

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**THE STUDY ON STUDENTS' PERCEPTION  
TOWARDS ABSENTEEISM IN  
UITM KOTA BHARU**

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Dissertation submitted in fulfilment  
of the requirements for the degree of  
**Bachelor of Science (Hons) Statistics**

**Faculty of Computer and Mathematical Sciences**

December 2019

## ABSTRACT

Absenteeism among student has become a major issue of concern worldwide. Student absenteeism was defined as a period of time when a student is not attending school and is out of school for no good reason. The literature review related to the attendance of student exposed absenteeism as a problem that can affect all education stakeholders directly or indirectly. The absenteeism among students also can lead to negative effect such as student's academic performance and many social problems. Hence, this study was carried out with the intention to discover the perception of UiTM students' about absenteeism. It aims to ascertain the perceptions of UiTM students' on the reasons why students are absent from the class and the effect of absenteeism on their academic performance. Few factors involving student problem, peer influence, teaching style and class environment factor were being investigated in this study. In addition, a correlative design and cross-sectional study were used in this study and the findings of the study revealed the 273 perceptions of UiTM Kota Bharu students. Each of the students' perception data was obtained by distributed self-administered questionnaire to the selected respondents. The proportionate stratified random sampling was used to select the respondent from each course in UiTM Kota Bharu. To gain variety of findings in this study, few statistical test were performed such as Descriptive Statistics, Independent T-Test, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), Pearson's Correlation Analysis and Multiple Linear Regression. The study found that 81% from the total respondent were ever absent from the class. The results also show that there were no difference in the students' perception towards absenteeism among gender and course. The finding also indicated the positive linear relationship between all of independent variables (Student Problem, Peer Influence, Teaching Style and Class Environment) with dependent variable (Students' Perception towards Absenteeism). Based on the regression analysis, it was found out that factors of student problem, peer influence and class environment were significantly influence the students' perception towards absenteeism. It is hoped that the outcome of this study will give benefits to all students and universities. In order to reduce the percentage of students' absenteeism, it is recommended to the lecturers to encourage students to come to the class.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the Name of Allah, the All-Compassionate, All-Merciful

First of all, Alhamdulillah praise to Allah SWT for giving us strength and opportunity to finish up this proposal research successfully. With the gust and guide that He gives to us, we could finish up this proposal research completed on time. With the strength He gives to us, it helps us to find the materials and information that are needed to finish up this report research.

Our deepest gratitude and many thanks to our supervisor Puan Nor Azima Ismail for continuous support and guiding us to make this report with her comments, ideas and wise advice in the preparation of this final year project at both faculty in University Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Campus Kota Bharu. Not to forget, lot of thanks to our lecturers for subject Research Methodology, Dr Wan Fairos Wan Yaakob and coordinator for final year project, Puan Noor Zafarina Mohd Fauzi. Their dedication to giving all knowledge about this subject has made this report research easily to be done although we have faced some problem in completing this report. It would have been impossible to complete this research without their help and guidance. Greatest thanks to the staff of Hal Ehwal Akademik (HEA) in UiTM Kota Bharu for giving list of students' name for each course and information about absenteeism issue that happens in this university. We also would like to express our gratitude to the Ministry of Health Malaysia and Department of Education in the U.S for providing the data and information on absenteeism that happened in the specific state in Malaysia and other countries. It helped us to accomplish our statistics absenteeism cases in Kelantan.

Moreover, we also want to express gratitude to our parents for being supportive in every way and pray for us to be a success in completing this research from the starting point until the end of this research. No word can express how much we appreciate their love, continuous prayers, forgiveness, motivation, and faith. Finally, we would like to extend our deepest thank you to my friends and all those who directly or indirectly involve to guide us to complete this report. We hope that all the kindness given to us will get a blessing from Allah S.W.T. Thank you.

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# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Education holds a great impact on any human society and it is safe to assume that no society is optimally functional until it is properly educated. Within the world perspective, it is an undeniable fact that the progress of a nation incredibly needs a lot of passion for the education of its citizens (Komaketch & Osuu, 2014). Thus, for those that wish to survive during this competitive world, they need to hold a decent qualification in education to get a decent job in the future. This shows how important knowledge is for us.

University is a place that can help to nurture the potential of individuals and the entrance to the academic excellence of our next generation. Thus, staying in the university has been made into a law of the education system in most countries where students are mandated to attend the class for at least 14 weeks per semester (Ishak & Fin, 2015). However, absenteeism among university students has been an ongoing trend that has not been received much attention today. The action of withdrawal is still difficult to control. Khalid (2017) describes student absenteeism as a period of time when a student is not attending school and is out of school for no good reason. They are considered as absent when they do not attend the classes or do not come to schools, colleges and universities regularly. Some students come to the universities or colleges, but not attend the classes also called as absent. This habitual act of students is known as absenteeism.

Absenteeism has become a major issue of concern worldwide. This statement can be proven from what U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr. stated that absenteeism is a national problem. Therefore, from the U.S. Research of the Department of Education in 2016 reveals that absenteeism affects students throughout the country and is common among all races as well as for disabled students. The first-ever national comprehensive information gathered on absenteeism shows that over six million students or 13 percent of all students missed a minimum 15 days of school during the school year 2013-2014. The data paints an attractive picture of how many students skip school every year for three weeks or more. While prevalent across the country, students