

Q.2. If then a practical end must be assigned to a university course, I say it is that of training good members of a society. It is the art of social life, and its end is fitness for the world. It neither confines its views to particular professions on the one hand, nor creates heroes or inspires genius on the other. Works indeed of genius fall under no art; heroic minds come under no rule; a university is not a birthplace of poets or of immortal authors, of founders of schools, leaders of colonies, or conquerors of nations. It does not promise a generation of Aristotles or Newtons or Napoleons or Washingtons or Raphaels or Shakespeare though such miracles of nature it has before now contained within its precincts. Nor is it content on the other hand with forming the critic or the experimentalist, the economist or the engineer, through such too it includes within its scope. But a university training is the great ordinary means to a great ordinary end; it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular aspirations. It is the education which gives a man a clear conscious view of his own opinions and judgments, a truth in developing them, an eloquence in expressing them, and a force in urging them, it teaches him to see things as they are, to go right to the point, to disentangle a skein of thought, to detect what is sophistical and to discard what is irrelevant. It prepares him to fill any post with credit, and to master any subject with facility. (John H. Newman)

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## The Real Purpose of a University

The author suggests that the main goal of a university must be to produce functioning members of society. He adds that they must possess the art of social life and work towards a healthy lifestyle. He also suggests that a university should not aim to produce geniuses. He insists that instead of teaching people to be experts in a particular field of study, it should work towards inculcating an intellectual and civic sense in the society. He thinks that doing this will make the student a good pick to fulfill any job or master any subject.

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