

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter comprises the research background, research problem, research question, research objective, the justification of research, and structure of research.

1.1 Research Background

The estimation of unemployment in Indonesia per August 2020 is 9,767,750 (BPS, Nov 2020). Among the unemployed Indonesians are the graduates from higher education institutions (from diploma and above) with an average unemployment rate of 5.97% for the last five years from 2016 to 2020 (BPS, 2020).

In today's digital age where fresh graduates are assumed to be the people who are familiar with recent technology and information, there are still cases of fresh graduate unemployment. Pool and Sewell (2007) stated that the question needed to be asked is whether or not the graduate is using the skills, knowledge and understanding gained in their degree studies in a "graduate-level job". Furthermore, the question we should ask is whether or not the graduates are aware of their employment ability (employability) level. Hillage and Pollard (1998, p. 2, as cited in Pool et al., 2013) defined employability as being capable of getting and keeping fulfilling work.

Providing the student with a measurement or diagnostic tool can serve as the first step to students' awareness of their employability. Pool et al. (2013) agree that the development of diagnostic tools that enable students to engage with the idea of employability, reflect, and understand the attributes in relation to these skills is a more useful endeavour in the measurement of employability. In addition, Yorke and Knight (2007, as cited in Pool et al., 2013) agree that constructing questionnaires that prompt students to reflect on their employability, take action to enhance it and consider how to articulate their strengths is a feasible undertaking.

1.2 Research Problem and Question

The research problem that will be investigated in this study is the factor structure of the CareerEDGE model for undergraduate and fresh graduates in Indonesia.

Research question is as follows, what is the factor structure of CareerEDGE employability development profile?

1.3 Research Objective

The research objective in this study is exploring the factor structure of the CareerEDGE model for undergraduate and fresh graduates in Indonesia.

1.4 Justification for Research

This study aims to explore the factor structure of CareerEDGE model for undergraduate and fresh graduate, which focuses on the i3L undergraduate students and alumni as the target sample.

1.5 Structure of Research

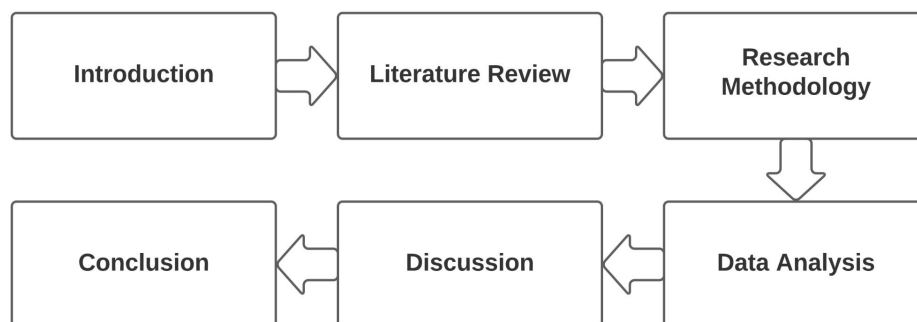


Figure 1. Research Flow