

LOVING GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES SUCCESS – SECTION 24

Graduate attributes are the skills, personal qualities and understanding to be developed Academically, Personally and Professionally. In one word we can say graduate attributes mean to be developed Universally. In this current competitive world, only knowledge and qualifications are not enough to land a person to that dream job or to gain a meritorious career. Success needs more than intelligence. It requires a graduate to possess some other personal attributes to make him/her stand out among others and be recognized as a person of substance. Graduating attributes bring success to us. And in ‘Graduate Attribute Success’(GSA) class we are learning how to reach the top of success hill. In GSA class we are learning and developing ourselves in Communication, Extempore speech, Report writing, Essay writing, Working to deadlines, Making presentations, Leadership, Working in teams, Knowledge of Disciplines, Lifelong Learning, Engaged in global citizen, being members of Societies and Volunteering, also Thinking critically and creatively, furthermore to work effectively, independently and collaboratively as part of a team.

“Dr. MUHAMMAD ABD HADI BIN BUNYAMIN” is our GSA Instructor. He is an Assistant Professor at our University of Technology Malaysia. He completed his Doctor Philosophy from the University of Minnesota and studied masters (Physics) from the University of Technology Malaysia. He is a very nice, interesting and helpful person. He makes our class interested and makes us curious about learning. We eagerly wait for his class every Tuesday from 10:00 am to 11:50 am. After doing his very first class I share my experience with one of my friend and he just switches to our section Graduate Success Attributes-24 to his section. My friend joined as the 36th member of our section. In every single class, our dear Dr. Hadi teaching us new things and making our concern about the study, future and most importantly we are enjoying every single minute. I am loving to reflect on my learning through this writing...

Unfortunately, our very first class wasn’t possible to go, there was a misunderstanding about the class, we got a notice like our class will be canceled but Dr. wasn’t informed about it. On that day one of my friends inform me that She is in class and Dr. came for taking our class, I with my friend ran for and the time we reach there I saw him and explained to him like we got a notice like that. As usual, he was shocked and confirm as there are only three of us so, he canceled that class. Though we didn’t get any class I think I was lucky that I had met him and we had a great conversation. He shared his experience that he was in Bangladesh at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). After I had this conversation I just become his fan and was waiting for his next class.

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Next week on our very first official class, when Dr. Hadi was starting the class he took my name before everyone and handshake with me. At that time I was like flying on the sky, I don't have a word to express my feelings about it, I was feeling my blood circulation become faster and to be honest this love from him made me more interested and excited about his class. After that moment he told us to do an interesting thing, he told to use a piece of paper to create a nametag for us and put it in front of our table we were so excited and tried to make the better nametag and make it stylish and innovative. And later on, when he was talking our name by looking at our nametag I think this is what made all of us students more excited. Naturally, when a teacher takes a student name before everybody he or she feel lucky and proud also. After we were done with our nametag he gave us 2 minutes to talk with the guy who sits beside me and there was a condition also he or she must not be our native so he or she needs to be an international friend for each of us. I believe this a great idea to make us comfortable to have a conversation with the people of another country cause we feel shy or sometimes like we feel a little uneasy to anyone from other countries but this way we can easily cover this hesitation of ours. And as Dr. command, we have communicated a little with our foreign friend with our excitement. After our conversation, Dr. Hadi explains about GSA and why it is so necessary for us. He mentions the topics that are we going to get from GSA class like communication tips, writing development, speech, presentation, group work, deadlines working and especially about our future and so on. He told us about how GSA going to help us in the study here in UTM. And he highlights the basic need to build up ourselves. Later on, he made us thought about our future career and we express our thought when he asked about our future career. It brought a good number of thoughts as we are 36 students in our section. later on, we become anxious when he asked why we choose that specific career. We were in a what to do situation like Why we choose this respective career for us. Later on, he gave a short brief on choosing a future career. Most importantly in this class, he describes our course information, mark distribution, and examination, assignment, reflection all timetables. At the ending part, he gave us an assignment of Essay writing.

This Essay writing was of 1500 words where more than 20% plagiarism was not acceptable and the condition was to give reference to minimum one international and one national newspaper and books. He shared the scoring portal and describe it and told to submit on the UTM E-learning portal. He granted two weeks for this assignment. And for checking plagiarism he suggested to us Turnitin website that's cool. The time I was doing my assignment whenever I faced any problem I asked him and he helped me to be clear more importantly I texted him on his break he helped on that time also and help me to make my essay better. This assignment makes my writing skills better.

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Our next class was about Employability what means the qualities a person should have to gain a perfect job for him and maintain everything related to his job. At the beginning of the class, Dr. showed a video of a job interview where I got realize maximum cases people stay nervous when they go for a job and they become hyper and unable to get what they are asked to do on the other hand sometimes they are overconfidence and sometimes it seems like they are trembling. In the end, a confident guy came and with his attributes, he just grab the job. Later on, Dr. Hadi explain why fresh graduates don't get a job their problems and also share how to grab a job after completing graduate. We realize poor command of English, bad communication skills are the main hindrs of quality job moreover the first job we may need to accept a lower salary or maybe a little lower position job and Attitude and personality is a must. Shockingly, the leadership position helps more than GPA. Volunteer, sportsperson gets more opportunity than others. In the ending part of our class, we discussed with our classmates about Employability and if soft skills also refer to Employability and finally the doctor told us why its almost the same and there was another part of gaining attributes. The main focus was what attributes we should have moreover which attributes is the main one that will represent other also. I like I have chosen Global Citizen attributes as it going to cover all other topics also like communication skills, leadership & team working skills, thinking skills, adaptability and enterprising skills then we have a little discussion on which one was perfect.

On the beginning of October our class was about scholarship. Basically scholarship means academic achievement. It's like a grant payment for student's education. A lot number of Organization, NGO, Bank and different times different group offers this scholarship. But is very hard to get scholarship among this huge number of students all over the world. Today's class was about how to earn a scholarship. After Dr. Hadi's description, we become more excited about the scholarship. For getting this kind of opportunities we need to manage relevant information from different sources. We must adapt ourselves to new ideas and doing autonomous learning. We need to be more curious about gaining knowledge and need to involve ourselves doing researches. After dealing with scholarship Dr. again threw us to deep thought about how to be a holistic human. And we were called to make a group and discuss the best way of being a holistic human. We were supposed to make a group leader represent our group and later on we discussed and express our thought about and at the end Dr. help us to get the meaning. Again we get into deep thought when he asked about the classification of knowledge, wisdom, information, and data. Then Dr. makes go with manners and teach us what manner is and make us learn about all this thing.

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Our last class was about communication skills. Communication skills involves listening, speaking, observing and empathizing. At the starting point of the class, Dr. told us to make a permanent group and select someone for the group leader and have a little discussion with group members. After that Dr. called some of us by name and told us to share anything in the class for 3 minutes. It is like everyone has to say something, those who didn't get an opportunity in that class they have to say in the next class. Interestingly, I was chosen on that day and I have given a short speech about my parents. Others shared their experience and I enjoyed it a lot. One of my friends shared her childhood memories, one of her friend thrown chewing gum on her hair it became messy and she needs to face scolding from her mom also her friend faced the same.

Before our mid-semester break, we have gotten a few classes but also we have learned so many things as explained and later on these learnings going to help me a lot in the next part of my semester. Truly speaking it wasn't so easy I need to go through tuff challenges and I am giving my level best and trying to overcome these. If I make a summary It will be Like

I HAVE to LEARN FROM COURSE :

Communication Skills: Now I have more confidence to present my speech in a highly coherent manner. I can speak more proficiently than at the beginning of the semester.

Creative and critical thinking: Now I have the quality to analyze, assess, and utilize different thinking skills to bring out the value of information and ideas better than a month ago I was. It's easier for me to generate new ideas and I am taking less time to solve question riddles.

Interpersonal Skills: I have learned to work efficiently and come with productive results. Gain to focus on work, group task or when it's about the decision. Moreover, I also have the passion and integrity of both group and individual work.

Global Citizen: In our class, we have students from seven different countries and we are having a conversation and involving in group work in every single class. Our class is like a global village. I am learning their cultural and racial diversity moreover this class helping me think across the borders.

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Writing skills: Importantly GSA class also improving my writing skills. Essay, reflection is getting easier for me. Now I am getting used to formal writing.

Leadership: GSA class helping to lead in a different context. It's making me a motivator and helping me to think deeply also it is making me more global.

EFFECT OF LEARNING FOR THE NEXT OF SEMESTER:

I have mentioned our GSA class is like a global village. The biggest problem I have covered I think the hesitation to have a conversation with international students. In the beginning, I was comfortable to talk with foreigners but now in every class in every group it is a must to get international students it is helping to be comfortable with and making me global and it is going to help me later on also. Moreover, now It's getting easier for me to lead than before because of our class and in the future, it is going to help me more and it made me an expert in writing also. So in short, I can say in the future I won't face the problem those I was supposed to. And it going to easier for me to score a goof figure moreover the attributes I have got and going to learn I believe it going to help me till the end of life.

CHALLENGES I HAVE FACED AND THE WAY I AM GOING TO SOLVE THEM:

I am an international student here as it's a new place I had to go through some challenges. The first problem I had I think lacks confidence but Dr. Hadi is very friendly and clear my nervousness very first day as I have mentioned. Moreover, I am not so used to making a reflection, for me, it's quite new but I am getting it easier than other formal writing. Moreover, I am getting enough space now for thinking before that I was afraid of doing something but GSA taught me to be with own attitude. Interestingly, I have selected as the group leader by my group members, here they are international and I need to through challenges I think in this topic. But I am learning now and I will keep giving me level best to solve the problem I am going to face and I won't stop trying to being better by overcoming these problems I am facing now.

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In conclusion, I want to say I am loving the GSA class and eagerly wait for the class. I am learning with joy. In this class truly speaking I am enjoying this class. And Dr. Hadi has a superb personality. His vision and experience making us more interested in GSA class. And most importantly I am developing in every sector and this subject also making us sincere about my future career. Now I look forward to the internet for opportunities like a scholarship. I am running after the latest technology and making myself updated. Public speaking, writing, creative thinking all included in GSA and that's the root of academic learning. Moreover, it is teaching me to lead life in my way also making me inspired to enjoy this beautiful life. To be honest I am very excited about my upcoming classes. I have learned a lot of new things before mid-semester and I believe a lot more to come and waiting for grabbing those. Now I am comfortable with my foreigner friends and fully excited about enjoying my UTM life.