

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides thorough explanation of background of the study, statement of the problems, purpose of the study, benefit of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

#### 1.1. Background of the Study

Everyone who studies or takes education at a university definitely intends to get a job. Presently, in order to get decent amount of salary, a bachelor degree is needed for it. However, getting a job is not that easy. There are several requirements that a company needs, such as the amount of skills and experience a candidate possesses. With this in mind, many believes that going study in universities will increase the chance of getting job easily. Students' primary purpose is to study and build a mindset; as a result, students must complete all processes in a college in order to achieve their learning goals, obtain a decent grade point average, and complete their lectures on time (Purwanto & Syah, 2013).

Students are brought up by realities that they cannot avoid, including as students as undergraduate candidates who are ready to work, the pressure of the family economy and the demand to be independent from families with an increasingly mature age. Auliya (2020) argued that competition in the world of work is getting tougher because the standards given for career paths in an agency or company have high minimum criteria. This indicates that simply going to universities does not necessarily end the problems where one is guaranteed to get a

job. In fact, undergraduate unemployment in Indonesia has always been a problem that surrounds today's developments.

Considering the total population of Indonesia, which reaches 259 million people, it adds to the complexity of the complex problems that exist in Indonesia. Starting from education degrees, law degrees, economics degrees, computer degrees and many other scholars. According to The Central Statistics Agency (BPS), the number of unemployment rate in Indonesia reached 1 million undergraduates in February 2021.

Therefore, many students realized that they need to ensure that they are ready to enter and know the professional world. Many students are interested in starting to work while they are studying in universities. Studying while working has many positive and negative impacts on students. The benefits are that by working, students can help parents pay for college, gain work experience and economic independence.

According to Jacinta (2022), what motivates students to work include financial needs, social relational needs and self-actualization needs. For students that come from high income families, they might not worry to about their financial issues. However, things are substantively different for their higher income counterparts. Students from lower income households must get creative in overcoming the financial issues, by working and studying.

Donald et al. (2018) mentioned that the trend of employment among university students has been increasing rapidly in the last decade. This is because students these days do not see that having good scores alone would guarantee their

success in the labor market after they graduate. Many students believe that in order to be successful in today's labor market, they need to equip their curriculum vitae with experiences and recommendations, thus when they graduate, they are ready to stand above their competitors in workplaces. Apart from this, many students these days are motivated to work alongside of their study because they are motivated to explore how it feels to be financially independent (Budi Santoso et al., 2020).

The challenges of working students, according to Rukmoroto (2012), he believed that students must be able to divide their time and concentration and be responsible for the commitments of the two activities. This condition makes it difficult for students to divide their time between work and study, so that their focus becomes divided. With this, working students should be able to shift from one task to another as they have two responsibilities that they need to handle at the same time.

Ningsih (2005) also stated that the challenges in studying while working is that it is not easy to divide time between lectures, work, rest and other matters. Students feel constrained in allocating time to study and make assignments. Students who work also feel that they do not have enough time to carry out learning and work activities simultaneously. Students stated that they often lacked concentration during lecture hours because college activities and work became a burden on the mind, this kind of environment would greatly affect student achievement. However, there are also students who work and can manage their time well.

This is in accordance with Humburg et al. (2015) who believed that working students find it difficult to manage their time because of increased activity so they tend to neglect their duties as a student to study and do the tasks given by the lecturer. This is because students who work need time, concentration and energy in their place of work so they cannot manage their time properly. Apart from work, college assignments cannot be completed on time and tend to do work that does not really need to be done.

Durbin & Jennifer (2011) mentioned that many students believe that working while studying can also enhance their networking. Accordingly, networking allows students to pick up suggestions and guidance from other successful people. This can also expand their opportunities to crucial news and forthcoming changes around them. Networking also provides them the abilities to deal with others effectively. With this, working students are believed to have better social networking managements and connections that may enhance their career in the future.

Based on the discussion above, the researcher intends to analyze three aspects behind the background of working students during their study in university. Those aspects are the challenges that working students face during their period of both working and studying, the ways to overcome the obstacles, and the benefits that the students can gain in the end. The researcher hopes that the findings and result of this study may inspire university institution students out there to expand their knowledge about working experiences while studying.



## **1.2. Problem Statements**

Based on the discussion stated above, there are three questions are formulated as the core to finishing this study. These questions include:

1. What are the challenges that working students face during their study?
2. What are the tricks to successfully balance out their works and studies?
3. What are the benefits of working students on the career?

## **1.3. Purpose of the Study**

According to the problems stated, this study is conducted by the researcher in order to achieve as mentioned in the following:

1. To identify the challenges in working students.
2. To find out the tricks used to successfully balance out working and studying by university students.
3. To analyze the benefits of working students on the career.

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

This research will be beneficial for three parties, there are university institutions, working students, and researcher.

1. For The Institutions:

This research will be beneficial for university institutions to inspire to help develop institutional policies that support the students' decision to work.

Practical benefits for the institution, as a reference material for consideration for the university or faculty in determining the orientation of new students so that they have good goals and orientations. And more motivating goals as students in carrying out their college activities. For

instance, institutions may be able to help students who are interested in doing side hustles, thus institutions can be a hub that connects students to get a side job that might suit with the students' interests and knowledge.

2. For Working Students:

working students will be the ones that will get benefits from this research. The research is hoped to inspire university students to be more productive during their time of the study by trying some positive activities such as side hustles, regardless of what their socioeconomic background. This research should also inspire working students to be able to balance out their working and academic performance, thus they are able to gain the best of both worlds.

3. For the Researcher:

This research will benefit the fellow researcher who are engaged to get more understandings of the phenomenon of working university students that covers the challenges, the benefits and the tricks.

**1.5. Scope And Limitation**

This study aims to identify, find out and analyse the phenomenon of undergraduate university students that works during their study period. The subject of the research will be the limited to of undergraduate university students that works during their study period who work with paid jobs salaries, not voluntarily works or unpaid internships. There are numerous university students that also work in the governmental area and other private offices as staff. Hence why, the scope of this research will be limited to university students around Madiun.

## 1.6. Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misconception and misunderstanding, this section highlights the words that are often used in completing this study. The following descriptions discuss the definitions point out by some experts about certain keywords.

**Working Students** : Working students is a word commonly used in university to describe someone who works full-time while concurrently studying (Carnevale & Smith, 2018).

**Challenges** : The situation of being faced with something that needs great mental or physical effort in order to be done successfully and therefore tests a person's ability. In this study the context of challenges falls upon the difficulties that are faced by university students to both studying and working (Oliver, 2006).

**Benefits** : Something that produces good or helpful results or effects or that promotes well-being. In this context, this term refers to the positive aspects that students get by both studying and working. For instance, the benefit may come in the form of experience, and more (Durbin & Jennifer, 2011).

**Academic Performances** : Academic performance refers to a student's academic outcomes that show how far he or she has progressed toward their learning objectives. Academic accomplishment is frequently measured through exams or continuous evaluations, as well as students' grade point averages, whereas institutional achievement is commonly measured by graduation rate (Donald et al., 2018).

