

# A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON THE SOFT SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MERDEKA BELAJAR KAMPUS MERDEKA PROGRAM OF 5<sup>TH</sup> SEMESTER ENGLISH STUDENTS

## ABSTRACT

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Independent Campus is a Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM) program organized by the Ministry of Education and Culture. This study aims to describe students' perception on the soft skill development through Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka Program of Fifth-semester English students. This study is a type of qualitative descriptive research. Data collection was conducted via a questionnaire distributed through WhatsApp, using a Google Form link, targeting students in the English Education Study Program who have completed the MBKM course internship. The Instrument measured the development of soft skills across seven indicators, namely: (1) communicative skills, (2) critical thinking and problem-solving skills, (3) teamwork skills, (4) lifelong learning and information management skills, (5) entrepreneurial skills, (6) ethics, morals and professionalism, and (7) leadership skills. The results showed that the majority of students felt that their soft skills had developed through the MBKM program. Specifically, 49.16% students agreed that their communicative skills had developed, while 4.16% strongly disagreed. For critical thinking and problem-solving skills, 48.75% students agreed that they had developed, with 0.93% strongly disagreeing. Teamwork skills were felt to have developed by 56.25%, while 7.91% strongly disagreed. Lifelong learning and information management skills were seen to have developed by 47%, with 2.5% strongly disagreeing. Entrepreneurial skills were recorded to have developed by 53.75%, with 1.25% strongly disagreeing. For ethics, morals, and professionalism, 49.37% agreed that they had developed, while 3.12% strongly disagreed. Lastly, 57.5% agreed that their leadership skills had developed, with 2.5% strongly disagreeing.

**Key words:** *Perception, Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka, Soft Skill development*

# STUDI DESKRIPTIF PERSEPSI MAHASISWA TERHADAP PENGEMBANGAN SOFT SKILL MELALUI PROGRAM MERDEKA BELAJAR KAMPUS MERDEKA PADA MAHASISWA BAHASA INGGRIS SEMESTER 5

## ABSTRAK

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Kampus Merdeka merupakan program Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM) yang diselenggarakan oleh Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan persepsi mahasiswa terhadap pengembangan soft skills melalui Program Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka pada mahasiswa Bahasa Inggris semester Lima. Penelitian ini merupakan jenis penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui kuesioner yang disebarakan melalui WhatsApp dengan menggunakan tautan Google Form kepada mahasiswa Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris yang telah menyelesaikan magang mata kuliah MBKM. Instrumen ini mengukur pengembangan soft skills melalui tujuh indikator, yaitu: (1) keterampilan komunikatif, (2) keterampilan berpikir kritis dan pemecahan masalah, (3) keterampilan bekerja sama dalam tim, (4) keterampilan belajar sepanjang hayat dan pengelolaan informasi, (5) keterampilan berwirausaha, (6) etika, moral dan profesionalisme, dan (7) keterampilan kepemimpinan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa sebagian besar mahasiswa merasa soft skills yang dimilikinya telah berkembang melalui program MBKM. Secara khusus, 49,16% mahasiswa setuju bahwa keterampilan komunikasi mereka telah berkembang, sementara 4,16% sangat tidak setuju. Untuk keterampilan berpikir kritis dan pemecahan masalah, 48,75% mahasiswa setuju bahwa keterampilan tersebut telah berkembang, dengan 0,93% sangat tidak setuju. Keterampilan kerja tim dirasakan telah berkembang sebesar 56,25%, sementara 7,91% sangat tidak setuju. Keterampilan belajar seumur hidup dan manajemen informasi terlihat telah berkembang sebesar 47%, dengan 2,5% sangat tidak setuju. Keterampilan kewirausahaan tercatat telah berkembang sebesar 53,75%, dengan 1,25% sangat tidak setuju. Untuk etika, moral, dan profesionalisme, 49,37% setuju bahwa keterampilan tersebut telah berkembang, sementara 3,12% sangat tidak setuju. Terakhir, 57,5% setuju bahwa keterampilan kepemimpinan mereka telah berkembang, dengan 2,5% sangat tidak setuju.

**Kata Kunci:** *Persepsi, Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka, Pengembangan Soft Skill*