

**LEARNING ENGAGEMENT OF FIRST YEAR ASASI TESL STUDENTS:  
EXPECTATIONS TOWARDS UiTM**

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“In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, Most Merciful”

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## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study is to find out on the learning engagement of first year Asasi TESL students' expectations towards UiTM in reference to its aspiration of becoming the world-class university. This study focuses on the first year of Asasi TESL students in Faculty of Education, University Teknologi Mara, Seksyen 17, Shah Alam, Selangor. Questionnaires were distributed to them in order to gather the information related to the study. Lecturers' of Asasi TESL students also participated in order to acquire a comprehensive result in relation to the issue presented. Interview was also done to attain reliable findings. The discussions on the findings were presented in tables based on the information from the data gathered. The result of the study showed that majority of the participants' perceptions towards learning and social environment are positive and encouraging which are aligned with their expectations towards the university. However, their views on physical environment are vice versa to their expectations which illustrated that UiTM needs further enhancement on the aspect. Besides that, it was also discovered that the social environment is the dominant correlation in determining the participants' expectations whereas the physical environment is the lowest determinant to be associated with their expectations towards UiTM. In short, UiTM needs to enhance its physical environment and other criteria in particular to better achieve the aspiration of becoming a world- class university.

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## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) is one of the respective and profound higher institutions in Malaysia. It is the largest university with 120,000 students all around the country every year. Since 1956, UiTM has expanded its professional and academic excellence to outreach and help Bumiputra students to achieve and excel in their career levels in all study fields local and international work force and prepare them with living and social skills of human development. UiTM is also known as one of Malaysia's innovative and dynamic universities with its innovations, significant educational infrastructures and new technologies and has been a level of comparable to many international universities. UiTM's excellence and achievements have drawn strengths from its leaders to be a world-class university in all its accomplishments.

UiTM has aimed to achieve a world-class university by the year 2020. It is in line with the government's goal to encourage Malaysian universities to upgrade and increase their accomplishments in any areas; local and international to be among the world's Top 50 or Top 60 universities in the world (Maheran, 2005). Despite of any requirements or prerequisites that a university has to adhere in becoming a world-