## PROJECT PROFILE

## **Product Photo**

# **Project Titles :** The Performance of students in University subjects at UTM's Franchised Colleges : a study of their performance in the TITAS subject

**Research Area : Education** 

### (Name of Project Leader: Abdul Latiff Mohd Ibrahim) (Names of Team Members: Mohd Hambali Rashid, Nik Mohd Zaim, Zaharah Mustaffa) (Research Alliance: RAKE) Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (e-mail of Project Leader: <u>ablatiff@ic.utm.my</u>)

#### ABSTRACT (120 words)

TITAS has been introduced in the university curriculum as one of the general subjects/courses that all students are required to take. At UTM's franchised centres, it has been discovered that many students have obtained very poor grades for this subject. The reasons for the poor performance had to be determined and this study attempted to discover the main reasons why students performed badly in the subject. The study found that among others it was a problem of attitudes both on the part of the teacher as well as the student besides communication problems between UTM and its franchised centres that contributed to the problem.

1. **INTRODUCTION :** This is a study of the performance of students in the TITAS subject at UTM's franchised centres. The lower grades obtained by the students were related to various factors including interest in the subject, teaching techniques, availability of resources and administrative support. Lack of communication with teaching staff over the issues mentioned could be responsible for the lower performance attained by students.

#### 2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Primary : Survey method Technique : Use of questionnaires

Secondary : Official documents in UTM and Franchised centres

#### 3. LITERATURE REVIEW :

Some studies have highlighted the need to have the TITAS subject in the curriculum. Azizan Baharuddin (2004) sees the need for knowledge on civilization due to the dilemma faced by humans. Ismail Faruqi (1998) also saw the importance of uniting the worldview of Muslims in particular based on civilizational forces particularly Islam. Aida Suraya (1991) has concluded that the method of teaching is important in determining students' interest in subjects like TITAS. Khairul Anwar,Mastor et al (1995) discovered that the attitude and role of the teacher was crucial in ensuring student interest in the subject.

- 4. **FINDINGS:** There is a strong relationship between teaching quality and approach with students' interest in the subject. Evaluation of university subjects like TITAS need to be reviewed to ensure that the objective of the subject is met rather than higher grades in paper and pen tests/evaluations.
- 5. **CONCLUSION** : University subjects like TITAS have to be approached in a different manner from the core subjects to cultivate interest and to achieve the objectives of having such subjects in the curriculum. An exam-oriented approach does not achieve the aspiration of imbibing the students with values that are supposed to be derived from such university subjects.

## 6. RESEARCH OUTPUT

- 6.1 Citation Details of Articles pending
- 6.2 Citation Details of Conference Papers -pending
- 6.3 Citation Details of Other Publications books / standards etc. (Please specify)pending
- 6.4 Details of IPR (Please specify)-pending

## 7. HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

7.1 Details of Human Capital Development (Name and qualification sought) None

## 8. AWARDS / ACHIEVEMENT

8.1 Details of Recognition Received ; None

## REFERENCES

#### APPENDIXES