

Quality education and facilities

PURSuing postgraduate study is a serious undertaking as people often identify you based on your choice of study and it provides a pathway for specialisation.

Here are seven things to look out for in a university when choosing a postgraduate programme and why Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) should be your institution of choice.

● **Known for its research strengths** – Pursuing postgraduate study is mainly about doing research, so choose a university known for its research strengths.

Find out whether the research area you wish to pursue is within the niche teaching areas of the university, and seek out scholarships and grants.

UPM is one of Malaysia's five research universities. It is ranked among the top 150 universities that is under 50 years old in the *World University Rankings 2015-2016* by Times Higher Education and listed among the best 100 universities in agriculture and forestry, according to the QS World University Ranking by Subjects 2015.

UPM was also ranked first in Malaysia and Asia and 17th in the world in the UI GreenMetric World University Ranking 2015.



Among the strengths of Universiti Putra Malaysia is the range of quality postgraduate programmes, including those in the field of agriculture.

UPM's recent achievements include securing two long-term research grants under its Institute of Tropical Agriculture (to be re-established as Institute of Food Security).

● **Known for its international collaborations** – International collaborations mean that the university is recognised by other institutions of good standing and that the university has attained international standards.

To date, UPM has 18 collaborative programmes in the forms of double, dual, jointly

awarded and cotutelle (co-tutoring) research degree programmes with universities from the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, South Korea, France, Canada and Thailand.

● **Received awards and recognition from famous institutions** – This means the university has been recognised and scored highly by international and national accreditation bodies for its programmes.

UPM offers postgraduate programmes in 265 fields of graduate study in agriculture,

science and engineering, and social science and humanities.

Its programmes have been accredited by international accreditation bodies such as the Royal Society of Chemistry, United Kingdom, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the Washington Accord through the Engineering Accreditation Council (EAC), the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), the United States.

● **Academic staff who are renowned in their areas of specialisation** – An important consideration when selecting a university for postgraduate study is your potential supervisor. A supervisor who is renowned in his or her field will be able to connect you to a good network of respectable academics and can guide you well in your research.

● **Excellent student support system** – UPM offers a comprehensive supervisory support programme run by the Putra Sarjana unit of the School of Graduate Studies. The programme provides support for both students

and supervisors in terms of managing the supervisory relationships and ensuring successful completion of the thesis.

● **Offering programmes that are relevant to the industry** – When you apply for jobs after your postgraduate degree, your prospective employer will want to know if you are up to date with the latest developments in your area and if your skills are applicable and beneficial to the workplace.

● **Great learning environment and research facilities** – Does the university have a nice campus that is well equipped for research and provides recreational opportunities? Is the library well-stocked with the latest publications in your field of study?

UPM's green campus is designed with quality research and recreational facilities. Apart from state-of-the-art research facilities, UPM staff and students also have access to an 18-hole golf course, equestrian centre and forest reserve for recreational activities.

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