Master in Library Science at UiTM Puncak Perdana Campus, Shah Alam

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Abstract

The author had the opportunity to further his studies under the University of Malaya's Study Leave Training Award at the UiTM Puncak Perdana Campus in Shah Alam. The article provides insights about the programme and his experiences during his time at UiTM.

Introduction

The UiTM Puncak Perdana satellite campus is the newest campus of Universiti Teknologi MARA with the Faculty of Information Management being the pioneer faculty in the campus. In early 2005, the campus received students from the Faculty of Artistic and Creative Technology. The Campus also houses students from the Faculty of Health Management and other faculties though their numbers are small. The basic amenities provided are a Faculty Block. Student Residential Block called Puncak Perdana College, Refectory Block, and the Islamic Center of Al-Iqra which is fully operated by the Islamic Development Unit , Centre for Islamic Thought and Comprehension Studies. There are only three faculties at UiTM Puncak Perdana now namely the Faculty of Information Management, Faculty of Artistic and Creative Technology and Faculty of Accounting. The programmes available here are:

1. PhD and Master programmes

    Doctor of Philosophy (Information Management)
    Master of Science (Information Management)
    Master of Science in Knowledge Management
    Master in Library Science

2. Bachelor degree programmes

    Faculty of Information Management
    BSc. Information Studies (Hons) - Library & Information Management
    BSc. Information Studies (Hons) - Information Systems Management
    BSc. Information Studies (Hons) - Records Management
    BSc. Information Studies (Hons) - Resource Centre Management

    Faculty of Theatre, Film and Animation
    Bachelor in Creative Technology (Screen) Hons.
    Bachelor in Creative Technology (Artistic Writing) Hons.
    Bachelor in Creative Technology (Theatre) Hons.
    Bachelor in Creative Technology (Creative Industry Management) Hons.
    Bachelor in Creative Technology (Screen Animation & Technology) Hons.

3. Diploma programs

    Faculty of Information Management
    Diploma in Information Management

    Faculty of Theatre, Film and Animation
    Diploma in Creative Technology (Screen Arts)
    Diploma in Creative Technology (Artistic Writing)
    Diploma in Creative Technology (Theatre)
    Diploma in Creative Technology (Arts Management)

Master in Library Science (IM 772)

The programme strengthens and enhances professional knowledge and competencies needed for a middle level career in various libraries and resource centers in various environments. Opportunities and exposure are provided to students ranging from traditional library practices to the application of technology in the management of libraries and information services. The objectives of the programme are:

i) to enable bachelor degree holders to further their knowledge and skills necessary for the administration of libraries and information centers in the current and future scenario

ii) to equip graduates with analytical thinking skills needed for managerial and leadership roles in information management and information utilization for strategic planning and decision making benefiting libraries and parent organizations.

iii) to enhance knowledge and skills among professional librarians enabling them to play a more dynamic role in the advancement of library development and building an information rich society

A full time mode of study will run from 1 1/2 to 2 years (3-4 semesters). The part time mode of study will cover 2 to 3 years (4-6 semesters).

The MLS structure is designed for two categories of students. Track 1 is for students with a library/information studies (LIS) background and Track 2 is for students without a library/information studies (LIS) background as well as Degree holders of any discipline from recognized universities. The mode of assessment include coursework, oral presentation and submission of dissertation.

The programme involves a number of courses and the author took the following courses:

SEMESTER 1 (2010/2011)

COURSES	CREDIT HOURS
Information Searching and Retrieval	3
User Needs and User Studies	3
Information System Management and Evaluation	3
Digital Libraries and Multimedia Applications	3

SEMESTER 2 (2010/2011)

COURSES	CREDIT HOURS
Dissertation Development and Research Method	4
Strategic Planning and Human Resource Management	3
Measurement and Evaluation in Libraries	3
Seminar Knowledge Management	3

SEMESTER 3 (2011/2012)

COURSES	CREDIT HOURS
Advance Cataloging and Classification	3
Information Policy and Information Infrastructure	3
Business Information Sources and Services	3