

Changing from the Undergraduate Mindset

Muhammad Hanif Zulfikri, FCSIT, UM

Raja Jamilah Raja Yusof, Dept. SE FCSIT, UM

It comes to no-one's surprise that postgraduate would be different to undergraduate, but I did not think it would be a huge step of difference.

My first semester experience thus far has had multiple occurrences that forced me to evaluate and adapt myself that are outside of my preparation. I entered the program to increase my knowledge and gain research experience; and along the way I realized that *old habits die hard*.

Besides procrastination, there was a tendency to rely on simple searches, researching only the first papers, reliance on LLM chatbots; which leads to the chasing of grades instead of knowledge.

While it works on an undergraduate degree, postgraduate requires further than just grades. What I realize is utilizing a curious mindset, where the enjoyment is from learning more of the subject.

Topics should be something of interest to you, and not to the public interest. Other hurdles can be thought differently too, such as a minor bump into the final goal. That way, researching is more for the sake of learning than a final grade.

Not all scenarios can be thought this way, however. Sometimes it is not enjoyable besides the gratification of reaching the final goal.

However, it is not possible to learn without experiencing pain and hurdles.

They are part of the experience as learning is like a puzzle with unlimited pieces. One question answer opens more questions. Hence, it is important to have the right mindset so that learning can be fun.

Feel free to share your thoughts with me by using the email address below.



Learning is like finishing a puzzle.