UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

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

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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

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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 gets a decent job in the future. This shows how important knowledge is for us.

University is a place that can help to nurtures 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 student 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

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