

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**THE UNDERSTANDING TOWARDS PLAGIARISM  
AMONG STUDENTS AT FACULTY OF  
PHARMACY UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA  
PUNCAK ALAM**

**NUR FARIHAH SYUHADA CHE HAMID**

**Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for**

**Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons.)**

Faculty of Pharmacy

June 2017

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The writing of this thesis has been one of the most significant academic challenges I have ever had to face. Without the guidance and help of certain people, this thesis would not have been possible.

First and foremost, I would like to convey my greatest gratitude to Allah S.W.T; the one who has given me the strength and ideas in order for me to complete my research. I would like to convey my deepest appreciation to my supervisor, Mr. Ismail Mohd Shah for his encouragement, ideas, and advices and give me the chance to work in my own way.

I would also like to record my special thanks to both of my parents and the rest of my family members for their support and encouragement. Not forgotten my colleagues for giving valuable ideas and advices and all other individuals who in one way or another contributed in the preparation and completion of this study.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	Page
APPROVAL SHEET	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
ABSTRACT	viii
 <b>CHAPTER 1 (INTRODUCTION)</b>	
1.1 Background of Study	1
1.2 Problem Statement	3
1.3 Research Questions	3
1.4 Significance of Study	4
1.4. General Objective	4
1.4.2 Specific Objective	4
1.4.3 Hypothesis	5
 <b>CHAPTER 2 (LITERATURE REVIEW)</b>	
2.1 What is Plagiarism?	6

## **ABSTRACT**

Plagiarism is a serious academic issue and must be addressed properly. In this paper we report the results of a survey of student plagiarism at the Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM Puncak Alam. This survey examined the understanding towards plagiarism among undergraduate pharmacy students and the reasons behind the plagiarism activities. By using sample size of 256 respondents this study found out that majority of students have a higher understanding towards plagiarism. This study also found that lack of understanding is not one of the factors that cause students to plagiarize. However, most students admitted that the other reason why they plagiarize is because they never attended any formal course on plagiarism. So, it is recommended that the faculty take an initiative by conducting a seminar on plagiarism in future in order to decrease the incidence of plagiarism.

Keywords: Plagiarism, Understanding

# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY**

Academic dishonesty among pharmacy undergraduates is particularly disturbing and unacceptable. For their future professional practice the behaviors and attitudes which are required by students during their pharmacy degree program play an important basis (Ryan, Bonanno, Krass, Scouller, & Smith, 2009). The extent of academic misconduct which involves plagiarism among students is still not well understood. Plagiarism is a sensitive matter and widely debated (Doró, 2014). Without any doubt, plagiarism is a crisis at our universities (Power, 2009). Despite the development of software like Turnitin that is available to detect plagiarism, plagiarism behavior has been increasing and internationally, new cases are being reported (Anney & Mosha, 2015). From the media accounts, it is seems that the act of academic dishonesty among students in college as well as high school students has increased tremendously (Scanlon & Neumann, 2002). Plagiarism is likely catapulted to a new height of popularity, usage, and primarily the accessibility of the Internet (Schrimsher, Northrup, & P, 2011). The boundaries of the intellectual property are