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THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STUDENTS WITH HIGH AND LOW
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

BY

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Thesis Submitted to
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Master of Human Resource Management

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Abstract

The main aim of this study was to analyze the between students with high and low academic performance in term of parent social economic status, physical activity and motivation. This study was conducted in University Utara Malaysia with UUM College of Arts and Sciences, UUM College of Business, and UUM College of Law, Government and International Studies, Kedah, Malaysia. The sample of this study consists of 261 respondents from the UUM postgraduate students which consist of Phd and Master Students. Data were collected through questionnaires paper survey. The data were analyzed using various statistical techniques such as reliability analysis, descriptive analysis and Chi Square Test to analyses the differences students with higher and lower academic performance in term of parent social economic status, physical activity and motivation. The analyses were carried out via Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 23.0 version for Windows. Based on the descriptive analysis, independent variable (motivation) have significant relationship toward academic performance and for Chi Square Test results, there was clear indication that the independent variable (parent educational level, mother occupation) have significant association or relationship toward academic performance. On the other hand, independent variable (parent income level, father occupation, physical activity) have no significant toward academic performance.

Keywords: *Admission Point, Social Economic Status, Former School Background, Physical Activity, Motivation and Academic Performance.*

Abstrak

Tujuan utama kajian ini adalah untuk menganalisis antara pelajar dengan prestasi akademik yang tinggi dan rendah dari segi status ekonomi social ibu bapa, aktiviti fizikal dan motivasi. Kajian ini dijalankan di Universiti Utara Malaysia dengan Kolej sains and Sastera UUM, Kolej Perniagaan UUM, dan Kolej Undang-undang, Kerajaan dan Pengajian Antarabangsa, Kedah, Malaysia. Sampel kajian ini terdiri daripada 261 responden yang terdiri daripada pelajar-pelajar pasca siswazah UUM yang terdiri daripada pelajar Phd dan Sarjana. Data dianalisis dengan menggunakan pelbagai teknik statistik seperti analisis kebolehpercayaan, analisis deskriptif dan ujian Khi Kuasa untuk menganalisis perbezaan pelajar dengan prestasi akademik yang lebih tinggi dan lebih rendah dari segi status ekonomi social ibu bapa, aktiviti fizikal dan motivasi. Analisis telah dijalankan melalui Pakej Statistik Untuk Sains Sosial (SPSS) versi 23.0 versi untuk Windows. Berdasarkan analisis deskriptif, pembolehubah bebas (motivasi) mempunyai hubungan yang signifikan terhadap prestasi akademik dan keputusan Chi Test Square, terdapat petunjuk yang jelas bahawa pembolehubah bebas (tahap pendidikan ibu bapa, pekerjaan ibu) mempunyai hubungan yang signifikan atau hubungan ke arah pencapaian akademik. Sebaliknya, pembolehubah bebas (tahap pendapatan ibu bapa, pekerjaan bapa dan aktiviti fizikal) tidak mempunyai signifikan terhadap pencapaian akademik.

Kata kunci: *Kemasukan Point, Status Sosial Ekonomi, Bekas Latar Belakang Sekolah, Aktiviti Fizikal, Motivasi dan Pencapaian Akademik.*

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

The aim of this research is to assess factors that may affect academic performance of student in University Utara Malaysia (UUM). The main focus will be on the factors and the impact toward their academic performance. This chapter will contain of the background, the problem statement, the purpose, and the objectives of research, the questions and scope of the study.

Students are the important assets of an university. To produce the best quality graduates who will eventually become a great leader and man power for country, student's academic performance play an important role to achieve it. Academic performance of student's gain and learning is affected by varies factor including admission point, students social economic status, former school background, student physical activity and motivation.

According to the Cambridge University Reporter (2003) academic performance is frequently defined in the terms of student's examination performance. In this research academic performance was characterized by the performance of student's Cumulative Grade Points Average (CGPA).

September 2015, the total numbers of 3514 new students had registered for the first semester 2015/2016 session intake to pursue their studies in 36 available programmers in UUM. The statistics had showed that out of the total, 2,791 were

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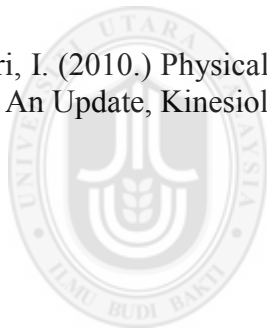
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