



**FACULTY OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**PREPARATION FOR TEACHING MUSIC DURING THE PRACTICUM: A
CASE STUDY OF UiTM PRE-SERVICE MUSIC TEACHERS**

MUF 655

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ABSTRACT

Pre-service education and hiring processes within the developing world ought to prepare professionals that are able to perform their roles as educators. The purpose of this study is to describe the UiTM pre-service music teachers preparation during the practicum. The pre-service music teachers served three months of practicum in a school. Data collected through interviews, sought to gain information about three aspects which were planning and preparation, subject knowledge, and teacher professional identity. This study also identified how the pre-service teachers perceive their strength and weaknesses during the practicum. The results of this study showed a variety of perceptions from different aspects among the five respondents pre-service music teachers who participated in the study. The analysis identified pre-service teachers need to know and be able to do plan and prepare the lessons beforehand other than being prepared mentally, physically and emotionally before going for practicum. The continued implementation of reflective thinking will lead pre-service teachers and new teachers to value reflective thinking and will make an impact on the changes that are made in instructional practices in education.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

In the preparation of teachers, practical teaching (practicum) experience is one of the most important course to be taken by student teachers. The practical experience component of training to be a teacher is central to all teacher education programs (Murphy, 2003). Practical training or practicum allows pre-service teachers to be supervised in their early teaching experiences in schools (Clark & Cutler, 1990). They would face the real classroom situation and be able to apply teaching approaches, techniques and methods that they have learnt throughout their teacher education program.

The Bachelor of Music Education (Hons.) at the Universiti Teknologi MARA is a four year program which combines the intensive study of music-teacher education with practical experiences for the classroom and other educational settings. A niche of this program is its focus on the three areas of music, music education and education as well as on music technology applications in education. The aim of this program is to produce music educators who are versatile, focused and holistic through innovative teaching, learning and research, fostering musical development and meeting the needs of the society and also to achieve the vision of the National Education Philosophy that is to produce teachers, who are excellent in teaching and learning (Faculty of Music UiTM, 2016).