



TASA The Australian
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TITLE: Educating the Citizen Scholar: Applying sociology to everyday life

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This paper focuses on the way the foundations of sociology can be used to promote active and engaged citizenship amongst our student cohort. Drawing on the establishment of the Academy program at the University of Western Sydney, I discuss how Antonio Gramsci's organic intellectual (2005) inspired the concept of the Citizen Scholar. That is, using sociological foundations in an interdisciplinary setting, we have aimed to promote a graduate who is academically focused and civically minded. The Academy program is based on three broad philosophies: a future focus, interdisciplinarity, and ethical leadership. Reflecting the innovative and flexible proficiencies we promote among our students, the program delivers academic and professional benefits.