



اَوْبُو سَيِّدِي تَيْكُونُ لُو كِي مَبَارَا  
UNIVERSITI  
TEKNOLOGI  
MARA

**FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE AND POLICY STUDIES**

**AM110 – DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**PAD 340: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**A STUDY ON STUDENTS' DIFFICULTIES IN CONDUCTING  
RESEARCH**

**PREPARED BY:**

**ALIF AKRAM MOHAMMAD (2007133553)**

**HARRY AJANG (2007104521)**

**JERIEMY CHRISTOPHER CHERI (2007104517)**

**PREPARED FOR:**

**LT. COL. SAIFUL ANWAR BIN MD. ALI**

**SUPERVISOR:**

**ELIZABETH CAROLINE AUGUSTINE**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>No</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Pages</b>
I	Title Page	i
II	Declaration of Original Work	ii
III	Clearance for submission of the research report by the supervisor	iii
IV	Letter of Submission	iv
V	Acknowledgement	v
VI	List of Terms	vi
VII	Table of Contents	vii
	<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Background of Study	2
1.2	Problem Statement	3
1.3	Objectives of Study	4
1.4	Scope of Study	5
1.5	Hypothesis	6
1.6	Significance of Study	7
	<b>CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1	Definitions of Terms	9
2.2	Substantial Problems in Students Graduate Research	10
2.3	Important Qualities of the Ideal Graduate Research Supervisor	12
2.4	How Students View the Research Process	14
2.5	Students Frustration in Research	15
2.6	Procrastination – The Waiting Game	16
2.7	Why students don't complete their dissertation	17
2.8	Problems When Writing a Thesis	18
2.9	Summary	19
2.10	Theoretical Framework	20

## **1.0: Introduction**

### **1.1: Background of Study**

Our study was mainly created for students who majority taking Research Methodology as their main subject. Research Methodology as in Diploma in Public Administration is called Research Methodology and its code is PAD340. Meanwhile for Bachelor in Administration Science, the codes for research paper are dividing into two into code. The first one is ADS 501 which is for Proposal and another is ADS 554 which is for the Research paper.

This subject is important as it is a main subject for Diploma in Public Administration and Bachelor in Administration Science students. It is compulsory to do the research in order for the students to graduate.

Students are asked to form into a group which can consist from 2 to 4 in a group. Then, they must select among the lecturer in their own faculty to be their supervisor. The supervisor will give guidance to students and assist them in conducting their research.

Since this subject is not an option for student to choose, they have to deal with many problems in conducting their research. That is why our study is focusing on student's problem in conducting their research. Below here is a list of our problem statement regarding student's problem in conducting their research.

## **2.0: Literature review**

### **2.1: Definition of Terms**

Generally, research can be defined as a detailed study of a subject, especially in order to discover new information or reach a new understanding. (Cambridge University Press, 2003). Research also can be referred as the process of finding solutions to a problem after a thorough study and analysis (Sekaran, 2006). The purpose of research as stated by Shuttleworth (2008):

*“The purpose of research is really an ongoing process of correcting and refining hypotheses, which should lead to the acceptance of certain scientific truths.”*

In his book, *Practical Research: Planning and Design*, Paul Leedy describes research as:

*“the systematic process of collecting and analyzing information (data) in order to increase our understanding of the phenomenon with which we are concerned or interested.”*

He suggests that the word research has so many meanings attached to it in that *“few people have any idea of the real meaning.”* The most important characteristics of formal research, as Leedy defines it, is that it involves the interpretation of data to draw conclusions.

The process of formal research as identified by Leedy has eight distinct characteristics:

- Research originates with a question or problem.
- Research requires a clear articulation of a goal.
- Research follows a specific plan of procedure.
- Research usually divides the principal problem into more manageable sub problems.
- Research is guided by the specific research problem, question, or hypothesis.
- Research accepts certain critical assumptions.

### **3.0: Research Methodology**

#### **3.1: Introduction**

This section discusses the methodology of the research. The main purpose of the research was to investigate the problems of students in conducting researches among semester 5 and semester 6 students from Faculty of Administrative Science and Policy Studies in UiTM Kota Samarahan. Data for research was collected through questionnaire.