Connecting students with the world

IN an increasingly interconnected world, healthcare professionals must be able to navigate diverse cultures, collaborate across borders, adapt to evolving healthcare systems and contribute to a global exchange of knowledge and innovation.

At Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed), students are immersed in an environment that helps them develop these capabilities.

A key strength of NUMed is its international academic community.

Nearly half of its faculty members come from around the world, bringing a wealth of experience from different healthcare, research and educational settings.

As NUMed is an international branch campus of Newcastle University in the United Kingdom (UK), students also benefit from access to UK-based academics and study opportunities across both campuses.

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) students can choose to complete the final three years of their programme in the UK, while BSc Biomedical Sciences students undertake their final year of study there.

Beyond the classroom, students become part of a global network of educators, researchers, healthcare professionals and alumni.

These connections create opportunities for collaboration, mentorship and professional growth, while helping students build relationships that could support their future careers in an increasingly global profession.

Research is another cornerstone of the NUMed experience as students are encouraged to participate in meaningful research projects, often working alongside internationally recognised academics and collaborators.

Through these experiences, they develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills and an appreciation for how medical and scientific advances are driven by international cooperation.

■ To find out more about NUMed's programme offerings, visit *http://www.newcastle.edu.my*, email: admissions@newcastle.edu.my, call 07-555 3800, or WhatsApp 011-1231 5411 or 012-784 9456.

You may also visit its campus Open Day on Aug 15. Reserve your spot at *https://www.ncl.ac.uk/numed/study-with-us/get-to-know-us/open-days/* today.

From Malaysia to the UK, NUMed offers students opportunities to learn across borders and become part of a global healthcare community.

Restoring hope and health

MOVEMENT is life. For the millions of Malaysians living with chronic pain, recovering from injury, or navigating the challenges of ageing, access to skilled physiotherapy care can be life-changing.

At UTAR's M. Kandiah Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (MK FMHS), the Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Hons) programme is shaping the next generation of compassionate, competent physiotherapists; graduates who are ready to serve not just in clinics and hospitals, but at the very heart of their communities.

Offered at the Sungai Long Campus, UTAR's Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Hons) is one of only a handful of such programmes in Malaysia, with UTAR recognised as a pioneer academic institution in offering it.

The four-year full-time programme equips students with a strong foundation spanning musculoskeletal, cardiopulmonary, neurological, and geriatric physiotherapy, complemented by extensive clinical postings in hospitals and specialist settings. Graduates emerge prepared to develop, maintain and restore maximum movement and functional ability across the full lifespan, and are eligible for registration with the Malaysian Allied Health Professions Council (MAHPC).

Community engagement forms an integral part of the physiotherapy programme, with students applying their skills in real-world settings such as the 2024 Kuala Lumpur Standard Chartered Marathon.

Hands-on community experience

The programme's community spirit runs deep. In 2024, the UTAR Physiotherapy team demonstrated its commitment to community health at the Kuala Lumpur Standard Chartered Marathon, where students and alumni provided hands-on post-race physiotherapy support to thousands of participants, offering soft-tissue manipulation, passive stretching, and recovery advice.

This same commitment to purposeful learning was on display at the geriatric workshop titled "The Brain & Body: Ageing Gracefully", organised by the Physiotherapy Department Education Committee, which brought together leading academics and practitioners to sharpen students' knowledge and skills in caring for Malaysia's growing elderly population.

"Geriatrics is a crucial field, yet its importance has been somewhat overlooked among physiotherapists. Through initiatives like these, we aim to enhance awareness and inspire more physiotherapists to contribute to geriatric care in the future," said Dr Muhammad Noh Zulfikri Mohd Jamali, MK FMHS Physiotherapy department head.

A commitment to compassionate care

Students also observe meaningful rites of passage as they progress through the programme. The annual White Coat Ceremony, held since the programme's inception in 2011, marks the pivotal transition from preclinical to clinical training – a moment where students don the white coat and take their oath of commitment, pledging their dedication to patients' well-being.

Prof Dr Thong Meow Keong, the MK FMHS dean, encapsulates the spirit of the profession well.

"Physiotherapy is not just about treating the symptoms," he said. "It is about restoring hope, restoring health, and improving quality of life for everyone."

UTAR's Physiotherapy programme has earned Six Stars in Employability recognition in both 2024 and 2025, reflecting the high regard in which its graduates are held across the healthcare industry.

Graduates are employable across both public and private health sectors and may also pursue postgraduate studies locally or overseas.

Explore your options

UTAR offers over 140 programmes, from foundation studies to bachelor's, master's and PhD degrees in Accounting, Business, Finance and Economics, Actuarial Science, Mathematics and Process Management, Agriculture and Food Science, Arts, Social Sciences and Education, Chinese Studies, Creative Industries, Digital Animation, Multimedia and Design, Engineering and Built Environment, Information and Communication Technology, Life and Physical Sciences, and Medicine and Health Sciences.

Visit the UTAR Open Day on Aug 29 and 30, from 9am to 4.30pm, at both Kampar and Sungai Long campuses.

■ For more information, visit *www.utar.edu.my* or call 05-468 8888 (Kampar Campus) or 03-9086 0288 (Sungai Long Campus).

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- 2 years in Malaysia + 3 years in UK

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Unlock the future of business

IN today's rapidly evolving digital economy, organisations are generating and collecting unprecedented volumes of data. From healthcare and finance to retail, logistics and technology, data has become a strategic asset that drives innovation, operational efficiency and competitive advantage.

As businesses increasingly rely on analytics, artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technologies to guide decision-making, there is a growing demand for professionals who can transform data into meaningful insights and business value.

Recognising this global demand, IMU University is introducing its latest programme, the Bachelor in Business Analytics (Honours), a future-focused programme designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills and industry exposure required to thrive in an increasingly data-driven and AI-powered world.

The programme combines business acumen, analytical thinking, data science and digital technologies to develop graduates who can bridge the gap between business strategy and data-driven decision-making.

Students will learn how to collect, analyse, visualise and interpret data while leveraging on emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, business intelligence and predictive analytics to solve real-world business challenges.

A key strength of the programme lies in its emphasis on experiential and industry-integrated learning. Students will engage in real-world business projects, industry case studies, simulation exercises, industrial training placements and a capstone project that addresses contemporary organisational challenges.

These experiences enable students to apply theoretical knowledge in practical settings while developing critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, teamwork and leadership competencies sought after by employers.

To further enhance employability and industry readiness, students will have opportunities to pursue globally recognised certifications through IMU University's collaborations with leading technology providers such as Huawei ICT Academy, AWS Academy, Microsoft and SAS.

These certification pathways provide exposure to cloud computing, business intelligence, data analytics, artificial intelligence, machine learning and digital transformation technologies, allowing students to graduate with industry-recognised credentials alongside their academic qualifications.

Beyond the classroom, students will be encouraged to participate in national and international competitions, hackathons, innovation challenges and technology showcases. Through IMU University's strong ecosystem of industry and technology partners, students will have opportunities to represent the university in prestigious platforms such as the Huawei ICT Competition, AWS Skills Challenges, Microsoft AI and Data Competitions, SAS Analytics Competitions and other regional and global innovation events.

These experiences provide valuable exposure to real-world problem-solving, cross-disciplinary collaboration, professional networking, and global best practices while strengthening students' portfolios and career prospects.

Graduates of the programme will be well positioned to pursue rewarding careers across a wide range of sectors, including finance, banking, healthcare, consulting, retail, e-commerce, telecommunications, manufacturing, government and technology.

Career pathways include Business Analyst, Data Analyst, Business Intelligence Specialist, Data Consultant, Digital Transformation Executive, AI Analyst, Analytics Manager and Strategy Consultant.

At IMU University, students will benefit from a multidisciplinary learning environment, strong industry engagement, experienced academic staff, and access to cutting-edge digital technologies. The programme is designed not only to develop technical expertise but also to cultivate ethical, innovative, and globally minded graduates capable of leading digital transformation initiatives in their future organisations.

In a world where data is shaping the future of business and society, the ability to transform information into actionable insights has become one of the most valuable professional skills.

The Bachelor in Business Analytics (Honours) at IMU University provides students with the opportunity to become part of the next generation of digital leaders, equipped with the knowledge, certifications, practical experience, and global exposure needed to succeed in the digital economy.

Applications are now open for the September 2026 intake.

To support aspiring students, IMU University is offering a Global Leadership Scholarship of RM30,000 for eligible candidates in the inaugural intake.

This is an exciting opportunity for future innovators, analysts, and business leaders to embark on a rewarding career in one of the fastest-growing and most impactful disciplines of the digital age.

The next commencement of this programme is in September. If you are interested in enrolling into this programme, make an online application today.

■ For more information, refer to *www.imu.edu.my* or email: start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.

The IMU library provides the perfect space for students to innovate, collaborate and develop their business analytics skills.

Master your presentation with confidence

LOOKING to deliver a standout presentation? Whether you're prepping for a class assignment, business pitch or public talk, here are some practical tips to help you present with confidence, clarity and impact.

Plan your timing wisely

Nervous presenters often rush through their slides, but your audience needs time to absorb the information. A good rule of thumb is to spend about 90 seconds on each slide. So for a 15-minute presentation, aim for roughly 10 slides to keep your pacing clear and manageable.

Share your slides in advance

Let your audience know that they don't need to jot down notes because your slides will be available afterward – either via email or on a shared platform or blog.

This helps them focus fully on your message instead of scrambling to keep up.

Put on a polished performance

It is important to remember that eye-catching slides and flashy transitions alone won't make up for a lack of preparation.

What truly impresses is a confident speaker who knows their material well. Go beyond the basics – read widely, understand your subject thoroughly and practise until your presentation delivery feels natural and assured.

Tie everything together neatly

Just like a good story, your presentation should have a clear beginning, middle, and end.

Start with a strong introduction, develop your main points clearly, and finish with a concise conclusion.

If you're presenting in an academic setting, include a final slide with references – not to present, but to have available for anyone interested in checking your sources.

Rehearse your presentation

Practise your presentation out loud. This helps you identify sections that feel clunky, are too fast or too slow, so you can refine your delivery and timing.

Check your equipment

Arrive early to the presentation venue and test all of your equipment. This way, you can troubleshoot any issues and avoid frustrating delays for your audience.

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Leading the way in sustainability

MSU achieved scores across all 17 SDG metrics, with several areas recording outstanding global performance.

MANAGEMENT and Science University (MSU) has further strengthened its position on the global higher education landscape by recording its most significant improvement in the Times Higher Education (THE) Sustainability Impact Ratings 2026, rising to 88th place among the world's universities.

The achievement marks a substantial leap from its 2025 position in the 101–200 band to 88th place globally this year, with an overall score of 89.8%. It represents MSU's strongest performance since it was first included in the rankings in 2021.

THE Impact Rankings is the only global performance table that assesses universities against the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It evaluates institutions' contributions across four key areas: research, stewardship, outreach and teaching.

This eighth edition of the rankings features 1,646 universities from 116 countries and territories, evaluated on their commitment and impact in advancing sustainable development.

MSU achieved scores across all 17 SDG metrics, with several areas recording outstanding global performance.

Previously known as the THE Impact Rankings, this is the only global performance table that assesses universities against all 17 of the SDGs.

Institutions that provide data on SDG 17 and at least three other SDGs are included in the overall ranking.

Among its strongest results was SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, where the university achieved a score of 91.6% and ranked 66th in the world.

MSU also secured 29th place globally for SDG 4: Quality Education, with a score of 83.3%.

In a particularly notable achievement, MSU ranked third globally for SDG 5: Gender Equality, recording a score of 82.9%.

The university also performed strongly in SDG 1: No Poverty, ranking 39th globally with a score of 82.7%. Meanwhile, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being both achieved global rankings of 60th, with scores of 80.7% and 80.0%, respectively.

MSU also recorded commendable performances in SDG 6, SDG 12, SDG 13 and SDG 14, all of which were placed within the global top 101–200 band. SDG 11 and SDG 15 were ranked within the 201–300 band, while SDG 7 and SDG 16 were placed in the 301–400 band. SDG 8 and SDG 9 were ranked within the 401–600 band globally.

The recognition reflects MSU's continued commitment to advancing sustainability through a wide range of initiatives implemented across the campus, while fostering a culture of excellence, integrity, and social responsibility among its community.

The achievement has also been supported by strong collaboration with partner universities, industry stakeholders, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other key partners in advancing sustainable development goals that contribute positively to society and national progress.

■ To learn more, visit *https://www.msu.edu.my/*

Maximise learning with effective study groups

A STUDY group is a great way to revise, but putting one together can be tricky.

Here's how to form one that will help you get the most out of communal learning.

Think outside your comfort zone

Your friends will always talk to you, but engaging with new people opens the door to fresh perspectives.

Keep it small

Instead of "the more, the merrier", think "too many chefs spoil the broth". Three is fine, but a group of four is ideal as you can pair off.

Six should be the maximum; any more and you will have too many opinions and not enough time for everyone to have meaningful question time.

Outline a plan of action

You've got a study guide, so plan your meetings accordingly.

Decide how long each meeting will be, how much you'll cover and who will be responsible for what.

Tip: pick a regular time and don't make exceptions. It's too difficult to accommodate the needs of half a dozen people.

Pick a good place

Pick somewhere quiet to avoid external interruptions like an empty classroom or study room. A cafeteria is okay as long as you don't pick crowded meal times.

Take turns to be a teacher

Explaining a topic to someone else is the best way to figure out what you know and don't know.

Explaining a topic to someone else is the best way to figure out what you know and don't know.

Culinary arts in high demand

MSU College offers a Diploma in Culinary Arts, allowing students to transform their love and passion for cooking into a professional skill.

CULINARY arts are the art of preparing, cooking, presenting and serving food in a more professional manner.

Those in this field are in charge of preparing delicious food and creating edible artwork.

Management and Science University (MSU) College's School of Hospitality, Education and Business Studies offers a Diploma in Culinary Arts, which allows students to transform their love and passion for cooking into a professional skill that will lead them into the rewarding and exciting world of food preparation.

The programme will not only expose students to a variety of culinary arts disciplines, but it will also provide a blend of solid culinary knowledge, practical competency, industry know-how and management skills.

This could include patisserie and local cuisine, visually appealing food art presentation and flawless cooking and food processing.

In terms of entry requirements, students must obtain a minimum of three credits in any subjects in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) or its equivalent.

Students who complete the diploma level can immediately start their careers or further their studies at MSU, through the School of Hospitality and Creative Arts, by performing credit transfer to second year bachelor's degrees in the same field or other related programmes.

Additionally, in line with MSU College's aim to produce balanced, holistic and well-rounded graduates, various components are embedded into the student learning experience as part of the initiatives to further enhance their soft skills and to ensure they are competent in the job market.

With all the knowledge and entrepreneurial and soft skills acquired, graduates will have the opportunity to work in hotels, build their own restaurant or cafe, or run a catering business.

Apart from this programme, students can also opt for other programmes such as Tourism Management, Hotel Management and Food Service and Restaurant Management.

MSU College is also the MSU APEL Centre for potential candidates to take the APEL Aptitude Test as the non-conventional pre-qualification for entry into higher studies, in which MSU currently offers APEL A and APEL C at T-3 (certificate), T-4 (diploma), T-6 (bachelor's), and T-7 (master's) levels.

■ For more information on programmes offered, call 03-5521 6787, email enquiry@msucollege.my or visit *www.msucollege.edu.my*