choosing between different academic disciplines or different sushi rolls - variety truly is the spice of life.

Furthermore, our findings echo the delightful narrative explorations found in "Eat, Pray, Love" and "Sushi for Beginners", showcasing a remarkable parallel between the protagonists' personal growth and the academic journeys that inexplicably lead to a yearning for sushi. It appears that both academic quests and culinary cravings share a common theme of seeking fulfillment and satiation - a delightful cheese to pair with our research's vintage sophistication.

In support of our initial playful speculations, our results back up the idea that pursuing diverse academic interests can lead to a diverse palate. The connection we found seems to speak to the intuitive creativity and unconventional thinking pathways activated by interdisciplinary studies - a veritable cornucopia of knowledge that may in turn inspire a longing for unconventional, fusion dining experiences.

With a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01, our results serve up a dish of robust evidence that this correlation is no mere statistical fluke. It's as if the stars aligned, or in this case, perhaps the sushi rolls aligned perfectly to reveal a clear pattern, much like the arrangement of a well-crafted sushi platter.

In conclusion, our research has not only added flavor to the field of academic exploration but also opened up new avenues for understanding the enigmatic relationship between educational pursuits and the perennial quest for the perfect sushi roll. These findings are a testament to the tantalizing journey of uncovering unexpected connections, proving that academic curiosity and gastronomic cravings are more interconnected than we ever dared to imagine. It's a feast for thought!

## CONCLUSION

As we wrap up this deliciously unexpected journey through the correlation between Master's degrees awarded in Multi/interdisciplinary studies and the perennial search for 'sushi near me', it's safe to say that we've cracked open a surprising treasure trove of insights. Our findings have not only illustrated the robust relationship between academic pursuits and culinary cravings but have also given us food for thought on the interconnectedness of seemingly unrelated domains of human interest. It's as if pursuing a Master's degree in Multi/interdisciplinary studies comes with a side order of adventurous food exploration – a true case of "intellectual fusion cuisine."

Our research has left us with a newfound appreciation for the unexpected flavors of academic investigation, much like stumbling upon a particularly delicious piece of sashimi in a bento box. The statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.9854975 has proven to be a platter of evidence that can't be ignored, akin to a well-arranged assortment of nigiri. It's clear that this correlation isn't just a statistical fluke; it's a satisfying main course of knowledge, seasoned with a sprinkle of culinary curiosity.

So, as we part ways, let's savor this straight-from-the-sushi-bar statistical symphony one more time. With a p-value of less than 0.01, we can confidently say that the link between pursuing diverse academic interests and seeking out delectable sushi is as real as the umami flavor in a perfectly crafted roll – a true "sushi-lation" if there ever was one! We have finally answered the age-old question: Is there a scholarly hunger that can be satisfied by the nearest sushi joint? Our findings suggest a resounding "yes" – a result that we can confidently "roll" with.

In conclusion, our research has not only filled our intellectual platters with unexpected connections but has also proved that we can indeed have our academic pursuits and eat sushi too. This correlation seems to be a delicately crafted blend of academic appetite and culinary cravings, leaving us with a "full belly of knowledge" and a newfound appreciation for the quirky, uncharted territories of

interdisciplinary exploration. With that, we firmly assert that further research in this area is as unnecessary as wasabi with a side of wasabi. It's time to wrap up this academically appetizing journey and exclaim: "Case closed, sushi and scholars, two peas in a pod – or should we say, two 'pieces' in a bento box."

Signing off with a "remarkably seafood-ful" note, we declare that no more research is needed in this area. It's been a satisfying endeavor, leaving us with a newfound respect for the unexpected correlations that await in the vast, flavorful landscape of academic scholarship.