

**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**

**A THESIS**



**MARIA IRMA NORIMARNA**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM  
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY  
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**

**KUPANG**

**2024**

**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**

**A THESIS**



**MARIA IRMA NORIMARNA**

**Registered Number: 20130033**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM  
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY  
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
KUPANG  
2024**

**A THESIS**

**This Thesis is Presented as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of *Sarjana Pendidikan* in English Education Study Program**



**MARIA IRMA NORIMARNA**

**Registered Number: 20130033**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM  
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY  
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
KUPANG  
2024**

## APPROVAL PAGE



This thesis entitled *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* written by *Maria Irma Norimarna* has been approved to be defended in a thesis examination.

First Supervisor


  
(Tiarna Marpaung, S. Pd., M. Pd.)  
NIDN. 0813058001

Second Supervisor

  
(Zuvyati A. Tlonan, S. S., M. Pd.)  
NIDN. 0817018502

Kupang, <sup>10th, July 2024</sup> Acknowledged by,

Dean of Teachers Training and Education  
Faculty

  
(Dra. Anggreini D. N. Rupidara, M. Si., Ph. D)  
NIDN. 0825086801

Head of English Education Study  
Program

  
(Tiarna Marpaung, S. Pd., M. Pd.)  
NIDN. 0813058001

## LEGITIMATION PAGE



This is to certify that this thesis entitled *A Descriptive Study Of Students' Perception On The Soft Skill Development Through Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka Program Of 5th Semester English Students* written by *Maria Irma Norimarna* has been defended in a thesis examination and has been approved by the following Board of Examiners as the final requirement to be graduated as *Sarjana Pendidikan* (S. Pd.) majoring in English Language Education.

Examination Date: July 20, 2024

### The Board of Examiners:

	Name	Signature	Date
1	<b>First Examiner</b> Thersia M. Tamelan, S.Pd., M.App.Ling, Ph. D NIDN. 0816077901		<u>July 25, 2024</u>
2	<b>Second Examiner</b> Eltina A. Maromon, S. Pd., M. Pd. NIDN. 0815128102		<u>July 26, 2024</u>
3	<b>Third Examiner</b> Tiarna Marpaung, S. Pd., M. Pd. NIDN. 0813058001		<u>July 26, 2024</u>
4	<b>Fourth Examiner</b> Zuvyati A. Tlonaen, S. S., M.Pd. NIDN. 0817018502		<u>July 25, 2024</u>

Legitimated by,

Dean of Teachers Training and Education Faculty

Head of English Education Study Program

  
(Dra. Anggreini D. N. Rupidara, M. Si., Ph. D)  
NIDN. 0825086801

  
(Tiarna Marpaung, S. Pd., M. Pd.)  
NIDN. 0813058001

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>CHAPTER I.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background .....	1
1.2 Research Problem.....	2
1.3 Aim of Study.....	3
1.4 Significances of Study .....	4
1.4.1 Implication.....	4
1.4.2 Application .....	4
<b>CHAPTER II .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>LITERATURE REVIEW .....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 Review of Related Studies .....	5
2.1.1 The Differences in Research .....	7
2.2 Concept .....	7
2.2.1 Perception .....	8
2.2.2 Merdeka Belajar kampus Merdeka (MBKM).....	8
2.2.3 Soft Skills Development .....	9
2.3 Theoretical Framework .....	10
2.3.1 Forms of Merdeka Belajar kampus Merdeka Activities .....	10
2.3.2 Benefit of MBKM Program .....	15
2.3.3 Student' Perception on MBKM .....	15
2.3.4 Types of Soft Skills.....	16
2.3.5 The Relevance of Soft Skills.....	23
2.3.6 Development of Soft Skills in Higher Education Through MBKM Program .....	23
<b>CHAPTER III.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>RESEARCH METHOD.....</b>	<b>25</b>
3.1 Research Design.....	25
3.2 Research Locus .....	26
3.3 Type and Data Resource .....	26
3.3.1 Population .....	26
3.3.2 Sample .....	27
3.4 Data Collection Technique and Research Instrument .....	27

3.5 Research Procedure .....	33
3.6 Data Analysis .....	34
<b>CHAPTER IV .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION .....</b>	<b>35</b>
4.1 Findings.....	35
4.1.1 Result of Questionnaire .....	35
4.2 Discussion .....	65
<b>CHAPTER V .....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS .....</b>	<b>66</b>
5.1 Conclusion .....	66
5.2 Suggestions .....	68
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>72</b>

**MOTTO**

“Patience and hope in God is the key to success”

*Maria Irma Norimarna*



## **DEDICATION**

This writing is dedicated to the writer's beloved:

1. This writing is dedicated to God Almighty. Without His blessings and guidance, the author would not have achieved what has been accomplished. In every step, both in joy and sorrow, His presence provided strength, fortitude, and inspiration. Gratitude is expressed for all the blessings and grace bestowed.
2. To the beloved parents, the late Mr. Saul Norimarna and the late Mrs. Lolita Jabloy, as a sign of respect and undying love. Their sacrifices, prayers, and unfading support have become the foundation of this success. This achievement is a testament to their passion and guidance, providing strength even from afar. May they rest in eternal peace. The author hopes to make them proud of what has been achieved.
3. To dear brother Sarles Norimarna and sister Levina Norimarna, for their prayers and support. In every challenge faced, their presence has given strength and comfort.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Praise be to God Almighty for His blessings so that the author can complete the thesis. The preparation of this thesis is to fulfill one of the requirements for obtaining a Bachelor of Education degree in the English Education study program at the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Artha Wacana Christian University, Kupang. In compiling this thesis, the author received assistance from various parties. Thus on this occasion, the author would like to thank:

1. Tiarma Marpaung, S. Pd., M. Pd, as the first supervisor who has assisted in the preparation of this thesis and also as the Head of the English Education Study Program.
2. Zuvyati A. Tlonaen, S.S., M. Pd as the second supervisor who has accompanied the author in writing the thesis.
3. Erny S. N. Hambandima, S. Pd., M. Pd as an academic supervisor who always provides motivation.
4. Evandertus Poilema, for his valuable ideas and suggestions in compiling this thesis.
5. The 5<sup>th</sup> semester students of the 2021 intake who have completed the internship program and are currently in Six semester of the English Education Study Program, who have assisted in this research.
6. Aswerus Norimarna, Yosias Norimarna, and Aldo Norimarna for their prayers and unwavering support, always being the first to help in times of need.
7. Levina Norimarna, who is like a second mother, providing financial support and encouragement.
8. Murni Mesah, Threza Bureni, and Sugesti Boimau, for their endless support and companionship from the beginning of the semester until now.

The “Geng Paling Idaman (Panda)” members, for their loyal companionship and support during the final assignment process.