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Liberal Arts Education as an Element of Culture and Enlightenment

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Alfred Whitehead, famous philosopher, defined the task of higher education as "the creation of the future" in and through culture. He argues that culture is an activity of thought, and receptiveness to beauty and humane feeling. Liberal arts education provides a broad education focusing on critical and creative thinking, developing the personality for productive professional activity, citizenship in the community and life in all its manifestations [1].

The "Liberal arts" is a traditional collective name in the US higher school curriculum embracing natural sciences, sociocultural courses, and humanities taught by all the students in the course of the 2-year study irrespective of their professional choice. Liberal arts are of great intellectual importance, and an element of culture and enlightenment for moral and cultural (self)development of students. It is really useful training that yields a comprehension of general principles with a thorough grounding of the world perception.

[1] A. N. Whitehead, *Book, The Aims of Education and Other Essays*, New York, 1929.