

**In partial fulfillment the requirement for the degree of Bachelor of  
Information Studies (Hons) (Library and Information Management)**

**IM 220**

**Faculty of Information Management**

**MARA University of Technology**

**PuncakPerdana, Shah Alam**

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**BACHELOR OF INFORMATION STUDIES (HONS.)**

**LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

**IM 220**

**DECEMBER 2013**

## ABSTRACT

The use of e-books has become an essential component to university libraries. In Malaysia, academic libraries also have put an initiative to apply the use of e-books among students. This study identifies the usage of e-books among students in PTAR 1 Library, UITM Shah Alam. It focuses on the student's use of e-books to determine the awareness of e-books usage among students in retrieving information.

This study aims to determine the awareness of e-books usage among students in PTAR 1 library, to evaluate the student's attitudes towards using e-books and to identify the barriers of using e-books among students.

The population of this study comprises of 100 students from UITM campus from Semester 1 to Semester 6. The qualitative methodology was used in the study and was done by distributing questionnaires which UITM students are the main respondents.

Findings show that most of the respondents are aware of e-books usage. However, the result shows that only 53% of respondents have experienced e-books usage while 47% of respondents did not have experienced using e-books. Other than that, the barrier of using e-books among students shows the result that the majority of respondents are not exposed to the availability of e-books usage in PTAR 1 while a minority said that they are exposed to it.

***Keywords: Usage, E-Book, Students, Academic Library***

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Alhamdulillah praises unto Allah the Almighty, the most gracious and the most merciful for granting us the strength, perseverance and patience in preparing and completing this research paper. Without the grace of Allah S.W.T., it would be impossible for us to complete this research paper.

First of all, I would like to express my greatest appreciation to my respected advisor, Madam Nordibradini Bt. Haji Selamat for her valuable advice, moral support, ideas, suggestions and continued guidance at every single level of this research. I would also appreciate for her kind effort and willingness to spend her precious time with me in ensuring the successful progress of this research.

A special acknowledgment to Perpustakaan Tun Abdul Razak 1, UITM Shah Alam for the time spent, vast resources and great support for this research. My high gratitude to all respondents from Perpustakaan Tun Abdul Razak 1 in assisting me to get an overview regarding my research which entitled 'The Usage of E-Books among Students in PTAR 1, UITM Shah Alam'.

Not forgetting, to all the resource persons and friends for their great assistance in completion of my final research. Last and most importantly, my heartfelt thanks to my family. I could not have completed this study without their support and never ending encouragement.

Thank you. Assalamualaikum W.B.T

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# **THE USAGE OF E-BOOKS AMONG STUDENTS IN PTAR 1, UITM SHAH ALAM**

## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

When most people think of libraries, they think of the bundle collections of books and other material being organized in the shelf list. This is the first impression of user when they think about libraries. In fact, library has long history of collecting important paper based-collection then it will be organized and preserved as long as well. Library has played a significant role in the transmission of knowledge since their origin as a cultural heritage in preserving information (Kostagiolas & et all... 2008). Library is considered as an old institution but it has given major contribution to satisfy the needs and expectation of the users. Furthermore, to fulfill the requirement of users in terms of services and collection materials, the library institution has also put a main priority in allocating budgets when purchased for new collection materials. Every types of library would provide several collections of materials and for sure it must associate with the needs and purpose of user. For example in the academic library, the library management should select the most appropriate material that is related to the field taken by student.

Library is a part of integration of education especially for the high level institution. According to Virkus (2004) an academic library plays an integral part of the campus. The academic library will be profoundly affected by changes in the academy itself. Thus it is important that the library has implementing and managing internal change in order that it will continue to look outward at the university as a whole. The purpose of the establishment of academic library is actually to improve the quality of education that is associated to the