“Job” hashtags are prevalent in humanities-related tweets.

In the raw collection C-27 of Twitter posts mentioning humanities between 2014 and 2017 we gathered before making our Collections C-28 and C-29 for topic modeling by subtracting singleton tweets,¹ there are 60,639 unique hashtags, of which 23,595 are used more than once. The top 30 hashtags containing the terms humanities, liberal arts, or [the] arts make up 17.56% of total hashtags uses in this corpus. Among the latter, the most used hashtags are: #Humanities, #arts, #DigitalHumanities, #LiberalArts/ #Liberal_Arts, and #HumanitiesMatter.

Meanwhile, the top 20 hashtags containing STEM and science[s] (excluding social science) make up 1.55% of the total hashtag uses in the corpus, with the top hashtags among these being #Science, #STEM, #Sciences, #OpenScience and #DataScience. This suggests that while STEM is certainly present in some conversations surrounding the humanities on Twitter, much of the time the sciences and the humanities are not mentioned together.²

Finally, we observe that tweets that contain hashtags mentioning job[s] are very prominent in our Twitter data. In fact, tweets containing job[s] hashtags appearing more than once make up 6.5% of total hashtags, with the top hashtags being #Jobs/#Job, #EducationJobs, #TeachingJobs, and #UKEdJobs. This shows that humanities-related tweets are heavily associated with academic jobs. Interestingly, many of the job[s] hashtags in our collection are UK-based regional job hashtags, such as #UKjobs, #LondonJobs, #KentJobs, and #LeicesterJobs. While other regional job hashtags do appear, these indicate that the United Kingdom seems to use this method of tagging job tweets the most. This elevates the profile of the UK in the corpus, especially in relation to humanities jobs. It suggests that other nations and regions could adopt such a technique to aid those seeking jobs in the humanities.

¹ We omitted tweets from authors with only a single tweet mentioning “humanities” to optimize our C-28 and C-29 collections for topic modeling. See our methods card M-8 on strategies for organizing tweets for modeling.

² A hashtag analysis of tweets collected because they contain the terms STEM or science might be a fruitful next step for comparison to discover the relative prominence of “humanities” hashtags in STEM-related Twitter conversations.