UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA (UiTM) SARAWAK

FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE AND POLICY STUDIES

TOPIC:

IMPACT OF CALCULATION SUBJECT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DPA STUDENTS IN UiTM SARAWAK

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CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1.0 Introduction

In learning mathematics, students frequently encounter mathematics problems involving calculations, understanding of concepts, principles and mathematical relationship with others subject. The reasons of why mathematics subjects are difficult to learn is that the concepts in mathematics are abstract and difficult to understand, and also the students have alternative meaning of certain mathematical words before any mathematics teaching takes place.

According to Ihiejieto (1995) there are several factors which could explain on why the performance of students becomes decrease in this calculation subject. Among of the factors are;

i. Student's dislike for mathematics that may stem from psychological incidence such as fear, endurance, perseverance and associated factors.
ii. Mathematics teachers were not interested in the subject and did not help their students by way of catering for individual differences.
iii. Other resources material such as text books seemed lacking in both in school and at home.
iv. Students didn't have any alternative to improve themselves in this calculation subject.

Based on the findings above, we had decided to conduct a research regarding on the impact of calculation subject on the performance of the DPA students in UiTM Sarawak. The reason of why we choose to study this topic because of we realised

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

According to the Free Dictionary, calculation is defined as the procedure of calculation, determining something by mathematical or logical methods. A calculation is a deliberate process for transforming one or more inputs into one or more results, with variable change (Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia). *calculate* means to ascertain by computing. The English word derives from the Latin *calculus*, which originally meant a small stone in the gall-bladder (from Latin *calx*). It also meant a pebble used for calculating, or a small stone used as a counter in an abacus (Latin *abacus*, Greek *abax*). The abacus was an instrument used by Greeks and Romans for arithmetic calculations, preceding the slide-rule and the electronic calculator, and consisted of perforated pebbles sliding on an iron bars.(Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia).