

LOLITA : Information Literacy Online Service for Universitas Terbuka Students' Final Project

Mohamad Pandu Ristiyono

Library and Archives Center Universitas Terbuka, Tangerang Selatan, Indonesia

e-mail: pandu@ecampus.ut.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The Information Literacy Online Service for universitas terbuka Students' Final Project (LOLITA) is an initiative designed to improve universitas terbuka students' information literacy skills in completing their final project. In the digital era, the ability to search, evaluate and use information effectively is critical to academic success. This research used a qualitative approach with survey, interview and case study methods to explore the impact of LOLITA on students' learning process. The results showed that LOLITA contributed significantly to improving the quality of final assignments, developing critical attitudes, and academic independence. Students who used the service reported improved skills in research and writing, as well as a better understanding of the ethical use of information. It is hoped that LOLITA can continue to grow with increased accessibility and relevance of content, as well as further support from lecturers and institutions. This research emphasizes the importance of information literacy in equipping students to face challenges in the academic and professional world.

Keywords: *Information Literacy, online services, universitas terbuka students, Final project, Research skills.*

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I. INTRODUCTION

In today's digital age, information can be accessed easily through various platforms and sources. However, the ability to evaluate, understand and use information effectively is becoming increasingly important, especially for students who are completing their final project. The Information Literacy Online Service (LOLITA) comes as a solution to support universitas terbuka students in developing the necessary information literacy skills.

LOLITA is a platform designed to provide students with access to relevant and quality information literacy resources. Through this service, students can learn about how to search, evaluate and use information wisely, so that they can complete their final assignments more effectively. With support from LOLITA, it is hoped that students will not only be able to complete their studies, but also become individuals who are critical and sensitive to the information around them.

LOLITA provides a range of resources, training and guidance aimed at improving students' understanding of how to search, analyze and use information effectively. By utilizing this service, students are expected to improve the quality of their academic research and writing, and avoid plagiarism and misinformation. Through LOLITA, the universitas terbuka is committed to creating a supportive learning environment where students can become critical and independent researchers.

Challenges faced by students in completing their final project

Completing a final project is one of the crucial stages in the higher education process. However, students often face various challenges that can hinder their progress. Here are some of the main challenges that are commonly faced:

1. Limited Access to Information

Students may experience difficulties in accessing relevant and quality sources of information. While a lot of information is available online, not all sources are reliable or up to academic standards.

2. Inadequate Research Skills

Many students lack sufficient research skills, including the ability to formulate research questions, collect data, and analyze information. This can lead to difficulties in constructing logical and coherent arguments.

3. Time Management

Final projects often require significant time for research and writing. Students often have to juggle time between other academic tasks, work, and personal responsibilities, which can lead to stress and procrastination.

4. Limited Advisor Support

Sometimes, students face difficulties in communicating with their mentors or getting adequate guidance. Lack of support can make students feel confused and lose direction in their research.

5. Technical and Technological Constraints

In the digital age, the use of information technology has become very important. However, students may experience technical issues, such as difficulty using research software or online platforms, which can hinder the process of completing the final project.

6. Stress and Mental Health

The pressure to complete a final project can be highly stressful. Impaired mental health can affect students' productivity and motivation to complete their work.

7. Difficulties in Academic Writing

Many students find it difficult to write in an appropriate academic style. Problems with grammar, sentence structure, and organization of ideas can be a hindrance in completing the final project.

8. Plagiarism and Research Ethics

A lack of understanding about plagiarism and research ethics can lead to students unintentionally violating academic rules, which can be fatal to their graduation.

By understanding these challenges, students can be better prepared for the final project completion process and utilize services such as LOLITA to get the necessary support.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Literasi informasi

Information literacy is an individual's ability to recognize when information is needed and to have the ability to find, evaluate and use information effectively. It includes skills in locating appropriate sources of information, analyzing the credibility of sources, and integrating the information obtained into relevant

contexts. Information literacy also includes an understanding of the ethical use of information, including the avoidance of plagiarism and respect for copyright.

In the digital era, information literacy is becoming increasingly important as students are faced with a flood of information coming from various sources, both credible and not. Therefore, having good information literacy skills helps students become critical and intelligent consumers of information.

The Information Literacy Online Service (LOLITA) has several main objectives in supporting universitas terbuka students:

-Improving Information Literacy Skills

LOLITA aims to help students develop skills in finding, evaluating and using information appropriately. Through the training and resources provided, students are expected to become more confident in conducting research.

-Supporting Final Project Preparation

By providing the necessary guidance and tools, LOLITA supports students in writing a quality final project. This includes helping them understand the writing structure yang baik dan cara mengorganisir argumen dengan logis.

-Providing Access to Quality Resources

LOLITA provides access to various academic resources, such as articles, e-books, and research databases, which can help students find relevant and reliable information.

-Encouraging Ethical Use of Information

One of LOLITA's main focuses is to educate students on the ethical use of information, including how to avoid plagiarism and respect copyright.

-Enhancing Student Independence

III. METHODS

In researching and analyzing the Information Literacy Online Service (LOLITA) and its impact on universitas terbuka students, the research methodology used can be divided into the following steps:

1. Research Approach

Qualitative: This approach was used to gain an in-depth understanding of students' experiences in using LOLITA, as well as to explore the impact of this service on their learning process.

Descriptive: This research aims to describe the features of LOLITA and how the service is implemented and received by students.

2. Data Collection Methods

Survey: An online questionnaire will be distributed to universitas terbuka students who have used LOLITA. Questions will cover their experience, level of satisfaction, and perceived impact on information literacy skills and final project preparation.

Interviews: In-depth interviews with several students and lecturers to gain a deeper perspective on the use and effectiveness of LOLITA.

Case Studies: Analysis of several cases of students who successfully completed their final project with the help of LOLITA to illustrate the concrete impact of this service.

3. Research Sample

Population: universitas terbuka students who are registered and have used LOLITA services.

Sample: Purposive sampling using the Slovin formula, where students were selected based on certain criteria, such as experience in using LOLITA and success in completing the final project.

4. Data Analysis

Qualitative Analysis: Data from interviews and surveys will be analyzed using thematic analysis techniques to identify patterns, themes, and meanings that emerge from students' experiences.

Descriptive Statistics: Quantitative data from the questionnaires will be analyzed using descriptive statistics to provide an overview of the level of satisfaction and impact felt by students.

5. Validity and Reliability

Data Triangulation: Using various data collection methods (surveys, interviews, case studies) to increase the validity of findings.

Questionnaire Pilot Test: The questionnaire used in the survey will be pilot tested to ensure clarity and consistency of questions.

6. Research Ethics

Respondent Consent: Prior to data collection, each respondent will be asked to provide informed consent as a sign that they agree to participate in the study.

Confidentiality: The identity of the respondents will be kept confidential, and the data obtained will be used only for research purposes.

IV. RESULTS

The universitas terbuka is a mega university in the world with over 500,000 students spread across 40 UT regions and 48 countries.

Sumber : <https://www.ut.ac.id/ut-dalam-angka/>

From the data above, the number of students currently totals 551,030 students. To serve a large enough number, of course, services must be improved. For that librarians must innovate so that all are covered, in this case it is more prioritized to help the writing of student final assignments such as theses, dissertations. Because the universitas terbuka library collection is quite current and up-to-date, it is a shame if it is not used by the library users.

Universitas terbuka library services that can be accessed from anywhere include:

-Virtual Reading Room (RBV)

This service is one of the favorite services for the university community as well as the general public, because it can be accessed in full text of open university modules / teaching materials. The average number of visitors per day is at least 24 thousand.-Layanan e-resource

Perhaps this service is already common in big university libraries such as UI, IPB, UGM etc. But what is not common is that the users in open universities are scattered all over the country and abroad. But what is not common is that the users in open universities are scattered in various corners and abroad. Therefore, they need extra services in information literacy. That's why Lolita (information literacy online service for final project of universitas terbuka students)

-OER (open education resources) services

Online Enrichment Materials, UT Television, UT Radio, Guru Pintar Online, UT Journal, MOOCS, ASEAN Studies Program, Digital Library.

Implementation of Information Literacy Online Services (LOLITA)

The implementation of LOLITA at the universitas terbuka aims to provide effective support for students in developing information literacy skills. Here are some important aspects of LOLITA implementation:

1. Access Platform

LOLITA is usually implemented through an online platform that is easily accessible to students. This can be a website or an app that provides various resources, training modules, and research aids.

2. Learning Resources and Materials

LOLITA provides various types of resources, including:

Tutorials: Videos and learning materials on how to search and evaluate information.

E-books and Articles: Access to a collection of relevant academic literature to assist students in their research.

Writing Guidelines: Documents that explain the format of academic writing, how to outline, and proper citation techniques.

3. Training and Workshops

LOLITA organizes virtual training and workshops to:

Teach information literacy skills to students.

Provide guidance on how to use the resources available on the platform.

Facilitate discussions and Q&A on challenges faced by students in research.

4. Mentoring Support

Lecturers and teachers play an active role in supporting LOLITA implementation. They can:

Direct students to use this service.

Provide feedback and guidance during the research process.

Integrate the use of LOLITA in the curriculum and relevant courses.

5. Evaluation and Feedback

To ensure the effectiveness of LOLITA, it is important to conduct regular evaluations. This includes:

Collecting feedback from students on their experience using the service.

Analyzing the success rate of students in completing their final project after using LOLITA.

Adjust and update materials and resources based on student needs.

6. Promotion and Socialization

To increase awareness and usage of LOLITA, it is important to conduct promotion through:

Socialization on campus, both in person and through social media.

Example of Literacy Master of Administration study program

Organize seminars or webinars on the importance of information literacy and the benefits of LOLITA.

With proper implementation, LOLITA is expected to be an effective tool in supporting universitas terbuka students in developing the information literacy skills necessary for success in their academics and careers.

LOLITA's Impact on the Learning Process

The Information Literacy Online Service (LOLITA) has had various positive impacts on the learning process of universitas terbuka students. The following are some of the main impacts that can be identified:

1. Improved Information Literacy Skills

LOLITA helps students to:

Search and Evaluate Information: Students become more skillful in finding relevant and reliable sources of information and evaluating their credibility.

Appropriate Use of Sources: With access to quality resources, students are better able to use appropriate information to support their arguments and research.

2. Improvement of Final Project Quality

With support from LOLITA, students can:

Write Better: Writing guides and tutorials help students organize their final project with a clear structure and in accordance with academic standards.

Improve Research: Students who use LOLITA tend to produce more in-depth and comprehensive research, thanks to access to extensive materials and resources.

3. Development of Academic Independence

LOLITA encourages students to:

Self-Study: By providing resources available online, students are encouraged to learn independently and take responsibility for their research process.

Take Initiative: Students trained in information literacy are more likely to take the initiative in finding and using information without relying entirely on lecturers.

4. Critical Attitude Building

LOLITA helps students to:

Critical Thinking: By evaluating various sources of information, students learn to think critically and be skeptical of the information they encounter.

Develop Analytical Skills: This process also strengthens their analytical skills in assessing and integrating information into research.

5. Ethics Awareness Raising

LOLITA educates students on:

Information Ethics: Students learn about the importance of ethical use of information, including how to avoid plagiarism and respect copyright.

Academic Responsibility: Awareness of research ethics helps students develop an attitude of responsibility in the delivery of information.

6. Emotional and Motivational Support

With access to appropriate resources and guidance, students feel:

Supported: The presence of a platform that provides support can increase students' confidence in completing their final project.

Motivated: When students feel more prepared and have the necessary skills, their motivation to study and complete their final project also increases.

7. Interaction and Collaboration

LOLITA can create:

Learning Communities: Through online forums or discussions, students can interact and share experiences, which enriches their learning process.

Collaboration with Lecturers: Lecturers' involvement in the process enhances the relationship between students and lecturers, creating a more interactive learning environment.

With these positive impacts, LOLITA not only contributes to students' learning process, but also equips them with the skills and understanding needed to succeed in the academic and professional world.

V. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The Information Literacy Online Service (LOLITA) contributes significantly to the information literacy skills of universitas terbuka students. Through the various resources, training and support available, students can improve their skills in finding, evaluating and using information effectively. The positive impact of LOLITA is seen in the improvement of the quality of final assignments, the development of critical attitudes, and students' academic independence. Thus, LOLITA does not only serve as a tool in completing the final project, but also as a means to form smarter and more responsible students in the use of information. *Harapan dan Rekomendasi untuk Pengembangan Layanan ke Depan*

Hope

Improved Accessibility: Hopefully, LOLITA can continue to improve its accessibility through a more user-friendly platform, so that all students can easily utilize this service.

Development of Relevant Content: It is expected that the content and resources provided are always updated and relevant to current academic and research needs.

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