

Nurturing lifelong career skills



Many graduates receive job offers and start work even before the convocation ceremony.



Structured industry placements enable students to acquire practical work experience.

CHOOSING the right course to study at university is often the first important step in developing one's career. Employability and career preparation is a key priority at University of Reading Malaysia – the branch campus of the University of Reading, a renowned UK university consistently ranked Top 100 in the world for International Outlook by the Times Higher Education (2023).

Established in 2013, University of Reading Malaysia opened the doors to its iconic, state-of-the-art campus in EduCity, Iskandar Johor in 2015.

Five of the university's top-ranked, world-leading schools are represented at the Malaysia campus, including Henley Business School, School of Law, School of the Built Environment, School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences, and Foundation, Study and Language Institute.

The campus prioritises quality over quantity of courses and offers undergraduate degrees in a select range of professional disciplines including accounting, finance, business, law, psychology, quantity surveying and real estate.

Students in Malaysia enjoy the best of both worlds – the same prestigious University of Reading degree delivered to the same high-quality academic standards, but closer to home and at a more affordable cost for Malaysian families.

Professional and industry recognition

The excellent employability record is a big pull factor for students choosing University of Reading Malaysia.

For example, this year, 100% of graduates from the Accounting and Finance programme received job

offers even before graduation and two-thirds of graduates from the Real Estate programme also received job offers before graduation.

One of the key reasons for this is the close working relationship with professional bodies and industry partners.

The Accounting and Finance programme is run in collaboration with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and industry partners such as EY, KPMG, PWC, Deloitte, GrantThornton, BDO or other ICAEW Authorised Training Employer (ATE).

Similarly, the real estate programme has close links with industry partners and the degree also carries professional recognition in the UK, Malaysia and Singapore.

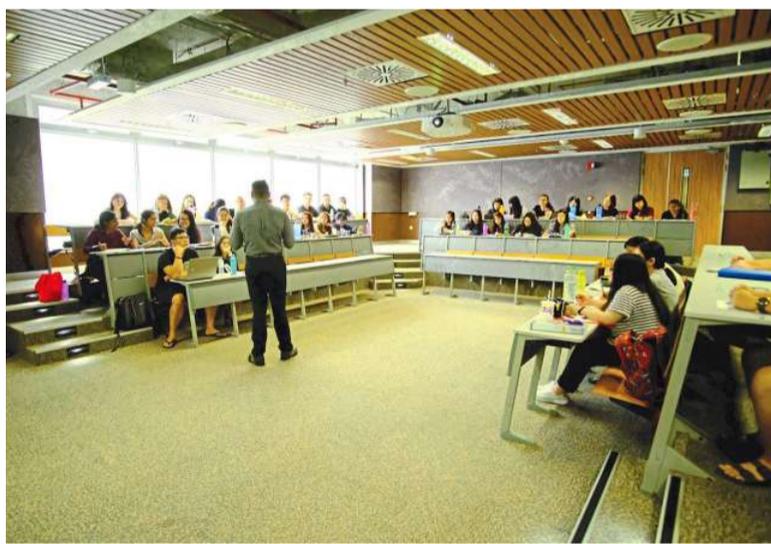
Internships and placement

Students are encouraged to undertake internships and industry placements to gain real-world work experience and engage with prospective employers. In many cases, the university helps students find suitable placements.

For example, in the Quantity Surveying programme, the university works with a network of industry partners that include property developers and surveying firms. The industry placement is credited towards the professional development of students as part of becoming a registered surveyor with the Board of Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (BQSM).

Cutting-edge curriculum

University of Reading Malaysia students follow the same cutting-edge curriculum as the university's UK campus. In some cases, the curriculum is further enhanced to



Law students discuss and debate legal cases in the Moot Court.

reflect the latest industry trends.

For example, in the Finance and Business programme, students explore developments in fintech such as cryptocurrencies and blockchain, as well as core modules in financial modelling and corporate finance.

Henley Business School Malaysia also has one of the most advanced financial dealing rooms in the country with trading systems simulated to trade equity, foreign currency and derivatives in the US and UK markets.

Soft skills development

It should not come as any surprise that employers greatly value soft skills, such as communication, problem-solving, teamwork and flexibility when hiring new graduates.

A key benefit of studying at University of Reading Malaysia is that students not only receive the

same degree as awarded on the UK campus, but also benefit from the same pedagogy and academic environment designed to develop students holistically, nurturing both the hard and soft skills that students need for their future success.

Students are encouraged to develop their problem-solving skills, build confidence in English communication, work collaboratively in teams and become independent learners.

For example, in the School of Law, students use roleplay to examine legal scenarios and advise clients on recommended courses of action. Similarly, Business and Management students undertake crowdfunding and "shark tank" activities where they practise and develop their business pitching skills.

University of Reading Malaysia provost Prof Wing Lam highlighted the importance of holistic skills in

career success, "Employers are seeking graduates who are not only book smart but also work smart. This means they are problem-solvers rather than problem-seekers. Employers prefer graduates who are proficient working both independently and collaboratively as part of a team. Ultimately, they are looking for graduates who are able to add value to the organisation and who bring a positive attitude to the workplace."

Personalised learning

The low student-to-staff ratio is also a factor in student learning success. Class sizes in most undergraduate courses are usually no larger than 35, which allows students to receive a more personalised learning experience and benefit from a high degree of interaction with their lecturers.

The lecturers get to know the students and can provide them with advice regarding their strengths, weaknesses and areas of improvement. In addition, each student is assigned an academic tutor to provide support and mentoring where required.

■ For more information, visit www.reading.edu.my or follow them on social media at Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uniofreadingmalaysia> and Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/uniofreadingmalaysia/>

For a one-to-one consultation or to arrange a campus visit, call or WhatsApp Joyce at 016-721 5400 or Sam at 016-723 5300. You may also email my.enquiry@reading.edu.my or visit University of Reading Malaysia at Persiaran Graduan, Kota Ilmu, EduCity, Iskandar Puteri, Johor, Malaysia.

Enhancing wound healing for patients

TRADITIONAL wound management often involves the separate application of medication and dressing. Healthcare personnel are involved in changing the dressings in a clinical setting. It causes inconvenience for patients, especially in urban areas where traffic congestion and long waiting time at the hospital are common.

“As a pharmacist, I used to work in a government hospital where I saw many patients with wounds, especially diabetic ulcers that are difficult to heal. That sparked my curiosity about wound healing mechanisms and I wanted to know how we can make the wounds heal faster.

“After some research, I realised there is no one dressing in the market that can increase the wound healing rate. Most of the dressings in the market are empty, requiring separate application of another medicine such as antibiotics, antiseptic cream, or gels for wounds before bandage. I thought it would be nice to have an all-in-one dressing for convenience.

“As I have experience working with tocotrienols for anticancer applications, I began to look into its other properties and found out it can heal wounds faster. I decided to make an all-in-one dressing containing tocotrienols for enhanced wound healing – Tocoheal,” shared Dr Alice Chuah Lay Hong from the School of Pharmacy, Monash University Malaysia.

According to Dr Chuah, it took three years to develop the prototype, from ingredient selection, formulation, optimisation and testing in the lab.

“I collaborated with Dr Fu Ju Yen from the Malaysian Palm Oil Board and Dr Poh Phaik Eong from School of Engineering, Monash University Malaysia in the prototype development, and my research assistant, Loo Hooi Leong who has worked with me tirelessly in



According to Dr Chuah, it took three years to develop the prototype.

the project,” she said.

The initial formulation stage was the most challenging, where the team faced multiple failures. The dressing wouldn't form or break too easily, or the tocotrienols leaked from the dressing after a while.

The team had to keep adjusting and improving the formula to make it work, which took about two years.

“Our formulated dressing membrane is designed as an all-in-one, easy-to-use dressing membrane loaded with wound healing agent tocotrienols. There is no need for separate application of dressings and medication. The easy-to-use and time-saving features allow patients to change their dressings easily at home, which will also enable hospitals to focus their expenses on other priority

areas. This will impact the lives of 8.1 million people worldwide who have wounds. Governments in countries with subsidised healthcare can also save the cost by having fewer patients coming to the hospital for wound dressings,” Dr Chuah stated.

The product has undergone lab testing and has been shown to heal the wound faster than untreated wounds or wounds with a gauze bandage. The team is now moving towards testing it on human volunteers.

Tocoheal is a novel all-in-one dressing loaded with a wound-healing agent, vitamin E tocotrienols and sustainable, biodegradable polymers formulation. The design enables the controlled release of tocotrienols into the wound. Tocoheal promotes blood clot formation, accelerates wound healing and reduces scar formation. It has a high capacity to absorb exudates from wounds caused by burns, cuts and abrasions.

“We have successfully developed the prototype. The Monash University Malaysia Advanced Engineering Platform funded the first part of the research work. Meanwhile, the Malaysian Palm Oil Board gave us a large matching grant to conduct clinical trials of the dressings in post-surgical patients to evaluate their efficacy. The clinical trials will take about one and a half years to complete,” Dr Chuah further shared.

Tocoheal won a Gold medal (medical and health category) in Malaysia's 32nd International Invention, Innovation & Technology Exhibition (ITEX 2021).

Do you have the desire to create positive change for the future? As a Monash University Malaysia student, you undergo the same curriculum offered in Australia to obtain top-tier credentials.

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Henley Business School

Top 10 UK Business School

1) Financial Times European Business Schools Ranking 2022

School of Law

Top 25 in the UK for Law²

2) For Course Satisfaction in Guardian League Table 2022

School of Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences

Top 150 in the world for Psychology³

3) Times Higher Education (THE) World University Ranking by Subject 2022

School of the Built Environment

Top 6 in the UK⁴

4) The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2022

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Surging demand for nurses in Malaysia

EARLIER this year, Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin admitted that Malaysia has been facing a shortage of nurses across the country in both government hospitals and clinics.

The current ratio is now at one nurse per 300 patients which does not match up to the World Health Organization's optimum number of one nurse per 200 patients.

This shortage could lead to more errors, higher morbidity and mortality rates. The Health Ministry has considered employing trained nurses from overseas due to the shortage of trained nurses in specialised medical fields.

In the fight against this crisis, University of Cyberjaya, a top-tier institution offering medicine and healthcare programmes in both undergraduate and post-graduate levels, stepped up to

play an impactful role by establishing the Faculty of Nursing.

The faculty currently offers two programmes namely Diploma in Nursing and Bachelor of Nursing (Hons) in hopes to help serve the nation with the production of more nurses.

The Faculty of Nursing is led by its Dean, Prof Dr Raja Lexshimi Raja Gopal.

Prof Raja Lexshimi who holds a PhD in Medical Education from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) began her career working with the Ministry of Health and went on to specialise in Ophthalmic Nursing and Midwifery Nursing.

She then switched to the education field where she joined the Nursing Department of UKM when it started its first operation in 1996 under the leadership of Associate Professor Nik Safiah



The nursing programmes at University of Cyberjaya aim to produce highly professional nursing graduates who possess critical thinking skills and can promote positive change.



Established in 2005, and with an investment of almost RM200mil, University of Cyberjaya is Malaysia's first smart-city on a five-acre, modern, fully equipped, green-friendly campus.



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Nik Ismail. Her passion for teaching led her to stay in the education field in UKM for the next 23 years. She was also involved in the development of the Patient Education Book for Women Diagnosed with Breast Cancer together with another Educationist and Breast Cancer Surgeon.

Her vast experience and popularity in the field of breast cancer nursing research, which is her niche, have led her to present many papers as well as an invited speaker in many nursing conferences and seminars in breast cancer research.

"We are looking to prepare nurses who are empowered, able to think critically, promote change and generate creative problem-solving approaches. My goal is to ensure that we provide a high standard of quality education with a greater emphasis on patient-centred care.

"As a faculty, we strive to produce nurse leaders to meet the country's aspiration and bring changes in the healthcare system and nursing profession," she adds.

The nursing programmes at University of Cyberjaya give students a hands-on experience with client, family, and community interactions in providing care in various health services.

The university's state-of-the-art facilities include simulation wards with medical mannequins that help students get an idea of the hospital or clinical environment.

Job opportunities are also available upon graduation with local government and private hospitals in Malaysia and Singapore.

"Nurses are not just administrative staff or clerks. They are highly trained professionals and first responders in the healthcare industry. We train our students to become the best at what they do, but it doesn't stop there. We have a strong passion in building holistic, competent and professional graduates. We focus on empowering our students to lead communities while having the passion to care for others," said Prof Raja Lexshimi.

Bachelor of Nursing student Rebecca Chan Ying Chin says: "I choose to study nursing because it is my passion to help people through some of their most vulnerable moments in life. I hope that I will be a good nurse in the future and am able to provide quality care for my patients. I would ideally want to specialise as a cardiac vascular nurse."

"I chose to study nursing because of the wide job opportunities available. During my clinical semester, I enjoy being part of the emergency unit as it keeps me on my toes. In the future, I hope to become a staff nurse in the Orthopaedic or Surgical ward as I am interested in assisting doctors with rare cases," said Nor Nabila Kamarulzaman, a Diploma in Nursing student.

Start your nursing journey with the University of Cyberjaya. November 2022 intake is now open for applications.

■ To find out more about UoC's programmes and scholarships, visit cyberjaya.edu.my/studynursing or message its education counsellors via WhatsApp at 011-1112 3344 or email studywithus@cyberjaya.edu.my



Nurses may opt for a number of specialisations including cardiac vascular nursing, critical care nursing, geriatric nursing, mental health nursing, oncology nursing, orthopaedic nursing and more.



Naqib (third from left) was selected among the Top 20 list at an SME Bank Business Pitch competition.



Naqib on track to opening the SagoHearty Café of his dreams.

Turning his business dream into reality

MANAGEMENT and Science University (MSU) student Naqib Haziq Ramlan has been selected for a Rebranding and Digitalisation initiative of the Rural and Regional Development Ministry (KPLB).

The Diploma in Entrepreneurship student at MSU's Faculty of Business Management and Professional Studies (FBMP) is among 50 selected by initiative organiser Usanita; for the rebranding and digitalisation of his product SagoHearty.

On track to opening the SagoHearty Café of his dreams and making his first million ringgit, Naqib had started the business as a fundraiser on campus in Shah Alam Section 13 just two years ago before making the Top 20 list at an SME Bank Business Pitch competition.

Through guidance and strong support from MSU via Jumpstart, he received the opportunity to develop important business skills, make strategic decisions, and enhance his communication skills under the guidance of academics as well as business mentors.

Jumpstart is an applied entrepreneurship programme that will assist and coach MSUpreneurs in setting up and running a business under the MSU Entrepreneurship Ecosystem. It was established under the MSU Leadership & Entrepreneurship Advancement Institute (LEAD), which aims to develop a holistic, entrepreneurial and balanced graduate.

Jumpstart members will be provided with application modules to ensure sustainability of the business throughout the business cycle (ideation, formation, growth and maturity stages) that will be conducted on a periodic basis. Members will also be guided in risk management and coached in coping with challenges in running a business.

A known name in higher education, the university promotes excellence and advances quality education, with a culture of industry and entrepreneurship embedded ecosystems, research, innovation, technology within the high-performance culture within the university.

MSU is Asia's first to be recognised by Netherlands-based Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities (ACEEU) as an Entrepreneurial and Engaged University and the recipient of Most Entrepreneurial Private University from the Ministry of Education Malaysia.

In all, as an applied, enterprise, holistic and international university, MSU offers foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and flexible programmes through an entry system that facilitates admission of students from all walks of life, where it aims at transforming lives and enriching future.

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