

## Rural Advancement

Rural Advancement covers current critical issues in development including quality of life, socio-economy, poverty, media communication and others. It has become one of the main focuses of the government agenda in line with their strategic plan to develop the nation. Special attention is given to youth since the contribution of this group to rural communities, particularly in agriculture, is important for the economic development and success of many developing countries that boast large youth populations. Consequently, the development of rural youth helps to ensure continuity and sustainability of the nation's food supply.

## Community Education and Development

Community Education and Development offers graduate students learning and scientific research related to the development of individuals and groups at the community level using a network of formal and informal methods. The purpose of the program is to develop the capacity of individuals and groups, especially youth, in order to upgrade the quality of life and well-being of communities.

## Leadership Studies

Leadership Studies is grounded in the theories and practices of leadership and followership. The Leadership Studies program covers research areas within the context of organisation and community. The program offer opportunities for graduate students to explore and investigate various aspects of leadership (theories and practices) including Organisational Leadership, Educational Leadership, and Leadership in Community Well-being.

## Admission Requirements

### *Master with Thesis*

- Applicants should have a recognized Bachelor's degree in a related field with a minimum CGPA of 2.75 or equivalent, or
- Have at least three years of work experience in a related field to be considered for admission.

### *PhD with Thesis*

Applicants should have a recognized Master's degree in a related field.

## Contact Us



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# IPSAS

Institute for Social Science Studies

## ► CORPORATE INFORMATION

### About Us

The Institute for Social Science Studies (IPSAS) is dedicated to achieving excellence in research and development in the social sciences, particularly in the field of youth development.

### Our Vision

To be a leading research and development centre contributing to youth and community well-being.

### Our Mission

To contribute to youth and community well-being through research, postgraduate studies and professional services.

## ► OUR GOALS

1. To become an established and reputable provider of scholarly leadership and professional services for youth and community development.
2. To produce high impact research and publications on youth and community development.
3. To build enduring linkages and partnerships with industries and communities.
4. To produce quality post-graduate students in youth and community studies.

## ► RESEARCH & CONSULTATION

IPSAS' research program is based on youth development and is divided into three laboratories. Each laboratory is headed by a Head of Laboratory and staffed by Research Fellows, Post-Doctoral Fellows, Research Associates, Research Officers and Social Research Officers.

### Youth Wellbeing & Social Health Laboratory

The Youth Well-Being & Social Health Laboratory conducts research, technical assistance and consultancy activities for governmental, non-governmental, private and community entities. The focus of the lab's work is to generate scientific data and new knowledge for enhancing the social well-being of youth, with a focus on the age group of 15 to 30. In addition to research, the lab engages with governmental agencies, communities, youth-serving organizations and youth associations to translate research findings into better programs and policies for young people, adult stakeholders and communities. Past and current projects include research and consultancy in the areas of youth engagement and community connectedness, religiosity development, positive youth development, youth work, state and national-level youth policy development, and at-risk youth behavior.

### Youth Citizenship & Leadership Laboratory

Youth Citizenship and Leadership Laboratory conducts research, community engagement and industrial linkage activities that help to develop and unleash youth leadership and citizenship potentials. Emphasis is given to efforts that support youth attainment of positive knowledge, skills, attitudes, and leadership competencies at the grassroots, national and international levels. The lab also works to develop positive youth citizenship behavior through the promotion of youth participation in public activities toward becoming dynamic and contributing adult citizens.

### Cyber Generation Laboratory

Cyber Generation Laboratory focuses research on youth and technology with an emphasis on the use of media technology to disseminate information, the use of social networking sites, ICT skills development, addressing digital divide in the rural area and building social media skill sets. The lab also investigates the social and psychological impact of Internet use, human-computer interaction, political communication, and the influence of ICT on social, psychological and economic relations. Findings are used as inputs for policy and program development, including program interventions that aim to encourage and increase the use of constructive ICT among youth. This goal is in line with the government's objective to create a 'cyber generation' of young Malaysians educated and skilled in the field of ICT.

## ► GRADUATE STUDIES

IPSAS offers postgraduate programs at the Master (with thesis) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) levels. The programs are offered through the School of Graduate Studies (SPS), Universiti Putra Malaysia. We offer degrees in four fields of study.

### Youth Studies

Youth Studies focuses on the development of young people from early adolescence to young adulthood. Based on the relevant historical, cultural, sociological, psychological, political and educational literatures, the Youth Studies program emphasizes a positive youth development (PYD) approach. Through an ecosystems perspective, graduate students learn about youth development from the perspective of the individual, family, community, and society, at both the local and international levels. The program in Youth Studies also includes the role of training and development of youth as a strategy for community mobilization and national development.