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Week Without Walls @ UiTM Cawangan Sarawak

- Faculty of Plantation and Agrotechnology

Part 5 Students' Experience

By: Associate Professor Dr. Margaret Chan Kit Yok

Week Without Walls @ UiTM Cawangan Sarawak

A week free
from the
normal
classroom
on campus

Students may study via online, gain field experience, be involved in community service, learn from industrial experts from other universities, learn from peers and much more without being confined within the four walls of the classroom



Instructors will design the learning activities based on stipulated learning outcomes, monitor/facilitate learning and assess the achievement of the outcomes

No lecture in class!

Commencing on **13-14 Jun 2018**
For UiTM Sarawak Campus, all students should be responsible to complete their learning tasks.

Please contact the UiTM Sarawak Academic Affairs Division 082 678165 (Mr Mohd Noor Asraff) or 082 678078 (General line) for more information

Fifty-eight Part 5 students from the Faculty of Plantation and Agrotechnology taking the FPA630 Current Issues in Plantation course under the supervision of Associate Professor Dr. Margaret Chan Kit Yok took part in the "Week Without Walls" learning process instead of attending the normal class. To achieve the course outcome of developing working knowledge on current issues that play a pivotal role in plantations through discussing and suggesting approaches for problem resolution, the students were divided into groups to do case studies on six topics namely White Technology, Green Technology and Red Technology of Oil Palm and Rubber. Information gathered from newspaper articles and journal publications were translated into illustrations and posted on social media engaging Instagram as the tool. The guideline to adopt Social Media in Teaching was based on the module developed by the Malaysian team for the BLTea project under the EACEA-ERAMUS+ project KA2 programme – Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices – Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education (No: 574130-EPP-1-2016-1-FR-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP) – <http://bltea.eu/course/social-media-teaching>. The five steps in the module that include preparation, group activity (discussion and collaborative writing), peer evaluation and comment as well as sharing were carried out by the students.

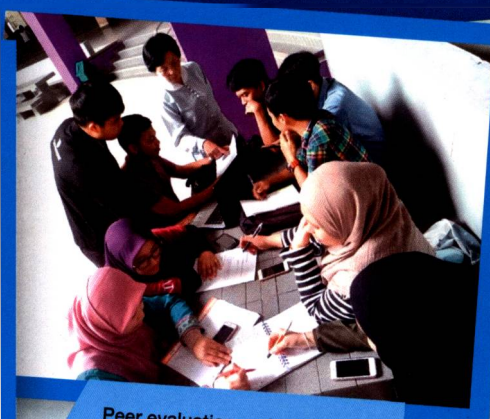
Instagram was selected for the project and the students could *learn anywhere, learn anytime and learn from any devices*. Research findings indicated by pictures and videos in Instagram with writings provided contextualised visual information which could be used in an educational setting. This appealed to the students, who as native digital learners, found that by using smartphones or laptops, they were free to interact with peers through Instagram features like "comment", "like" or "caption writing" outside class hours. They also enjoyed collaborative learning involving interaction among peers in the exchange of opinions and ideas through writing comments or caption for pictures/videos posted in Instagram. All students as followers were required to give feedback or provide ideas and suggestions on the given topics of other groups. Through writing comments or captions, they discovered that they learned during the process.



Group activity - discussion and collaborative writing



Peer evaluation and comment





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