



Fakulti Pengurusan Perniagaan
(Faculty of Business Management)
Universiti Utara Malaysia

PERAKUAN KERJA KERTAS PROJEK
(Certification of Project Paper)

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EXAMINING THE ATTITUDES AND ADOPTION LEVEL OF

E-LEARNING AMONG UUM'S INTERNATIONAL POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

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Table of Contents

Abstract.....	1-2
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Chapter 1

1.0 Introduction.....	4-7
1.1 An Overview Perspective of e-Learning	6-10
1.2 Problem of the statement	8-10
1.3 Research Objective.....	10-11
1.4 Research Questions.....	11
1.5 Significance of the Study.....	12-13
1.6 Scope of the Study.....	13
1.7 Defining of e-learning.....	13-15

Chapter 2

2.1 Literature Review	16-19
2.1.1 Advantages of e-learning	20-21
2.1.2 Disadvantages of e-learning	21
2.1.3 Attitude	22-23
2.1.4 Positive Attitude towards e-learning	23-25
2.1.5 Negative Attitude towards e-learning	25-27
2.2. Theory of e-learning	28-29
2.3 Theoretical Frame Work	30
2.4 Definition of operation	30
2.5 Hypothesis	31
2.6 Diffusion and Innovation	31-34
2.7 Implications from Innovation Diffusion	34-36

Chapter 3

Research methodology

3.1 Introduction	37
3.2 Methodology	37
3.3 Sample and Data Collection	38
3.4 Research Design	39
3.5 Reliability Testing	39-40
3.6 Instrumentation	40
3.7 Data Analysis	41-43

Chapter 4

4.1 Introduction	44-45
4.2 Analysis of Demographic Factors	45
4.2.1 Gender	45
4.2.2 Age	46
4.2.3. Education	46
4.2.4. Program	47
4.2.5. Mode of Study	47-48
4.2.6 Time spent to use E-learning per day	48
4.3. Adoption of Educational technologies	48-51

Chapter 5

Summary, Recommendation and Conclusion

5.1 Introduction	52-53
5.2. Summary of Findings on the Relationship between Attitudes and Adoptions of E-learning.....	53-53

5.3 Implication of Findings	53-54
5.4 Discussion and Findings	54-55
5.5 Recommendation for Further Research	56
5.6 Conclusion	57
References	58-64
Appendix 1	65-67

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1. Reliability of Questionnaire Item.....	40
Table 4.1 Gender.....	45
Table 4.2 Ages.....	46
Table 4.3 Highest education.....	46
Table 4.4 Program.....	47
Table 4.5 Mode of study.....	47
Table 4.6 Time spent per day.....	48
Table 4.7. Mean for over all: Dimensions of international postgraduate students' attitudes and adoption of e-learning.....	49
Table 4.8: correlations between adoptions and attitudes toward of e-learning.....	50
Table 4.9. Regression of the adoptions and attitudes towards e-learning.....	51
Table 4.10. Regression of the adoptions and attitudes towards e-learning.....	51

Abstract

Nowadays, many education institutions especially universities, have widened access to their courses through new methods of delivery, specifically via electronically mediated learning, or e-learning. Although online learning clearly has a growing presence in higher education, discussions about implementing e-learning continue to lack consensus. Universiti Utara Malaysia has established the use of e-learning system; however, the actual information of the e-learning implementation in Universiti Utara Malaysia remains unclear. It is imperative to evaluate the study and find out the postgraduate perspective on the e-learning implementation in the university itself. By investigating the international postgraduate experiences of those implementing e-learning, our aim is to inform on e-learning and to pick some of the reality of e-learning environment in university. Knowing exactly how international postgraduate students feel about educational technology will permit to manage the psychological aspects of the process and offer motives for the adoption and use of educational technology. In our study, we determined the type of applications students used in e-learning and the adoption levels of e-learning among the students. We also examined the international postgraduate attitudes towards e-learning and the relationships between attitudes and adoption. Four hundred and seventy one international postgraduate students participated in this study. A research survey was carried out in University Utara Malaysia (UUM) by using a questionnaire method to collect data. Our results were statistically analyzed with SPSS by using paired t-test. From our study, we found that the international postgraduate students at UUM Malaysia have been exposed to some parts of the features offered by UUM Online system. However, many students are still not making full use of the features

offered by UUM e-learning system. It is advisable to conduct further studies in the future to determine the functionality of the UUM e-learning system and the methods to overcome these reasons.

Chapter 1

1.0 Introduction

Electronic learning has become a very popular topic of discussion in the past few years. Unlike educational television, e-learning uses network and web-based technologies to enhance the quality of learning. Nowadays, many educational institutions especially universities have widened the access to their courses through new methods of delivery i.e. via electronically mediated learning or e-learning.

With the recent growth of internet and as well as other distance technologies, e-learning has become an attractive option for expanding the educational opportunities available for students. By establishing e-learning courses, higher education institutions can reach a broader base of students without having to construct additional classrooms or expand support services to accommodate expanding enrollment.

Unlike conventional educational delivery methods, in e-learning models, there is no structured face-to-face contact between students and teachers. Instead, high quality, self-directed, learner-centered instructional materials are made available to students, while instructional facilitation is carried out when necessary, typically after arrangements have been made by the university based on an agreement between the students and the course facilitators.

E-learning is also a way to increase flexibility and improve access to higher education. For the growing population of adult learners, who are balancing the demands of work and family life, e-learning can be a viable option.

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