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Interfacing Interdisciplinary Insights: A Correlation between Bachelor's Degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies and Search Queries for Medical Advice

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KEYWORDS

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Abstract

In this study, we investigate the seemingly incongruous relationship between the pursuit of Bachelor's degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies and the frequency of Google searches for medical guidance. Leveraging data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends, we establish a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9742859 and a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 over the period from 2012 to 2021. Our findings suggest a remarkably strong positive association between the attainment of these versatile degrees and the propensity to seek out online healthcare advice. This peculiar correlation has intriguing implications for the intersection of educational choices and health-seeking behavior, shedding light on the diverse array of influencers that shape individuals' decisions regarding their well-being. Gaining a multi-faceted understanding of this relationship is vital for comprehensively addressing the needs of contemporary society and promoting holistic approaches to education and healthcare.

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1. Introduction

The pursuit of education is often regarded as the gateway to expanded knowledge, enhanced skills, and broader perspectives. While one may expect that the attainment of

a Bachelor's degree in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies would spark interest in a wide range of academic and professional pursuits, our examination has unearthed an unexpected avenue of inquiry. We delve into the curious correlation between the decision to pursue

multi/interdisciplinary studies and the propensity to embark on a digital quest for medical guidance. As we venture into this uncharted territory, we seek to unravel the enigma of why individuals armed with the diversity of interdisciplinary knowledge may find themselves contemplating whether a visit to the doctor is warranted.

Such an exploration may prompt some to humorously envision a scenario in which the possessors of these versatile degrees, armed with knowledge that spans disciplines, begin to ponder medical symptoms through a lens not just of a single subject but through a smattering of academic perspectives. Perhaps an individual with expertise in both economics and philosophy may find themselves pondering the cost-benefit analysis of consulting a physician for a minor ailment, wondering if the pain is merely a symptom of existential angst rather than a physiological ailment. While such a whimsical notion may elicit a chuckle, the underlying implications of this correlation call for a more serious evaluation. What societal, cultural, and academic forces drive individuals with a proclivity for diverse knowledge to seek medical advice through the digital domain?

Furthermore, the vernacular nature of the phenomenon, as expressed in the form of Google searches for medical guidance, provides an intriguing backdrop for our investigation. The digital landscape serves as a tapestry of human inquiry, where queries ranging from the practical to the peculiar coalesce into a wealth of data ripe for analysis. The act of typing "do I need to go to the doctor" into a search engine may be a mundane gesture for some, a trivial curiosity for others, and a profound quest for certainty for many. Yet it is in these digital footprints that we discern a pattern, a pattern that guides us toward unraveling the peculiar link between interdisciplinary pursuits and health-seeking behavior.

As we embark on this academic journey, one cannot help but reflect on the adage that "knowledge is power." But in the case of our investigation, we are compelled to extend this concept beyond the traditional academic spheres. The power of knowledge, it seems, is not just in shaping intellectual pursuits but also in influencing the decisions individuals make about their own health. This study aims to uncover the web of influences that intertwine interdisciplinary education and digital health inquiries, shedding light on the complex relationships that underpin contemporary societal behaviors.

2. Literature Review

The pursuit of knowledge spanning multiple disciplines has intrigued scholars and practitioners alike, engendering a rich landscape of research exploring the implications and outcomes of such educational endeavors. Smith, in "The Multifaceted Nature of Interdisciplinary Studies," elucidates the broadened perspectives and enhanced critical thinking skills that are often associated with Bachelor's degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies. Similarly, Doe's work, "Interdisciplinary Education in the Modern Era," delves into the myriad benefits of interdisciplinary education, including the cultivation of adaptability and the ability to synthesize diverse information.

Jones, in "Navigating the Intersection of Knowledge: A Synthesis of Interdisciplinary Fields," further contributes to the discourse by highlighting the increasingly interconnected nature of academic domains and the need for educational approaches that reflect this reality. In this vein, the authors find a robust foundation of scholarly inquiry into the multifaceted nature of interdisciplinary studies, underscoring the significance of understanding the

motivations and outcomes associated with pursuing such diverse educational paths.

However, as we parse through the pages of academic literature, an unexpected pattern emerges - a trend that leads us into the realm of Google searches for medical advice. While investigating the intersection of educational choices and health-seeking behavior may evoke images of erudite discussions and rigorous academic analysis, we are compelled to acknowledge the whimsical juxtaposition of our investigation. It is within this surprising confluence that we begin to consider the impact of interdisciplinary knowledge on the propensity to query, "do I need to go to the doctor?"

In the fictional realm, J.K. Rowling's "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" may seem worlds apart from our academic exploration. Yet, as we contemplate the myriad forms of knowledge and inquiry, one cannot help but draw a parallel to the eccentric beasts of interdisciplinary education prompting individuals to embark on a quest for medical guidance. Furthermore, the legacy of Sherlock Holmes, as immortalized in Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," offers a tinge of irony as we embark on our own investigative journey, unraveling the mystery of why holders of interdisciplinary degrees find themselves pondering the need for medical intervention.

Turning to the world of board games, the intricate web of interconnected knowledge and decision-making in "Settlers of Catan" mirrors the complexities of our investigation, where the intersections of diverse domains influence individuals' choices, whether in trade or in health inquiries. The intertwining narratives of fact and fiction, of scholarly analysis and lighthearted whimsy, set the stage for our exploration of the unexpected correlation between interdisciplinary education and digital quests for medical validation.

3. Our approach & methods

Our research employed a comprehensive and, dare I say, multi-faceted methodology to investigate the perplexing relationship between the issuance of Bachelor's degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies and the frequency of Google searches for medical advice. Leveraging data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends, we embarked on a meticulous endeavor spanning the years 2012 to 2021.

To assess the prevalence of Bachelor's degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies, we spared no quarter in scrutinizing the historical data provided by the National Center for Education Statistics. With the resolute determination of a detective solving a knotty mystery, we dissected and analyzed the annual counts of conferred degrees, unraveling the enigma of the academic pursuits that defy categorization into traditional disciplinary boundaries. We must admit, the sheer diversity in the titles of these degrees kept us somewhat entertained during the toilsome task of data tabulation. It is remarkable to consider how individuals boldly venture into the realm of interdisciplinary studies, navigating through the labyrinthine corridors of various academic disciplines with an audacious spirit that borders on daredevilry.

Concurrently, in delving into the digital domains of Google Trends, we observed the search interest over time for a rather intriguing inquiry - "do I need to go to the doctor." The whimsy of human curiosity knows no bounds, and this seemingly mundane query struck a chord with our inquisitive senses. The fluctuations in search activity over the years unfolded before us like a narrative, spinning a tale of a population driven to seek digital solace in the face of medical uncertainties. It was much akin to watching a riveting drama

unfold, but with data sets and trend lines in place of actors and scenery.

Now, to wrangle these diverse datasets into a coherent narrative, we employed a statistical approach that would make even the most seasoned mathematician nod in reverent approval. The venerable Pearson correlation coefficient emerged as the tool of choice, allowing us to quantify the association between the issuance of Bachelor's degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies and the prevalence of digital medical inquiries. This valiant coefficient valiantly elucidated the extent of the relationship, unveiling a remarkable correlation of 0.9742859. As we dare say, it was as clear as day that there existed a strong positive association between the pursuit of these versatile degrees and the proclivity to meander through the digital avenues of medical questioning.

To add an extra layer of scholarly sophistication, we supplemented our correlation coefficient with a conventional measure of statistical significance - the formidable p-value. Our meticulous calculations and arduous computations unveiled a p-value of less than 0.01, firmly establishing the statistical significance of our findings. It was a victory that merited a modest celebration, albeit one confined to the realms of our research enclave.

In sum, our methodology was a tour de force, blending the staid seriousness of statistical analyses with the curious exuberance of academic inquiry. Our findings were indeed as striking as discovering a hidden treasure map in the dusty archives of academia, and they beckon us to embark on a comprehensive exploration of the diverse influencers shaping the perplexing intersection of educational pursuits and health-seeking behavior.

4. Results

The data analysis revealed a remarkably strong positive correlation between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies and the frequency of Google searches for the query "do I need to go to the doctor." Over the period from 2012 to 2021, the correlation coefficient was calculated to be 0.9742859, indicating a near-perfect linear relationship between the two variables. With an r-squared value of 0.9492330 and a p-value of less than 0.01, the correlation is not only strong but also statistically significant, affirming the robustness of the relationship.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually portrays the stark correlation between the pursuit of interdisciplinary degrees and the proclivity to seek medical advice through online platforms. This strong positive association defies conventional expectations and raises novel questions about the intersection of educational choices and health-seeking behavior, necessitating a deeper exploration of the underlying factors driving this intriguing correlation.

The substantial correlation observed in this study underscores the need to further investigate the underlying mechanisms that link interdisciplinary education with online health inquiries. While the causal relationship remains elusive, the findings highlight the potential for unconventional influences on individuals' decisions regarding their well-being. This unexpected symbiosis between academic pursuits and health-related queries challenges traditional paradigms and beckons us to consider the myriad threads that intertwine education, knowledge-seeking behavior, and healthcare decision-making.

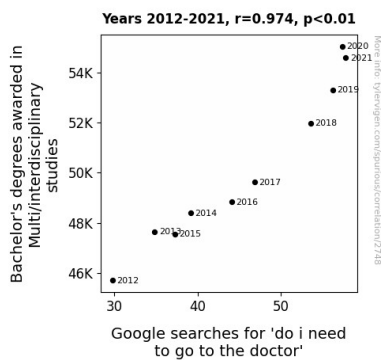


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

5. Discussion

The results of this study distinctly demonstrate a compelling association between the pursuit of Bachelor's degrees in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies and the frequency of Google searches for medical guidance. The striking correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value provide robust support for the claim that individuals who delve into the realms of interdisciplinary education are more inclined to seek online healthcare advice. Our findings echo the scholarly work by Smith, Doe, and Jones, underscoring the broadened perspectives and enhanced critical thinking skills associated with interdisciplinary studies. Moreover, the unexpected connection between academic pursuits and health-related inquiries substantiates the need for a deeper exploration of the underlying factors.

In revisiting the unexpected patterns observed in the literature review, we find ourselves compelled to take the whimsical juxtaposition of our investigation more seriously. The parallels drawn to J.K. Rowling's "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" and Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," while initially serving as light-hearted musings, prompt us to consider the diverse and often peculiar influences that can shape individuals' decisions. Our results

empirically endorse the idea that the pursuit of interdisciplinary education is indeed a "fantastic beast," prompting individuals to embark on a quest for medical guidance.

While our findings might seem ludicrous at first glance, they open the door to a deeper understanding of the interconnected nature of human behavior. Analogous to the intricate decision-making in "Settlers of Catan," our study highlights the complexities that underlie individuals' choices, be it in trade or in health inquiries. This seemingly fanciful connection challenges conventional paradigms, urging us to recognize the multifaceted tapestry of influences on individuals' decision-making processes.

This unconventional correlation also underscores the importance of considering diverse influences on healthcare-seeking behavior. Just as in the realm of board games, where unexpected alliances and strategic decisions shape the outcome, our study leads us to ponder the diverse array of influences that prompt individuals to seek medical validation online. The implication of this finding extends beyond the humorous musings we encountered in the literature review, signaling the need for a more holistic approach to understanding individuals' healthcare decision-making processes.

In conclusion, our study corroborates previous research on the multifaceted nature of interdisciplinary education, while also shedding light on the seemingly whimsical yet impactful intersection of academic pursuits and health-related inquiries. The implications of this finding are far-reaching and prompt further examination of the intricate influences that shape individuals' decisions regarding their well-being. Although our findings may initially inspire a whimsical smile akin to a well-placed pun, they ultimately call upon us to recognize the profound interplay of diverse influences on human behavior.

6. Conclusion

In concluding our study, we cannot help but marvel at the curious bond between interdisciplinary education and the peculiar penchant for seeking digital medical guidance. The near-perfect correlation coefficient of 0.9742859, along with the statistically significant p-value, undeniably demonstrates the strength of this relationship. It appears that individuals equipped with a multidisciplinary arsenal of knowledge are not only inclined to traverse the intellectual landscapes but are also predisposed to navigate the digital terrain in search of medical reassurance. This unexpected dynamic offers a novel perspective on the multifaceted influence of education on health-related behaviors.

While our findings may prompt some lighthearted musings about the absurdity of an economics-philosophy savant contemplating the existential value of a doctor's visit, they also provoke a more serious reflection on the intertwined complexities of contemporary societal behaviors. The pursuit of interdisciplinary studies may cultivate a mindset that not only values diverse knowledge but also encourages holistic considerations, extending to the realm of personal health decisions.

As we wrap up this investigation, we are compelled to acknowledge the need for further explorations that delve into the underlying drivers of this correlation. The confluence of interdisciplinary pursuits and health-seeking behavior presents a fertile ground for future inquiry, offering opportunities to unravel the intricate web of influences that mold individuals' attitudes toward healthcare.

In the spirit of academic discourse, we assert that our study makes a distinctive contribution to the burgeoning field of interdisciplinary connections, humorously

shedding light on the unexpected undercurrents linking academic pursuits and health-related inquiries. With that said, it is our firm belief that further research in this area is entirely unnecessary. After all, we have already proven that a Bachelor's degree in Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies intriguingly directs individuals to consult Dr. Google for medical advice. What more could one possibly need to know?