

**PRESERVICE TEACHERS' NARRATIVE OF  
MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCE**

**THESIS**

**by:**

**Erika Putri Adelliya**

**06011381924061**

**English Education Study Program**



**TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY  
SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY  
2023**

# APPROVAL

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A Thesis by:

**Erika Putri Adelliya**

**06011381924061**

**English Education Study Program**

**Language and Arts Education Department**

**FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

**SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY**

**2023**

Approved by:

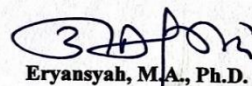


**Sary Silvhiany, M. Pd., M.A., Ph. D.**

**NIP. 197708112002122003**

Certified by:

**Coordinator of English Education Study Program**



**Eryansyah, M.A., Ph.D.**

**NIP. 196907181995121001**

## COMMITTEE APPROVAL

### PRESERVICE TEACHERS' NARRATIVE OF MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Erika Putri Adelliya

Student Number: 06011381924061

This thesis was defended by the writer in the final program examination and was approved the examination committee on:

Day : Tuesday

Date : July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

1. Chairperson : Sary Silvhiany, M. Pd., M.A., Ph. D. (  )

2. Member : Amrullah, M.Ed., Ph.D. (  )

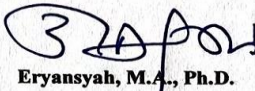
Palembang, July 18<sup>th</sup> 2023

Certified by,

Coordinator of English

Education Study Program,



(  )  
Eryansyah, M.A., Ph.D.

NIP. 196907181995121001

# DECLARATION

## DECLARATION

I, the undersigned,  
Name : Erika Putri Adelliya  
Student's Number : 06011381924061  
Study Program : English Education

Certified that thesis entitled "Preservice Teachers' Narrative of Multicultural Experience" is my own work and I did not do any plagiarism or inappropriate quotation against the ethic and rules commended by the Ministry of Education of Republic Indonesia Number 17, 2020 regarding plagiarism in higher education. Therefore, I deserve to face the court if I am found to have plagiarism this work.

Palembang, 18 July 2023

The undersigned



Erika Putri Adelliya  
06011381924061

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated to the most kindhearted woman I've ever met, to the woman who always prays and leads me to be a good student and future educator.

This is for you, Mom.

This thesis is also sincerely dedicated to my lovely strong man, to the man who always prays and teaches me the life lessons: to be a pure and brave woman;

this is for you, Dad

Lastly, I dedicate this thesis to my very best friend,

my lovely little sister.

## **MOTTOS**

“Allah does not burden a soul beyond his capacity.” (Q.S Al-Baqarah : 286)

“But darling, we don’t have forever. So let the goodness be as ever.” - Erika Putri  
Adelliya, 2022

“If you can dream it, you can do it.”

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## **ABSTRACT**

Everyone has different experiences and everyone's experience varies. Without exception preservice teachers. Preservice teachers are defined as students enrolled in a teacher preparation program who must successfully complete degree requirements including coursework and field experience before being awarded a teaching license. In learning process students get many experiences, one of the experiences that they can get is student exchange. This study aims to know how students' experience during student exchange and what they get about multicultural. This Research use English Education Students study program at Sriwijaya University as participants. This study uses qualitative research and use interview and artifacts as data collect method. The findings show that this study exchange program can make preservice teachers who originally wanted to learn skills such as multicultural education can understand and know about multicultural around them as well as the multicultural of the other region. Besides that, they get some information and knowledge about how to tolerance. This shows that they are aware that multicultural or diversity is a very important issue to learn and to be taught to all people from an early age.

keywords : exchange, preservice, teacher, experience, multicultural

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents (1) the background of the study, (2) the problems of the study, (3) the objectives of the study, and (4) the significance of the study.

### **1.1 Background of Study**

The truth is, despite living in the same time frame or age, everyone has different experiences, and everyone's experience varies. Without exception preservice teachers. According to IGI Global, Preservice teachers are defined as students enrolled in a teacher preparation program who must successfully complete degree requirements including coursework and field experience before being awarded a teaching license. This definition also refers to university students majoring in education who will be teachers after preparing themselves for the university. To become an educator, of course, there are many steps that must be completed because they will be educating the younger generation to be the nation's future. Preservice teachers have many forms of experience in learning, one of which is a challenge. One of the experiences that preservice teachers have is the presence of multiculturalism in teaching, both among university colleagues, and with students who are diverse when there are teaching practice activities.

In relation to teacher education, it may be argued that personal development is beneficial for the profession, too, and may lead to increased self-confidence, increased openness to foreign attitudes, more flexibility, broadened foreign-language skills, and a pronounced intercultural sensitivity. The importance of these competencies and attitudes are indisputable for teachers. They are not, however, teaching-specific competencies or attitudes. One form of personal development for prospective teachers is a student exchange program.

In Indonesia, there are many systems that are regulated in the curriculum, including for pre-service teachers that are also still status as students. One of them is a student exchange program that makes preservice teachers more familiar with

the culture of other regions and cities or even countries. Thus, preservice teachers are also acquainted with multiculturalism. Of course, multiculturalism is not a new thing for pre-service teachers, especially in Indonesia, considering that Indonesia is a country rich in diversity. However, of course, the multicultural forms of each region cannot be known in detail although it is multiculturalism in our own country. With the pre-service teachers' development program in the form of student exchanges between regions and cities, pre-service teachers also have the opportunity to learn multiculturalism from each region.

Student exchange is a program that is in great demand by some students and students with achievements. Student exchange is a program that is usually carried out by the government or several private institutions. The student exchange program will place the students in a different region or country. This exchange can help the students to gain insight into culture and knowledge about other countries. So, this student exchange program can open opportunities for students to take education at other schools or in other countries. (Universitas 123)

According to Kampus Merdeka, 2022. The 2022 Merdeka Student Exchange Program (PMM 2) is a domestic student exchange program for 1 (one) semester that will invite students who are the nation's successors, to gain learning experience at the best tertiary institutions (PT) throughout Indonesia. Through this program, students will get credit recognition of up to 20 credits. Students can also directly experience the cultural diversity of the archipelago, both in writing and in practice. One of the many learning exchanges is the Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka (PMM) which is a new program from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (Indonesia). By joining this program, students can attend lectures outside the study program and their home university for one semester.

Student exchange program provides various advantages for students, including (1) Student exchange programs can help college students and highschool students study across campuses (Hansel, 1986). When you are abroad you will learn about many cultures and tribes. Your sense of nationalism will get stronger, but still,

have broad views regarding other countries. (2) The program can build student and student friendships between regions, ethnicities, cultures, religions, and so on. This can unite and strengthen the unity of the nation. (3) Another goal is organizing knowledge transfer to cover educational disparities between domestic and foreign institutions.

Not only that, but through student exchanges, students can also discover and study the archipelago's cultural richness, make friends with students from different locations, and study at other universities in Indonesia. Gain new experiences related to the values of ethnic diversity, religion, belief, culture, and language, as well as the opportunity to reflect on national values and diversity that is experienced as part of the point of view in understanding the real conditions that students face every day, and strengthen the ability to build unity in diversity. Forms of teaching that students at various tertiary institutions can take to assist them to accomplish their learning objectives, including those already defined in the program's curriculum and others that are being developed to better graduates' learning goals.

Since the researcher doesn't have any student exchange programs, therefore, in this thesis, the researcher would like to see the perception of the preservice teachers on the student exchange program, as well as what kind of multicultural the students found during the student exchange program. The researcher became interested in discovering how my research participants, which are the researcher's friends in the same study program, have experienced the student exchange. The researcher hopes that by conducting this research, a lot of people will know the perception of the student exchange participants themselves and also the preparation and difficulties for the student exchange program.

## **1.2 Problem of the Study**

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates the research problem as follows:



1. How do the preservice teachers of English perceive student exchange programs?
2. What kinds of multicultural encounters did the preservice teachers experience during the student exchange?
3. What are the difficulties the preservice teachers faced during the study exchange program?

### **1.3 Objective of the study**

Based on the problem of the study above, the objectives of the research area are as follows:

1. To find out the preservice teachers' perception of student exchange
2. To find out the kinds of multicultural encounters the preservice teachers experienced during the student exchange program
3. To find out the difficulties of the preservice teachers faced during the study exchange program

### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

This research is expected to provide information and knowledge for the researcher and others about student exchange programs and multicultural experience, especially through the diary of the research participants, as well as the interview. This study is expected to be beneficial to the parents of students, society, and future researchers.

#### **1. Student**

This research is dedicated to students in order to be more active in many activities or organization during lectures. One of the things that students can follow is to take part in a student exchange program. Because in addition to gaining knowledge, of course, students get very useful experience. This

program also makes us gain knowledge from outside and how multicultural it is.

**2. Future researchers**

The researcher hopes that future researchers could get benefits from this research, as a comparison and source of reference for the same field of study.

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