

**ACADEMIC CHALLENGES OF IMPLEMENTING  
*MERDEKA BELAJAR KAMPUS MERDEKA (MBKM)*  
AMONG ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS AT  
UIN SYEKH WASIL KEDIRI**

**THESIS**



**UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI  
SYEKH WASIL  
KEDIRI**

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**20202022**

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KEDIRI**

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BELAJAR KAMPUS MERDEKA* (MBKM) AMONG ENGLISH  
DEPARTMENT STUDENTS AT UIN SYEKH WASIL KEDIRI**

**THESIS**

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State Islamic University (UIN) Syekh Wasil of Kediri

In partial fulfillment of the requirements

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**By**

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I hereby declare that the thesis and the work presented in it are my own and have been created by me as a result of my own original research. This thesis does not contain any material previously written or published by another person except as indicated in the quotations and references. No part of this work has been submitted in support of an application for a degree or other qualification from this or any other university or higher education institution. Therefore, I am the only person responsible for this thesis if there are objections or claims for others.

This thesis was compiled to fulfill the requirements for obtaining a Bachelor's degree (St) in the English Language Study Program, State Islamic University (UIN) Syekh Wasil of Kediri.

Kediri, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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This is to certify the Thesis of Hanif Nurazizah has been approved by the Thesis advisor for further approval by the board examiners

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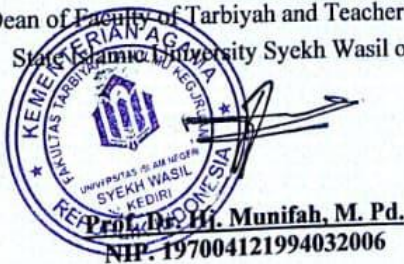
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**MOTTO**

“I strive, and Allah knows best.”

## DEDICATION SHEET

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,

Alhamdulillah, all praise due to Allah (SWT), the Lord of the world, who granted me the strength, patience, and knowledge to complete this work. Sholawat and greetings that I always pour out to the beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW). I humbly dedicated this work to:

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## ABSTRACT

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**Keywords:** *Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM), Academic Challenges, Academic Responsibility Management, English Department Students*

The *Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka (MBKM)* is a higher education policy in Indonesia that promotes flexible and experiential learning. In the English Department of UIN Syekh Wasil Kediri, students participate in programs such as internships and the AECI Thailand program, which provide academic and professional experiences while also presenting academic challenges. This study aims to examine the academic challenges faced by students, the strategies used to manage them, and their impact on learning outcomes.

This study employed a qualitative descriptive design conducted at the English Department of UIN Syekh Wasil Kediri. The participants were ten students who had participated in MBKM programs. Data were collected through semi-structured interviews and analyzed thematically through data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing.

The findings show that students experienced multidimensional challenges, including language barriers, adaptation difficulties, heavy workload, time management issues, limited academic guidance, and psychological pressure. The findings also reveal that students managed their academic responsibilities through task prioritization, self-regulated learning, seeking support from others, and utilizing digital tools during MBKM participation. The study concludes that students participating in MBKM experienced various interconnected academic challenges while also being required to manage their academic responsibilities throughout the program.

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