



Original Article

Perception and Socialization to Students about the MBKM Program at Study Program Technology and Management of Planation Production, IPB University

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Abstract:

The Indonesian government launched the *Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka* (MBKM) program to provide higher education that is more inclusive, flexible and relevant for students in 2019. However, there are indications that students still need to understand the implementation and procedures of the MBKM. This research aims to determine perceptions of knowledge, implementation and student evaluation of MBKM. Survey activities were carried out by collecting descriptive data from active students with statement criteria of 4 scales (strongly agree, agree, disagree and disagree). More than 95% of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed with implementing MBKM. However, the survey results show that socialization regarding the MBKM program is needed. After conducting socialization of the same respondents, all respondents stated that they strongly agreed with the MBKM program and that the registration process and guidance for the MBKM program had been well carried out.



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Keywords: MBKM, Survey, Implementation, Socialization

Introduction

In 2019, the Indonesian government launched the *Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka* (MBKM) program to provide higher education that is more inclusive, flexible, and relevant for students ([Hidayatullah, 2021](#)). This program is designed to provide opportunities for students to access a variety of learning activities that go beyond the boundaries of a particular study program, so that they can develop cross-disciplinary skills and a variety of learning experiences ([Suwanti et al., 2022](#)).

Perception is giving meaning to understanding information or stimuli ([Ika et al., 2022](#); [Panjaitan et al., 2022](#); [Surtikanti et al., 2022](#)). Perception is divided into the perception of objects and the perception of humans or society ([Permono et al., 2021](#); [Chelsya & Wirianata, 2022](#); [Hermawan et al., 2022](#)).

There are eight MBKM programs that students can undertake with a duration of between 1 and 3 semesters ([Dirjen DIKTI, 2020](#)). Therefore, students are only required to attend lectures for 5-7 semesters in the Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production (TMP), College of Vocational Studies, IPB University. The forms of MBKM that students can be involved in are: 1) Teaching Assistant in the Education Unit: Students as teaching assistants are students who have special skills or interests in certain subjects that can be shared with other students. Students who act as teaching assistants must have a deep understanding of the lesson material; 2) Industrial Internship or work practice: Students can take part in internship programs at companies or institutions on campus. This internship provides students with the opportunity to experience a real work environment, develop practical skills, and expand their professional network; 3) Student Exchange: The student exchange program allows students to study at partner universities at home and abroad. Through this exchange, students can gain valuable experience in adapting to different cultures and exploring knowledge from a global perspective; 4) Independent Project Study: The MBKM activity allows students to design and carry out independent projects that suit the student's interests and learning goals with guidance from the lecturer; 5) Student Research Projects: Students can be involved in joint research projects with lecturers or research groups inside or outside their study program. This Student Research Projects can allow students to explore specific topics that interest students; 6) Building Villages/Thematic Real Work Lectures: a form of activity in the field of community service that students usually carry out as part of a higher education program. This Thematic Real Work Lectures aims to make a real contribution to the community in a particular village or region through implementing various activities relevant to the community's needs; 7) Humanitarian Project: MBKM activities carried out by students to positively contribute to society or humanity in general. These Humanitarian activities are usually based on social values, empathy and concern for others. These humanitarian activities are diverse and can cover various fields, such as education, health, environment, social assistance, and disaster management; and 8) Entrepreneurship Training: The MBKM program can also provide training and support for students interested in developing a business. However, implementing MBKM activities has yet to be carried out well in the Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production. There are indications that students still need to learn the implementation and procedures of MBKM in the TMP Study Program.

The aim of this research is to determine students' perceptions of MBKM. Apart from that, this research aims to determine the implementation and as an internal evaluation of the implementation of MBKM in the TMP Study Program, College of

Vocational Studied, IPB Univeristy.

Methods

Survey activities were carried out by collecting descriptive data from active students of the Study Program Plantation Technology and Production Management. The results of each variable were analyzed using a Likert scale. The survey instrument used was a questionnaire. In the questionnaire, there are 15 statements that students must choose related to the implementation of MBKM with 4 scales, including Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree. The data obtained were then interpreted according to Table 1 (Sirojuddin et al., 2023), with the following formula (1):

$$P \text{ (Perception Interpretation)} = \frac{\text{Total Survey Result Scores}}{\text{Total Highest Scores}} \times 100\% \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

Table 1. Interpretation of Student Perception Scores

No	Value	Category
1	0%-24%	Very Low
2	25%-49%	Low
3	50%-74%	Medium
4	75%-100%	High

The survey was given to students of the Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production, College of Vocational Studies, IPB University. The number of respondents was 60 students from the total active students (semesters 2, 4 and 6). The survey was taken between 13-20 July 2023 at the College of Vocational Studies, IPB University. The survey questionnaire was given online using Google Forms.

Socialization of MBKM programs was carried out to active students in semester 2 after receiving the results of the student perception survey with MBKM. Another survey was given after socialization.

Results

Survey About Student Perceptions

The percentage of survey results of respondents based on semester in the Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production, College of Vocational Studies, IPB University can be seen in Figure 1. From this data, as many as 40% of students from semester 2; 31.7% from semester 4 and 28.3% from semester 6. Most respondents were from semester 2 as many as 40% or 24 students.

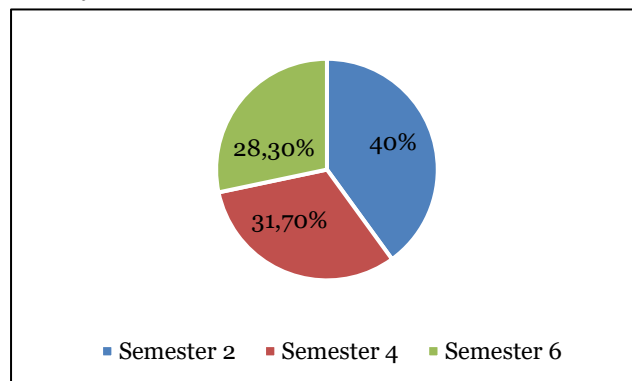


Figure 1. Percentage of Respondents Based on Semester

The majority of respondents from semesters 2, 4, and 6 strongly agreed with all the statements sent in the survey (Table 2). The total score of respondents who strongly agree is 500, while those who agree and disagree are 395 and 5 out of a total score of 900.

Table 2. Calculation Results of Student Perceptions of Implementation to MBKM

No	Statement	SA	A	D	SD	Total
1	The form of MBKM learning activities is carried out within the TMP Study Program and outside the TMP Study Program.	32	28	0	0	60
2	The learning process in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program forms students who respect the diversity of cultures, views, religions and beliefs.	35	24	1	0	60
3	The learning process in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program forms students who respect other people's original opinions or findings.	36	24	0	0	60
4	The learning process in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program improves students' skills and abilities in applying the theory obtained in college into practical implementation in the field (world of work).	38	22	0	0	60
5	The learning process of the MBKM in the TMP Study Program can deepen the knowledge gained from campus to be shared with the community.	37	23	0	0	60
6	The learning process in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program realizes student-centered learning (student-centered learning).	28	32	0	0	60
7	The learning process in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program provides challenges and opportunities to develop student innovation, creativity, capacity, personality and needs.	37	23	0	0	60
8	The learning process in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program develops student independence in seeking and finding knowledge through the realities and dynamics of the community.	34	26	0	0	60
9	The learning in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program can build social interaction, collaboration, and self-management for students and the community.	31	29	0	0	60
10	Learning in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program can build social interaction, collaboration, self-management for students and the community.	33	27	0	0	60
11	The learning process in the MBKM in the TMP Study Program produces students who are proud and love their homeland and have nationalism and responsibility to the state and nation.	29	31	0	0	60
12	The learning process of MBKM in the TMP study program can help students gain learning experiences that are not available on campus.	35	25	0	0	60
13	The learning process at the MBKM in the TMP Study Program brings students closer to the world of industry and business.	35	24	1	0	60
14	The learning process of MBKM in the TMP Study Program makes students more creative and innovative.	35	25	0	0	60
15	The flow of MBKM registration and guidance outside campus in the TMP Study Program has been carried out well.	25	32	3	0	60
Total		500	395	5	0	900

Note: The question criteria in the survey are adapted from [Sirojuddin et al. \(2023\)](#)

Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD).

The average perception of students from the Study Program Technology and

Management of Plantation Production, College of Vocational Studies, IPB University, regarding the implementation of MBKM based on the survey results showed that 33 students strongly agreed, 26 students agreed, 1 student disagreed, and 0 students strongly disagreed out of a total of 60 respondents. The results of the survey can be seen in Figure 2.

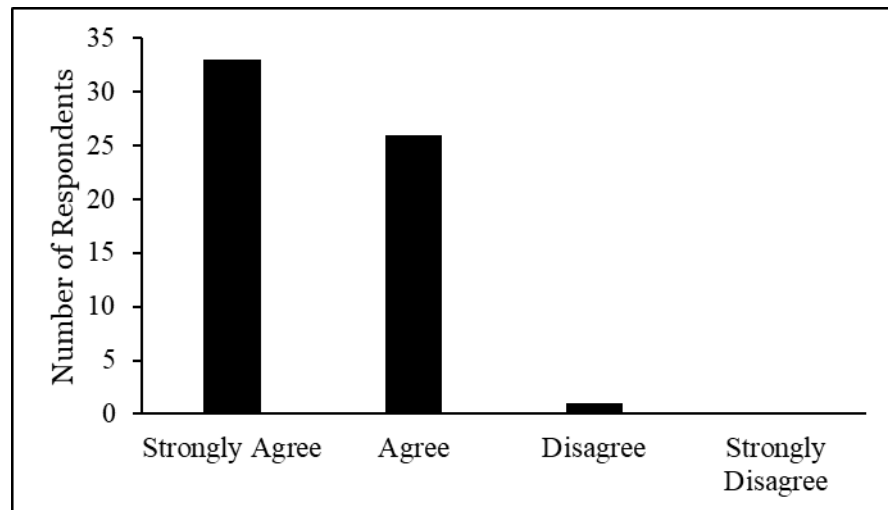


Figure 2. Average results of student perceptions regarding the implementation of MBKM

Based on Table 3, the results of student perceptions regarding the implementation of MBKM in the Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production, College of Vocational Studies, IPB University, resulted in a percentage of 88.75%. This score was categorized as Very High. This score means that students of the Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production have very high attention/perception in implementing MBKM.

Tabel 3. Total answer of respondents

Criteria	Calculation Results
Number of Answers from Respondents	: 900
Number of Respondents Who Answered	: 3195
Number of Highest Scores on the survey	: 3600
Lowest Total Score on the survey	: 900
Computation of perceptual interpretation (P)	: 88,75%

Socialization about MBKM

The results of calculating the perception interpretation were 88.75% and were categorized as very satisfactory. However, there were 3 out of 60 respondents who did not agree with the statement "The flow of registration and guidance for Merdeka Belajar Campus Merdeka to off-campus in the TMP Study Program has been carried out well." Therefore, socialization regarding the registration flow and process during MBKM (off-campus activities) needs to be carried out in the Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production.

Online socialization is carried out for second semester students who are carrying out MBKM activities outside the study program. After socialization, the

students were given a survey. Six students who took part in the socialization stated that they strongly agreed with the statement "The flow of MBKM registration and guidance outside campus in the TMP Study Program has been carried out well" (Figure 3).

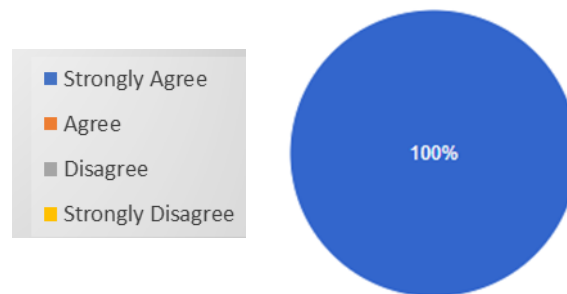


Figure 3. The results of the survey stated, "Socialization of the Registration Flow and Guidance for Free Learning from the Independent Campus to Off-Campus in the TMP Study Program Has Been Implemented Well".

Conclusion

Based on a survey of active students in the Plantation Study Program Technology and Management of Plantation Production, College of Vocational Studies, IPB University, students' perceptions of the implementation of MBKM are very high, with a score of 88.75%. However, 5% of the total students who filled out the survey stated that they did not agree with the statement, "The registration flow and MBKM guidance to off-campus in the TMP study program has been implemented well." So, socialization regarding the flow of registration and guidance of students who work outside the study program needed to be carried out. After the socialization was carried out, students understood, as shown by the indication that 100% of respondents strongly agreed with the statement, "The flow of MBKM registration and guidance outside campus in the TMP study program has been implemented well."

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