

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**A STUDY ON THE FACTORS THAT AFFECT  
STUDENT'S ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE  
AT UiTM KOTA BHARU**

**MUHAMMAD NADZMI BIN ABDUL GHANI  
MUHAMMAD SYAFIQ BIN ABD RAHMAN  
MOHAMAD SYAHMIE BIN IBRAHIM**

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

**Faculty of Computer and Mathematical Sciences**

**January 2018**

## ABSTRACT

Academic performance is one of important factors that has been debated among educators in Malaysia is which measured through the scores in final examination of each semester. On top of that, the most reliable and proper way to gauge the undergraduates' performance in Malaysia was by using the Grade Point Average (GPA) grading format (Sean et al., 2015). It acts as one of the priority for undergraduates to lead them to a bright future next. Most of undergraduates nowadays remain unemployed and it was stated by Balakrishnan (2017) in his reports, that Malaysia Employer Federation (MEF) said that one of four graduated students stayed unemployed for about six months before be employed. Related to the problem, a study had been done to identify which variables between Self-efficacy, Motivation and Learning strategy that mostly contributed to the students' academic performance which was measured through their grade point average (GPA) at the current semester. The population of the study involved were around 757 students in UiTM Kota Bharu and then the questionnaires were distributed to the 290 students and collected back around 276. Since Raosoft software indicated that was 256 students required as minimum sample, then 276 of sets of questionnaires were collected were considered as fulfilled to represent the total of population. Based on one of the objectives of the study, the result revealed that was no mean difference in GPA between genders but difference between courses existed. In addition, the next objective was to check whether the three factors might significantly affected the student's GPA and the result showed that it was only Motivation that significantly affected the GPA even both three were showed to have a weak positive correlation toward GPA based on the Multiple Linear Regression (MLR) method performed. For recommendation, educational institutions were urged to implement more motivational programs to motivate them and enhancing their GPA. Moreover, it was recommended to discover new factors that may contribute to the student's academic performance in order to increase the precision of the outcomes.

Keywords: Multiple Linear Regression, Academic Performance, Self-Efficacy, Motivation and Learning Strategy.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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

Alhamdulillah, our outmost gratitude to Allah SWT for His guidance in giving us strength, courage and persistence throughout our life, especially during difficult times in our life and His consent we have the opportunity to complete this research.

Our gratitude and many thanks go too ur supervisors Madam Nur Syaliza Hanim Binti Che Yusof for her continuous support, patience and ideas which enabled us to successfully complete our research journey at the Faculty of Computer Mathematical Science, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM). It would have been impossible to complete this research without her help and guidance.

We are heartily thankful to our beloved family. No word can express how much we can appreciate their love, continuous prayers, forgiveness, motivation, faith and financial support. Finally, special thanks to my colleagues, friends and neighbours for helping us directly or indirectly in completing our research. Alhamdulillah.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	i
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	ii
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	iii
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	vii
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	viii
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</b>	ix
<b>CHAPTER ONE : INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Problem Statement	3
1.3 Research Objective	4
1.4 Research Question	4
1.5 Research Hypothesis	4
1.6 Significance of Study	5
1.7 Scope and Limitation of Study	6
<b>CHAPTER TWO : LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	
2.1 Academic performance	7
2.2 Self Efficacy	8
2.3 Motivation	9
2.4 Learning strategy	10
2.5 Summary of Significance Study	11

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter discussed on background of study, problem statement, objectives, hypotheses, significance of study, scope and limitations of study.

### 1.1 Introduction

Academic performance or academic achievement has numerous meaning translated by some experts, but it has similarity on each other. For example, according to Steinmayr, Meibner & Wirthwein (2017), the performance outcomes that indicate the measure to which individual has accomplished specific goals that were the focus of activities in instructional environments, specifically in school, college and university represents the performance of academic.

In Malaysia, there are numerous universities have been built; private universities and public universities (Ramachandran, Chong, & Ismail, 2011) where its academic performance was measured based on the student's grade point average (GPA) scores of examination was taken for each semester (Kosnin, 2007). Measuring the academic performance of a student in higher education is not an easy task because it cannot be effectively assessed or measured in units. In other sights, student performance is viewed as a product of socio-economic, environmental or psychology factor. However, failure to recognize these factors can interfere the educational system and lead to increase failure rates. Therefore, in order to come out with reasonable remedy, it is important to detect the factors that relate to the academic performance (Schwerdt & Wupperman, 2008).

In general, the factor that influence academic performance can be categorized into two which are firstly is academic factor and the other one is non-academic factors (Laurel et al., 2008). Laurel et al. (2008) also stated that, academic factors include self-learning efforts, student previous results, teaching methods and so on, while, nonacademic factors are such monetary factors, privacy factors, health factors, and even the environment and its composition like people and culture. As for this study, there are three factors that were considered as main problems that related to student performance which were self-efficacy, motivation and learning strategies.