

META CREDIT TRANSFER SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

META Credit Transfer System improve the manual method that is use over a decades for student to apply for credit transfer. It is develop to helps student apply for credit transfer easily, course coordinator to approve or reject the application and head of department to sign the approved or rejected application. This system is developed using evolutionary prototyping methodology that consist six phase, planning, requirement analysis, designing, developing, and testing. As a result, a questionnaire using Google Form platform was selected as data collection instrument. The questionnaire is used to know the level of respondent's satisfaction on the manual method of credit transfer and the level of respondent's expectation on the new credit transfer system. Conclusion, the research found that respondents are majority agree that the manual method is time consuming and troublesome. Next, the research found that respondents are highly agree for transform the manual method to the new credit transfer system.





ABSTRAK

Sistem Pemindahan Kredit META menambah baik kaedah manual yang digunakan selama beberapa dekad untuk pelajar memohon pemindahan kredit. Ia dibangunkan untuk membantu pelajar memohon pemindahan kredit dengan mudah, penyelarasan kursus untuk meluluskan atau menolak permohonan dan ketua jabatan untuk menandatangani permohonan yang diluluskan atau ditolak. Sistem ini dibangunkan menggunakan metodologi prototaip evolusi yang terdiri daripada enam fasa, perancangan, analisis keperluan, reka bentuk, pembangunan, dan ujian. Hasilnya, soal selidik menggunakan platform Google Form telah dipilih sebagai instrumen pengumpulan data. Soal selidik digunakan untuk mengetahui tahap kepuasan responden terhadap kaedah pemindahan kredit secara manual dan tahap jangkaan responden terhadap sistem pemindahan kredit baharu. Kesimpulan, kajian mendapati responden majoriti bersetuju bahawa kaedah manual memakan masa dan menyusahkan. Seterusnya, kajian mendapati responden sangat bersetuju untuk menukar kaedah manual kepada sistem pemindahan kredit baharu.





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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

UPSI	Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris
UKM	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
UM	Universiti Malaya
UniKL	Universiti Kuala Lumpur
UPM	Universiti Putra Malaysia





CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION



1.1 Introduction

Credit transfer is the process of transferring course credits taken by a student in one program to another program leading to the award of a qualification offered by the same institution or a different institution. This process allows the credits for the course to be counted as part of the credit requirement to graduate for a program being followed. Credit is defined as the measurement and acknowledgement of learning whenever and wherever it occurs. It serves as a tool for comparing learning that is attained in various circumstances (Pollard et al., 2017). At Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI), courses that can be transferred credits are courses that are equivalent to courses in the program that lead to the awarding of qualifications subject to several criteria such as an equivalent credit load, having a content similarity of at





least 80% and getting at least Grade B- for courses for which credit is transferred to the new program the student is taking.

Credit transfer is needed for every former diploma student in order to shorten the duration of study. Normally, when former diploma student pursue study into degree they get to cut one or two semester which are half a year or one year of study. Credit transfer may help increase student retention and graduation rates (Pollard et al., 2017). This can be benefited for them to graduate early from their original batch and they can start working or continued other study after that.

When a student apply for credit transfer, they need to submits their academic transcripts, which include the courses they have taken, grades they have received, and other information from each college they have attended. To determine whether any of the courses taken meet the standards of the receiving university, each transcript and the listed courses are tentatively examined.

Usually the subject from diploma are needed to be two subjects that equivalent to one degree subject. This rule is mandatory for every diploma students who applied for the credit transfer. In Europe, credit is based on student workload hours, which include both contact hours and the hours spent working independently to complete course objectives. This system is predicated on the logical assumption that a learning programme must be viable for students to complete within the allotted time frame (Pollard et al., 2017).





1.2 Research Background

META Credit Transfer System is one system that helps the Faculty of Computing and Meta-Technology students also known as META in UPSI to easily applied for the credit transfer. Currently, UPSI does not have any system for student to applied for credit transfer. In today's modern educational system, traditional methods of distribution is viewed as less suitable (Azman et al., 2020a). The students needs to submit their academic transcripts and the credit transfer form via email to the concerned staff. Because of this method, the time they were taking was too long to respond back to the students. This will make students missed a chance to transfer credit at the time.

As a result, the META Credit Transfer System need to be develop so that the students can easily applied for the transfer credit. Students only need to upload and submit the academic transcript and fill in the credit transfer form in the system. The system will sent the student's application to the course coordinator. The coordinator can choose between approve or reject the application based on the requirements. The coordinator can view student's academic transcripts and credit transfer form for the future reference. The approve or reject application will be sent to the head of department. The head of department can simply view and sign the approved or rejected application to verify the application. The verified application will be sent back to the students as soon as possible.





1.3 Problem Statements

Many students have missed the opportunity to transfer credit hours due to a lack of awareness about the process. Additionally, the current method of transferring credit hours through email has resulted in delayed announcement of results. Furthermore, students have faced difficulties in dropping transfer subjects due to the limited time frame, as the add and drop week lasts for only two weeks.

Lack of awareness about credit hour transfers. Many students are unaware of the possibility to transfer credit hours from one course or program to another. As a result, they miss out on the opportunity to utilize previously earned credits towards their current studies (Zulaikha, 2020; Linda, 2020). This lack of awareness could be due to insufficient communication or information dissemination regarding credit transfer policies and procedures.



Delayed announcement of results. The current method of transferring credit hours through email has resulted in a slow and inefficient process. Students have to wait for a considerable amount of time before receiving the outcome of their credit transfer requests (Leela, 2020). This delay can cause frustration and uncertainty, making it challenging for students to plan their academic schedules effectively.

Limited time frame for adding and dropping transfer subjects. Many students encounter difficulties when they want to drop a transfer subject. The add and drop week, which allows students to modify their course schedules, is only two weeks long (Linda, 2020). This short duration puts pressure on students to make quick decisions about dropping a transfer subject. Consequently, students may not have enough time





to evaluate the suitability of the transferred course and make informed choices regarding their academic path.

Overall, these issues hinder students' ability to make the most of credit hour transfers, create unnecessary delays in the process, and limit students' flexibility in modifying their course schedules. Addressing these problems would improve the efficiency, transparency, and accessibility of credit transfer procedures, ultimately benefiting the students and their academic journeys.

1.4 Research Objectives

- i. To identify main problem related to credit transfer system.
- ii. To develop prototype of META Credit Transfer System based on the problems.
- iii. To test the usability of META Credit Transfer System



1.5 Research Questions

Some of the research question conducted as to get the reason to develop this project. The research questions are:

- i. What is the main problem for META Credit Transfer System?
- ii. How to develop META Credit Transfer System?
- iii. What is the functionalities of the proposed META Credit Transfer System?





1.6 Scope of Study

Function that will be develop in the prototype of credit transfer system that can helps main user applying credit transfer. The prototype will helps other user to approve or reject the application easily. The prototype will provide create, read, update and delete features. The main content for this prototype is credit hour transfer. For the target user it will be the semester one META students, who are graduated with Diploma, course coordinator and the Head of Department.

This project presents the design and development of credit transfer system. The aim is to design and construct META Credit Transfer System that can helps students to applied for transfer credit. This system consists three different interface, which are for the student, course coordinator and head of department.



The student interface will be credit transfer form that they need to fill in the subject and the grade and also uploaded the academic transcript. Next, for the course coordinator interface there will be approve and reject button for the coordinator to verify the student application. The course coordinator can also view the student's academic transcript. Next, for the head of department interface are the approved or rejected application. They can simply view and sign the approved or rejected application to verify it and submit it back to the students. Finally, the geographical area is Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, Tanjong Malim, Perak.





1.7 Significance of Study

One way of presenting significant is discussion of benefits for students is they will easily applying credit transfer for the concerned subject using the system. Since students do not have to start their studies over from the beginning, they may reduce down on the time commitment needed, avoid repeating previously learned material, and increase their chances of re-entry (Pollard et al., 2017). Next target user is the coordinator will efficiently verify the student's credit transfer application. Last but not least, the Head of Department will simply view and sign the approved or rejected application.

Credit accumulation and transfer systems are associated with a diversity of benefits for a variety of stakeholders including learners, educational institutions and employers. These benefits are closely linked to those associated with credit-based modular systems more generally. The three categories of benefits are learning efficacy, flexibility and responsiveness, and resource effectiveness appears to be the most significant (Pollard et al., 2017).

1.8 Definition Operation

1.8.1 META

One of the new faculty in Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, namely Faculty of Computing and Meta-Technology.





1.8.2 Credit Transfer

The process of transferring course credits that a student has earned in one programme to another programme that leads to the award of a qualification from the same university or from a different institution is known as credit transfer.

1.8.3 Course

One or more instructors (teachers or professors) lead a course in higher education, which normally lasts one academic term and has a set number of students. A course typically covers a single topic.

1.8.4 Semester

A semester is one of the two major parts into which the year is divided in several universities. The normal semester in many Malaysian educational institutions lasts 14 weeks which is a period of six months of study in Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris and also known as one semester.

