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In Professional Academic Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences,

Susan Peck MacDonald tackles important and often controversial contemporary questions regarding the rhetoric of inquiry, the social construction of knowledge, and the professionalization of the academy.

MacDonald argues that the academy has devoted more effort to

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analyzing theory and method than to analyzing its own texts.

Professional texts need further attention because they not only create but are also shaped by the knowledge that is special to each discipline. Her assumption is that knowledge-ma