

Welcome to the Briefing of Master of Philosophy (Mphil) & Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Semester 1, Session 2025/2026

Dr. Adibi Rahiman Md Nor
Programme Coordinator

Home of the Bright, Land of the Brave
Di Sini Bermulanya Pintar, Tanah Tumpahnya Berani

UM Profile





Malaysia's first & top university



First University to be awarded QS Stars University Ratings - 5 Stars



Broad-based, Research Intensive, Government Supported



Malaysia's largest (1,600 beds) & best teaching hospital



Ranked 301-400 in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) 2022

UM FACTS

Faculty Members: >2,100 (>300 international)



>10,000 Mobility Students (Inbound & Outbound)



Situated on an 890 acre campus in the southwest of Kuala Lumpur



2 Double Degrees
4 Dual Masters
7 Collaborative PhDs



Only institution in Malaysia granted AUN-QA Certification at Institutional Level (2018-2023)



UM and Global Standing

-Universiti Malaya (UM) ranked **201–250** in **THE World University Rankings 2026**, moving up from **251–300**.

-Positioned in the **Top 10%** of **2,191 global universities**.

-**Ranked No.1 in Malaysia**, sharing the top position among 27 local universities.

-**Strongest pillar: International Outlook** — ranked **107th**, up **37 places**.

-Significant improvements in:

Teaching, Research Environment, Research Quality, Industry

“This achievement is more than just a number, it reflects the dedication, resilience, and collective efforts of our entire university community. While rankings are not our driving force, this recognition reaffirms our commitment to creating relevance, shaping future-ready graduates, and delivering impactful contributions to society through education and research, both locally and globally.”



Vice-Chancellor,
Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman





Congratulations

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

QS World University Rankings 2026

Highest-ever Position in History

No.1 in Malaysia for
5 out of 9 indicators

- Academic Reputation
- Employer Reputation
- Employment Outcomes
- International Research Network
- Sustainability

58

out of 8,467
evaluated
institutions

60
2025

65
2024

70
2023



Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings

Congratulations

for being ranked in THE Impact Ranking 2025

25th

OUT OF 2,318

2025

2024

25th
OUT OF 2,318

2023

101-200
OUT OF 1,705

63rd
OUT OF 1,963

17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



RANKED 1ST

The best performing SDG's in the World

1 NO
POVERTY



RANKED 4TH

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



RANKED 7TH

15 LIFE
ON LAND

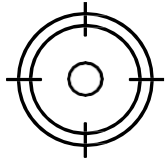


RANKED 12TH



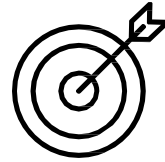
UNIVERSITI
MALAYA

Core Values



VISION

A global university impacting the world



MISSION

Pushing the boundaries of knowledge and nurturing aspiring leaders



P

PASSION

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INTEGRITY

S

SINCERITY

E

EMPATHY

Serving the Nation. Impacting the World.

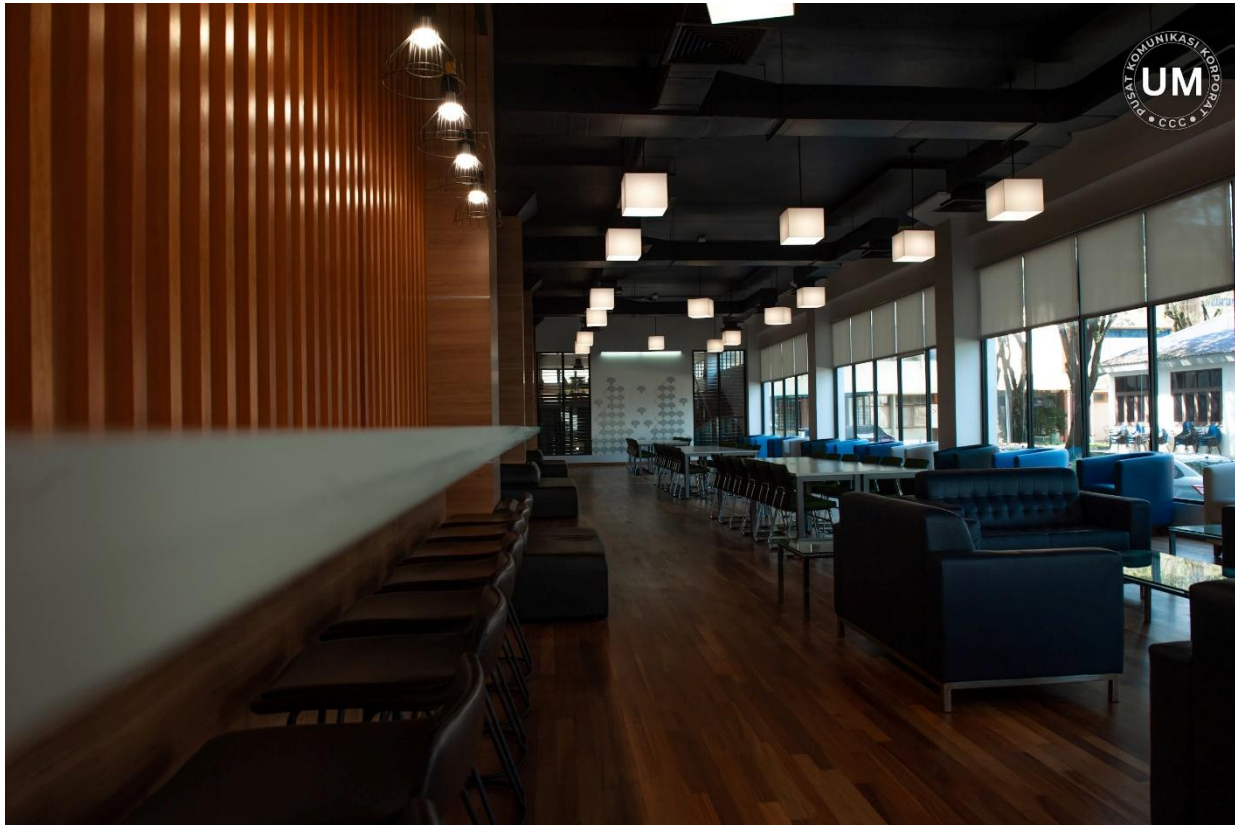
UNIVERSITI MALAYA CAMPUS MAP



PLACES OF INTEREST

UM Library

Established in 1959, the Central Library is located at the heart of the University of Malaya campus. This four-storey building spans a total floor area of 17,372 square meters. The collection comprises books, journals, conference proceedings, audio video, microform, theses and dissertations. UML also offers access to electronic resources such as e-journals, databases, citation indexes, and bibliographic management software.



Home of the Bright, Land of the Brave | Di Sini Bermulanya Pintar, Tanah Tumpahnya Berani

Museum of Asian Art

Three Civilizations Under One Roof

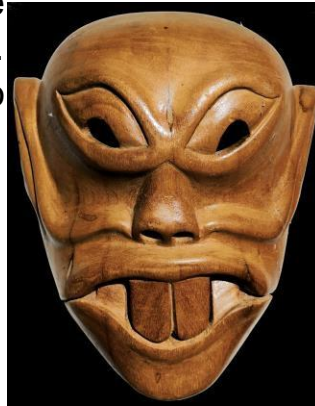
The collection of the Museum of Asian Art has a long history, having been built up over a period of almost 50 years. The first item on record is a bronze Buddha head from Chiengsen period (1400-1550 AD), Thailand, given to the museum by Kun Krassri Nimanamhasminda in 1954.

This contribution marked the beginning of the Universiti Malaya Art Museum at that time based in the university's campus in Singapore. The Buddha head was thus acquired several years before the Universiti Malaya campus was established in Kuala Lumpur in 1962. At that time, a section of the university library was used to display the artifacts. The museum's present home was built to accommodate the increasing new acquisition.

In Jun 1980, the new building was built in the scenic area between the Faculty of Economics and the Faculty of Law (currently occupied by the Faculty of Business and Economics). Within its three floors of exhibition space, the museum represents three civilizations; the Indian, The Chinese and the Islamic (Malay culture).



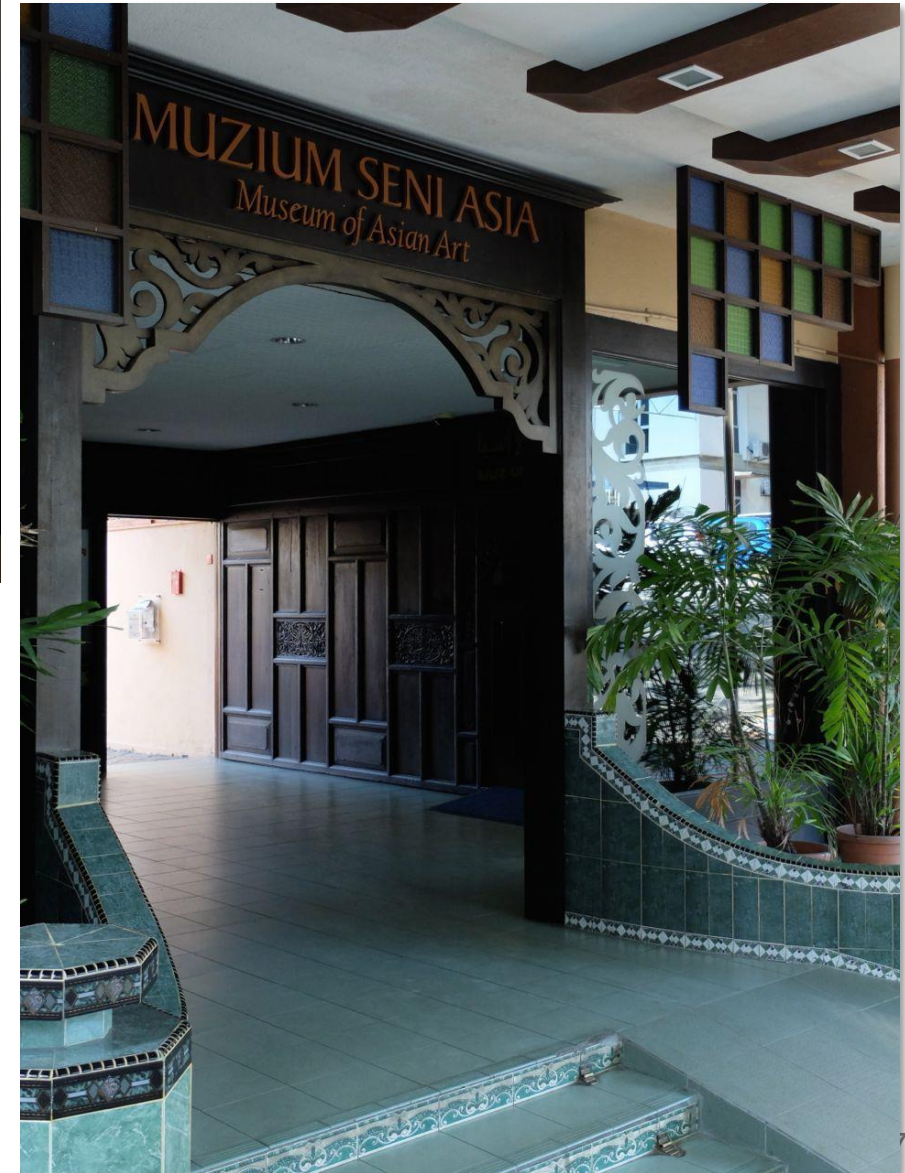
Jebak Puyuh (The Quail Trap)



Moyang Bini
Burok Belakang



Moyang Dapur



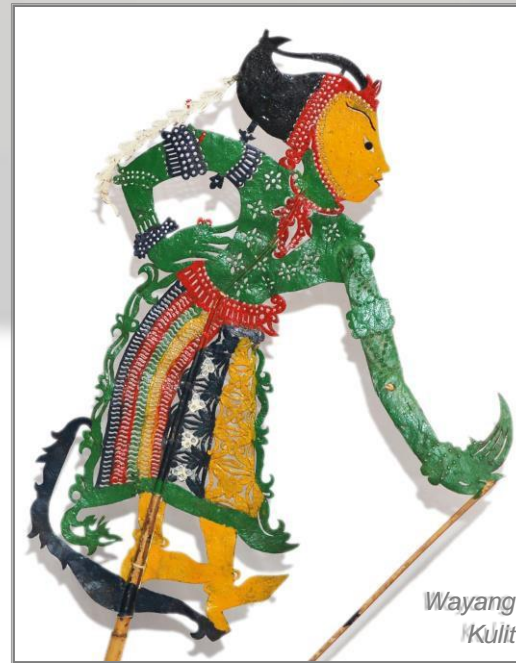
Malay Ethnographic Museum

The Malay Ethnographic Museum was established to fulfil one of the main objectives for the Academy of Malay Studies, that is to become a centre for research and documentation in the field of Malay Studies.

The museum's collection is focused on several chosen themes such as Malay earthenware, brass, woven material, woodcarving, textiles and technology. Other than artifacts, documentaries on arts and Malay culture are also collected as reference materials.

Occasionally, exhibitions are also held to complement the ongoing research and documentation activities related to the field of Malay Studies.

 apm.um.edu.my



Rimba Ilmu

Rimba Ilmu or Forest of Knowledge is probably the best kept urban secret in Kuala Lumpur. Established in 1974, it is the oldest university botanic garden in Malaysia, and at 40 hectares, possibly one of the largest.

 rimba.um.edu.my



Serving the Nation. Impacting the World.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM (Research Mode)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

- The **GOAL** of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programme is to produce **scholars** who can **lead** the **development** and **dissemination** of **knowledge** as leader in **research** and **teaching** as well as services for the **society**.

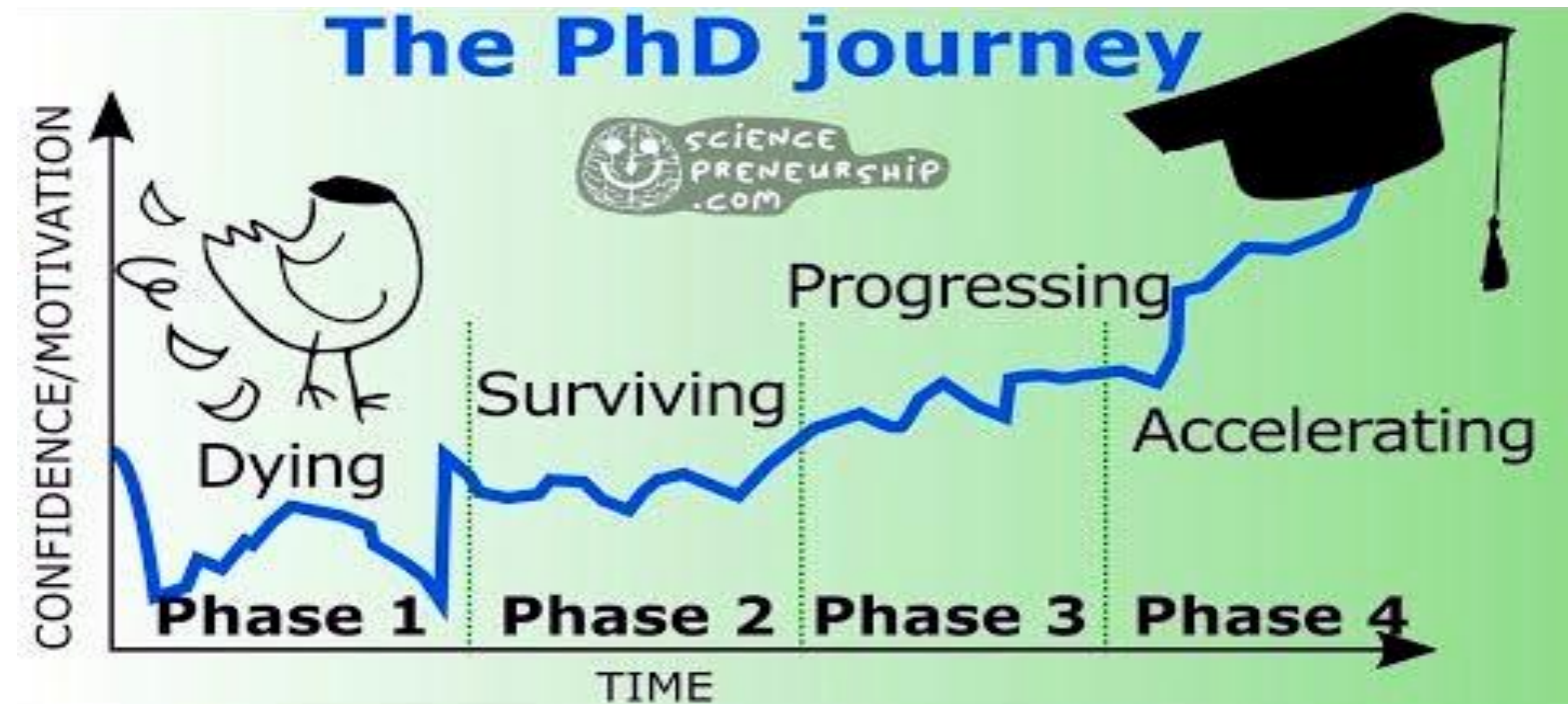
Master of Philosophy (MPhil)

- The **GOAL** of Master of Philosophy (MPhil) is to produce **highly educated** and **skilled graduates** in their own **research fields**, as well as **engaging** in **scientific activities** to **generate** new **knowledge** and **application** that fulfill the needs of an informed **society**.

PhD PROGRAMME

The PhD Journey

A journey of a
thousand
miles must
begin with a
single step



It's a battle
and a journey,
hell you're at
war!



Student Life



Student Life



GENERAL INFORMATION

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

- The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is the highest degree awarded by the University.
- It requires the conduct of an original research project, writing and defense of a thesis.



Duration of Study:

Minimum: 4 Semesters
Maximum: 12 Semesters

Graduate on Time (GOT):

7 Semesters or 42
Months



Pass seminars:

1. Proposal defence
2. Confirmation defence*
3. Candidature defence

Pass **HVX8001** Advanced
Research Methodology

** Applicable for fast-track candidates*



Proof of Acceptance of Publication:

Science: Two (2) articles in the
journal indexed by the WoS
Non-Science: One (1) article in the
journal indexed by the WoS **OR**
One (1) article in the journal
indexed by Scopus Q1/Q2 **OR** Two
(2) articles in the journal indexed
by Scopus/ESCI/ERA Journal List



Pass **Viva Voce**

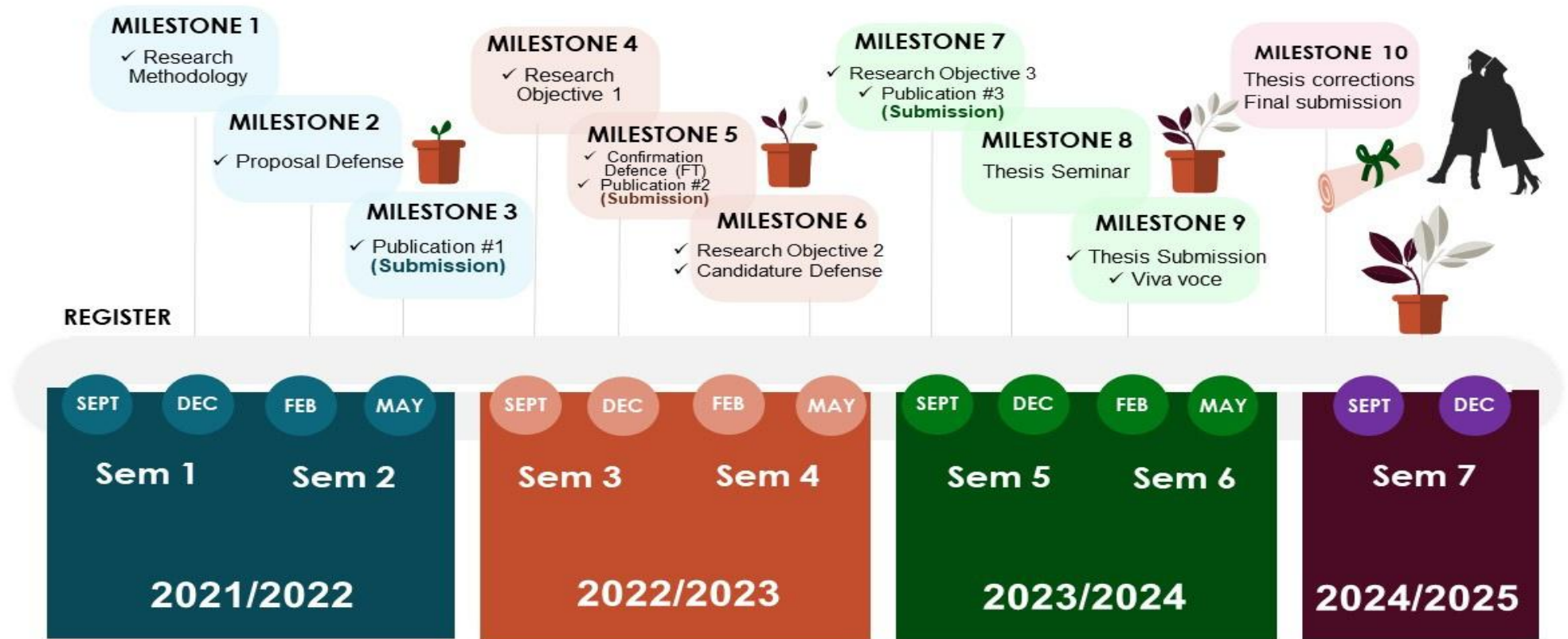
PhD – PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	HVX8001 Advanced Research Methodology *Bahasa Melayu / Bahasa Malaysia course HVX8002 Thesis	HVX8002 Thesis Proposal Defence
Year 2	HVX8002 Thesis #Confirmation Defence	HVX8002 Thesis Candidature Defence
Year 3	HVX8002 Thesis	HVX8002 Thesis Thesis Seminar
*Applicable for International Candidates only #Applicable for Fast-track Candidates only		

HOW TO WIN THE BATTLE?

GRADUATE ON TIME (GOT)

Doctoral Candidates



MPhil PROGRAMME

GENERAL INFORMATION

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)



Duration of Study:

Minimum: 2 Semesters
Maximum: 8 Semesters

Graduate on Time

(GOT):

4 Semesters or 24
Months



Pass seminars:

1. Proposal defence
2. Candidature defence

Pass HMX7001

Research Methodology



Proof of Acceptance of Publication:

Science: One (1) article in the
journal indexed by the WoS
Non-Science: One (1) article in the
journal indexed by the WoS OR
One (1) article in the journal
indexed by Scopus/ESCI/ERA
Journal List



Pass Viva Voce

MPhil – PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	HMX7001 Research Methodology *Bahasa Melayu / Bahasa Malaysia course HMX7002 Thesis	HMX7002 Thesis Proposal Defence
Year 2	HMX7002 Thesis Candidature Defence	HMX7002 Thesis
*Applicable for International Candidates only		

GRADUATE ON TIME (GOT)

Master Candidates



Application for Proposal / Confirmation / Candidature Defence

All applications must be submitted to Deputy Dean's office before the stipulated date*

*Applications received after the stipulated date will be carried forward to the following month
The seminar calendar is available on the IAS website

STEP 1

CANDIDATE / SUPERVISOR

1. The **Candidate** submits a softcopy of the proposal report* (PDF/Word format) via email.
2. The **Supervisor** nominates two assessors (postdoc or RO is not allowed) with complete details (name, faculty and email).

*refer to IAS website for the format of PD/CD report

STEP 2

DEPUTY DEAN OFFICE

1. The DD's Office will send an invitation email to panel members two weeks before the online presentation.
2. Once the panel members have agreed on the suggested date, Microsoft Teams link will be sent to the panel members, supervisors and candidate.

STEP 3

SEMINAR & RESULT ANNOUNCEMENT

1. Seminar will be conducted online using Microsoft Teams platform (unless a physical presentation is requested by the panel members or supervisors).
2. The DD's Office will send the result of presentation to the candidate and supervisors after the seminar presentation.

Application for Thesis Seminar Presentation (PhD Candidate)

OPTION
1

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

1. The candidate has presented (orally) research findings at local/international conference **(within 6 months before thesis submission).**
2. The candidate provides the proof of conference presentation (certificate of presentation / appreciation, etc.) to DD's office.

{OR}

OPTION
2

THESIS SEMINAR PRESENTATION

1. Supervisor nominates a Chairperson (senior lecturer and above) and ONE assessor (postdoc or RO is NOT allowed).
2. Supervisor(s) will arrange candidate's thesis seminar with the panel members at their convenient time.
3. Supervisor(s) send the thesis seminar evaluation form together with the attendance list conducted by the candidate to Deputy Dean's office.

Thesis
Seminar
Confirmation

DEPUTY DEAN OFFICE

1. The DD's Office will send a confirmation letter of thesis seminar to the candidate and supervisors.

MPhil to PhD CONVERSION

Candidacy Status Conversion

Candidates for a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) programme by full-time research may be considered for the conversion of their candidacy status to a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programme by full-time research subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The application period for change of candidacy status is **between twelve (12) months** from the date of commencement of registration of the MPhil program of study;
- (b) Submit a **written application** to the Supervisor using the form as in Appendix 1;
- (c) Submit **one (1) research report** not exceeding 6,000 words on:
 - (i) Introduction and scope of research;
 - (ii) Research objectives;
 - (iii) Research methods;
 - (iv) Research plans to lead to the PhD programmes stage.
- (d) Submit research results during the study period of the MPhil programme, namely:
 - (i) **one journal paper accepted for publication** and one seminar presentation at the university, national or international level; OR

MPhil to PhD CONVERSION

- ii) **a patent application that is pending or has been approved** and a seminar presentation at the university, national or international level;
- (2) A candidate must present his research results in one (1) seminar in front of a panel of evaluators consisting of two (2) experts from within or outside the University in related fields as determined by PTj.
- (3) The period of nomination for the MPhil programme is taken into account in the period of study of the PhD programme by research.
- (4) A candidate who is approved for a change of candidacy status is required to register for a PhD programme by research not later than the second lecture week of the following semester.
- (5) A full-time candidate who is approved for a change of candidacy status do not need to take the Advanced Research Methodology course at the PhD programme level.
- (6) A full-time candidate who is approved for a change of candidacy status shall meet the requirements of the graduation requirements including the publication requirements for the PhD programme by research.

ACADEMIC POLICIES



Renewal of Candidature (Registration)

- Any candidate who fails to register continuously for a duration of two (2) semesters with the University ceases to be a student and the student's name will be dropped from the register of students at the University.

Failing out and Termination of Candidature

- Failing the candidature defence 2 times
- Non-satisfactory progress report 2 semesters in a row
- Failing the dissertation/thesis
- Failure to complete the programme requirements within the maximum time frame

PLAGIARISM

The University views plagiarism as a serious offence. Hence, in an effort to ensure the **quality and originality of research and publication**, students are expected to adhere to the rules and guideline in the Handbook on how to avoid plagiarism. The University encourages all written work to be screened for plagiarism using the Turnitin software. Depending on the extent of plagiarism, students found guilty of this academic misconduct will be subjected to disciplinary action which ranges from a warning to expulsion from the University. **All UM students have a Turnitin account through the UM Library account.**

To avoid plagiarism, Final Report submitted by the student for the purposes of examination **shall NOT exceed 30%** of the total similarity index as provided by Turnitin. The supervisor should verify and endorse the Turnitin report to be submitted together with the Final Report for examination.

In case plagiarism is detected in a Research Project sent for examination to the assessor, Special Committee will be setup to investigate, and hearings will be conducted to decide on the disciplinary action to be taken against the student. Disciplinary action could range from minimum (repeat the Research Project with a new topic) to maximum (termination of the student from the PhD / Master's degree). Should second offence be detected, the student will be terminated automatically from the PhD / Master's degree programme.

At Universiti Malaya (UM), presenting AI-generated content as your own work is considered plagiarism, which violates academic integrity, while using AI tools requires disclosure and may be permissible for certain tasks but not for core authorship or the generation of substantive content. UM policies emphasise the need for proper acknowledgment when using AI, ensuring that students maintain accountability and avoid submitting AI-generated text without proper disclosure.

WORD LENGTH

The Institute for Advanced Studies's Board meeting on 14th September 2023, approved the word length for a submission for examination, as shown in the table below:

PhD Thesis	Master by Research	Master by Mix Mode	Master by Coursework
Minimum : No			
Maximum : 100,000	Maximum : 60,000	Maximum : 40,000	Maximum : 30,000

*The word length of words excludes footnotes, reference, appendices, table, figures and prefaces.

*The minimum word length requirement is subject to the supervisor's discretion.



Supervision Policy of Postgraduate Candidates at the Universiti Malaya Online Portal

A more convenient online process

Go to -> <https://ias.um.edu.my/>

Choose -> Programme -> Student Affairs-
> Form

Click -> *Application of Appointment /
Change for Supervisor / Consultant*

Submit through email to :
ias.um@um.edu.my (ADMIN IAS)

*Must sign the Supervisor-Supervisee
Undertaking of Responsibilities Form*

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

TIMEFRAME

Work effectively toward completion of the degree in a timely manner

ACADEMICS

Complete the program with all requirements fulfilled

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

INTEGRITY & ETHICS

Highest integrity and maintain ethical standards in all aspects of the student's work

FAMILIARIZE WITH UM'S RULES & REGULATIONS



UPDATES

ANNOUNCEMENTS EVENTS

**CHECK YOUR UMMAIL
REGULARLY**

@siswa.um.edu.my
@siswa365.um.edu.my

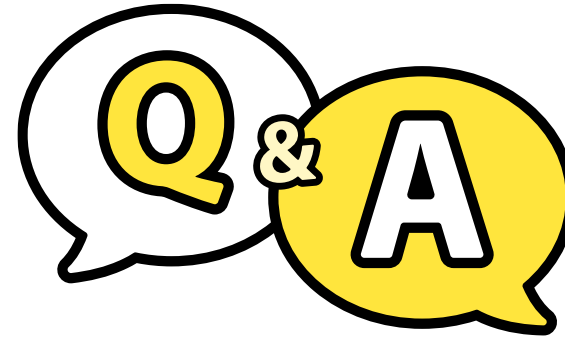
IAS SOCIAL MEDIA – FOLLOW US



<https://facebook.com/iasumsocmed>



Thank
you!



ias.um@um.edu.my



Level 2, Block D, Advanced Studies Complex, UM



<https://ias.um.edu.my/>

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Di Sini Bermulanya Pintar, Tanah Tumpahnya Berani



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[uniofmalaya](https://www.youtube.com/uniofmalaya)