

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

"ENTREPRENEURIAL
ATTRIBUTES AND THE
MEDIATING ROLE OF
PSYCHOLOGICAL CAPITAL ON
ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION
AMONG HOSPITALITY STUDENTS
IN MALAYSIAN PUBLIC HIGHER
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
(PHEIs)"

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Thesis submitted in fulfilment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Hotel and Tourism Management
(**Hotel Management**)

Faculty of Hotel & Tourism Management

May 2023

ABSTRACT

Strengthening entrepreneurship education by cultivating entrepreneurial values to enhance the marketability of graduates is considered relevant as a strategy to improve the employability of hospitality students in public higher learning. Aligned with the issues, the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education has endorsed entrepreneurship education in all higher education institutions as an initiative to encourage students to enrol in entrepreneurship courses and activities. Therefore, this study investigates entrepreneurial attributes and the mediating role of psychological capital on entrepreneurial intention among Malaysian hospitality students. A quantitative study was implemented via an online survey in five (5) Malaysia's Public Higher Education Institutions (PHEIs), which then resulted in a final sample of 297 respondents. An established self-completed questionnaire was collected. Partial Least Squares-Structural Equation Modelling (PLS-SEM) software was used to analyse the obtained data structuring through probability sampling, using a simple random sampling technique. This study indicated that the dimensions of entrepreneurial attributes and psychological capital significantly influence students' entrepreneurial intention. Findings also revealed that psychological capital as the positive psychological development of an individual allows education providers to ensure students obtain the necessary attributes to function effectively. This verifies that psychological capital affects individuals in learning entrepreneurship, which can be emphasised by the PHEIs in preparing the students to be more confident for future entrepreneurial careers.

Keywords: Entrepreneurial Attributes, Entrepreneurial Intention, Hospitality Students, Psychological Capital

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Assalamualaikum W.B.T

Firstly, all the praises and thanks be to Allah SWT for granting me His blessings to complete my master degree program and for giving me the strength and ability to prepare and complete this study successfully. Without the consent of Allah SWT, I may not be able to finish this writing as expected.

I would like to express gratitude to my main supervisor, Dr Zatul Iffah binti Mohd Fuza, who has been a wonderful source of guidance and inspiration throughout my master degree journey. Her unlimited patience in guiding me made me believe in myself. The way she encouraged me in order to accomplish this study and how she has supported me relentlessly in obtaining this degree has developed me into what I am today. Special thanks are expressed to my co-supervisor, Mrs Wan Nor Bayah binti Wan Kamarudin, who has helped and guided me while completing this thesis. Their advice, feedback, views, and contributions have given me insights to conduct this study.

Special thanks to my husband, _____ for his unwavering support and endless encouragement. I would never have finished this study had it not been for all your thoughts, heartfelt love and support. I also take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to my parents, _____ and _____ for the endless support and prayers showered on me throughout my journey until I am able to complete this thesis. My appreciation also extends to my siblings, relatives and friends for always keep praying and wishing the best for me. Their assistance is precious to me and keeps me grounded.

I also would like to express my sense of gratitude to all who have participated in this study and directly or indirectly lent their hands on this journey. Last but not least, I thank the Faculty of Hotel and Tourism, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), for giving me the opportunities to further my study here. Alhamdulillah. Thank You.

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