

# **UUM RESEARCH TOPIC GUIDE**

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**UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA**

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# **UUM RESEARCH TOPIC GUIDE**

A project submitted to Dean of Postgraduate Studies and Research in partial  
Fulfillment of the requirement for the degree  
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By

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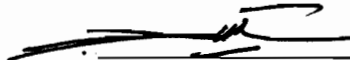
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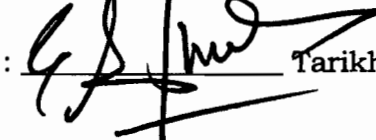
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## **ABSTRACT**

Currently, e-learning can be considered as one of the most popular learning environments. This study seeks to design and develop an e-learning system which is called Research Topic Guide System (RTG) at University Utara Malaysia (UUM). Research topic can be as critical issue for student during starting their research. Therefore, lecturers or experts will be able to provide student by suggestion research topic to be as a pointer to start their research. Furthermore, UUM as a research-oriented university does not have in the existing e-learning system any platform that can be considered as research guide to meet students' needs. The existing e-learning system is generally deficient in constructing an open research environment; although it is more important to a research-oriented university. Hence, development research environment which it can be used as guide for student might help them to satisfy the suitable topic that is consistent with their interests. Mixed methodology and integrated general research methodology within research methodology are used to achieve the objectives of this study. The implementation is carried out with Java script and Mysql in order to develop the functions of RTG system. The result of usability testing shows that 65% of the participants found the system usable.

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PERMISSION TO USE	I
ABSTRACT	II
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	III
TABLE OF CONTENTS	IV
LIST OF TABLE	VII
LIST OF FIGURES	VIII
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	IX
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	
1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem Statement	4
1.3 Research Question	6
1.4 Research Objectives	6
1.5 Scope of Study	7
1.5.1 Application Domain	7
1.5.2 E-Learning System: Case Of UUM Research Topic Guide	7
1.5.3 Respondents	7
1.6 Significant Of Study	8
1.7 Research Orientation	9
1.8 Summary	12
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.0 Introduction	13
2.1 E-learning	13
2.1.1 Definition E-learning	15
2.1.2 Why Universities Should Adopt E-Learning	16
2.1.3 The End Users Of E-Learning	18
2.2 The Challenges Of Determine Research Topics In Research Process	19
2.3 Related work	22

2.3.1	E-Learning System For Research-Oriented Students	23
2.3.2	Roadmap To Select And Manage Scientific Research In University	24
2.3.3	Affinity Research Group System	25
2.3.4	The ISI Summer Graduate Research Experience Program	26
2.4	Summary	26

## CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.0	Introduction	28
3.1	Research Methodology and Research Design Strategy	28
3.2	Research Methodology	33
3.2.1	Collecting Information	34
3.2.2	Design	36
3.2.3	Development	42
3.4.2.1	Awareness of problem	43
3.4.2.2	Suggestions	43
3.4.2.3	Development	44
3.4.2.4	Evaluation	44
3.4.2.5	Conclusion	45
3.2.4	Evaluation	45
3.3	Summary	51

## CHAPTER FOUR : DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

4.0	Introduction	52
4.1	RTG Requirements	52
4.2	RTG USE CASE Diagram	55
4.3	USE CASE Specifications	56
4.4	RTG Activity Diagram	84
4.5	RTG Sequence Diagram	99
4.6	RTG Class Diagram	109
4.7	RTG Interfaces	110
4.7.1	UUM Research Topic Guide Home Page	110
4.7.2	View Research Topic Interface	111



4.8	Summary	112
CHAPTER FIVE: RESULT AND CONCLUSION		
5.0	Introduction	113
5.1	Analysis of questionnaire	113
	5.1.1 Individual assessments of each question	114
	5.1.2 Analysis of close ended question	115
	5.1.3 Analysis of open ended question	119
	5.1.4 Overall Response of students to questionnaire	119
5.2	Conclusion of the Study	120
5.3	Study Contributions	120
5.4	Problems and Limitations	121
5.5	Future Works	121
5.6	Summary	123
	References	124
	Appendix A	127
	Appendix B	128
	Appendix C	133

## LIST OF TABLE

Table 3. 1: Students Login	38
Table 3. 2: Lecturers Login	38
Table 3. 3: Admin Login	38
Table 3. 4: View Research Topic	39
Table 3. 5: Email	39
Table 3.6: News & Activities	40
Table 3.7: Links and Resources	40
Table 3.8: Profile	40
Table 3.9: Research Topic Suggestion	41
Table 4.10: RTG Functional Requirements	53
Table 4.11: RTG Non Functional Requirements	54
Table 5.1 Individual assessments of each question	115
Table 5.2 Percentage values of Usability Features	119
Table 5.1: Student's overall response to the questionnaire	120

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Scope of Study	8
Figure 1.2: The structure of chapter one	9
Figure 1.3: The structure of chapter two	10
Figure 1.4: The structure of chapter three	10
Figure 1.5: The structure of chapter four	11
Figure 1.6: The structure of chapter five	11
Figure 2.1: A general model for organizing goal effective learning	15
Figure 2.2: The Concept of E-learning Users	19
Figure 2.3: Conceptual Map of Research Process	19
Figure 2.4: The process of ERS	23
Figure 3.1: Research Methodology and Design Strategy of the Study	29
Figure 3.2: The strategy of Collection Data	30
Figure 3.3: The strategy of Design and Development	31
Figure 3.4: The strategy of Evaluation and Result	32
Figure 3.5: Knowledge Claims	33
Figure 3.6: basic Information system parts	35
Figure 3.7: Interface parts.	36
Figure 3.8 The General Methodology of Design Research	41
Figure 4.1: RTG USE CASE Diagram	54
Figure 4.2: Class Diagram	110
Figure 4. 47: UUM Research Topic Guide Interface	111
Figure 4. 4.8: RTG View Research Topic Interface	112
Figure 5.1: Graphical representations of results	116
Figure 5.2: Overall students' response to RTG System	121

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

ICT	Information Communication Technology
UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia
CAS	College of Art and Science
COB	College of Business
COLGIS	College of Law, Government and International Studies
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
DBA	Doctor of Business Administration
RTG	Research Topic Guide
SQL	Structured Query Language
RES	Research-oriented E- learning System
UTEP	University of Texas at El Paso
USC	University of Southern California
ISI	Information Sciences Institute
CS	Computer Science
CE	Computer Engineering
EE	Electric Engineering
IBM	International Business Machines
UML	Unified Modeling Language

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 Introduction**

This chapter explains the background of research that will give the readers a brief discretion about the whole research topic background. Furthermore, this chapter views research problem, research questions that are formulated to be answered by the research objectives. Moreover, the scope of this study was carried out in order to be more clearly about the respondents and the environment that will be applied in this research. At the end of this chapter, this study explained the significant of research.

### **1.1 Background**

Nowadays, Internet is one of the most popular communication tools; it is the most widely used in various areas such as education, commercial, social, communication, and learning. Internet can provide different things for different people (Preece, 2001). In addition, the Internet contains a lot of sites that can provide a lot of different online services including in learning and teaching, as well as enabling interaction between the vendors and users; which could be whether personal, government agencies or commercial organizations. According to Rosenberg (2001) added that the biggest growth in the internet and the area that will prove to be one of the biggest agents of change is e-learning.

The term e-learning has become one of the most popular modes in teaching. Information Communication Technologies (ICT) are utilized for most activates in

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