

The Benefits and Advantages of Master's Degree

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ABSTRACT: *Master's education was moving very rapidly to become the entry degree in many professions over all the countries. The master's degree programmes are available in Full & Part Time Modes. There are many benefits and advantage of a master's degree such as Specialized Knowledge, Career advancement, Increase earning potential, Lifelong learning and Enhanced professional network.*

KEY WORD: *Benefits of Master's degree, Specialized Knowledge, Career advancement, Increase earning potential, Lifelong learning and Enhanced professional network*

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I. INTRODUCTION AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Over the past two decades, educational systems in many countries in the Asia Pacific region have undergone significant changes in so far as programmes of reform and restructuring of higher education (both in the provision of undergraduate and postgraduate education) are concerned.

Various Malaysian Universities and graduate's schools offer wide range of Master's in Malaysia programs for students to choose from. The master's degree programmes are available in Full & Part-Times Modes. In this globalization area, Master's degree is not the hardest but it is now easier because there were available to be open to working adults. There are a few choices for master's students which is they can prefer to choose time that suitable such as evening, weekend and online degree programs available. In addition, it is also can benefits those working that still earn a salary while continuing education.

According to the (Shulsinger, 2017) more than 16 million Americans-approximately eight percent of the population-have a master's degree, representing a 43 percent increase since 2002.

In fact, master's is now the new bachelor's – they are the stepping stone for your career launch. According to (Hopper, 2014) in his articles “ The Benefits of the Master's Degree said that Dr. Debra W. Stewart, president of the Council of US Graduate Schools, notes that “several years ago it became very clear to us that master's education was moving very rapidly to become the entry degree in many professions”. In other words, jobs nowadays are becoming increasingly ‘skilled up’ and anyone who wants to boost their marketability should consider going back to university. Also, it is a truth commonly acknowledged that master's degrees have a non-economic, purely educational value – they turn your passion for a subject into an in-depth understanding of it. Here is a recap of what makes master's degrees. (Advantages and Disadvantages of Studying for a Masters Degree, 2019)

1.2 THE BENEFIT ADVANTAGES OF A MASTER'S DEGREE

1.2.1 Specialized Knowledge

Earning a master's degree may help us to gain specialized knowledge to advance in our field (Shulsinger, 2017). Master's degree can also an outstanding way to advance knowledge that we already have and field experienced besides can building bachelor degree program with greater focus on current practices. As the workforce evolves, a graduate degree shows you're dedicated to enhancing your industry expertise and credibility. You can focus on a particular field of study, which helps you become more competitive in your field.

The benefits of a master's degree can also help you build on your current abilities, gain new skills, or even transition to an entirely new field. For examples, masters are very importance especially to the person who wants to be as a lectures. It is because one of the priority to become as a lecturer are those to the master's degree holder. According to (Grantham, 2011)in his articles also agreed that from the master's programmes it will improve teaching skills, which is you can show to students your expertise more effectively.

1.2.2 Career Advancement

A master's degree can make it easier to transition into more senior positions, such as management and leadership (Shulsinger, 2017). A masters can be used as a very valuable stepping zone especially who those that want to apply or jump into a new field. For example, if someone have a job but he or she are looking for something new, something challenging, or something better growth potential, may be due for change of

industry. A Master's degree could help people to apply for a better position in their company or gain status by taking on more responsibilities in the organization. For example, according to (UKESSAYS.CO.UK, 2019) if someone wanting to be involved in business administration, and who are finding it difficult to break in to a business field due to perhaps not studying in this area for their undergraduate work, a Master of Business Administration might be just the ticket towards breaking through in starting such a career. Similarly, for someone who has a bachelor's degree in psychology, but who has since changed their mind about their chosen career, and want to pursue a career in the field of social work, then enrolling on a Master of Social Work course could be just the ticket (UKESSAYS.CO.UK, 2019).

1.2.3 Increased Earning Potential

The income potential is probably the main reason most students pursue a master's degree in the first place. Obtaining a master's degree is one of the important decisions to achieve a higher quality of life. By earning a master's degree, you can significantly increase your income. According to (UKESSAYS.CO.UK, 2019) a master's degree could be seen as a long-term investment, with the returns from it perhaps not being seen immediately, but it could yield a good return over the long term.

(Indeed Career Guide, 2019) also give the same opinion which is earning master's degree could receive higher salaries than someone who has a bachelor's or associate's degree in a similar subject. In order a master's degree can be a substitute that can help you earn a higher salary.

In certain fields, there is an even larger gap between employees with a master's degree and those with less education. According to (Shulsinger, 2017) on average, employees with a bachelor's degree earn \$65,400 per year, while those with a master's degree earn a median annual income of \$80,200 which shows that have a 23 percent increase in their annual income.

1.2.4 Lifelong Learning

It encourages lifelong learning among people who are at different stages in their life. Many master's students build on their existing skills and knowledge, and find that they develop new and highly useful ones such as researching, writing and analysing.

According to (Shulsinger, 2017) the benefits of a master's degree also help to improve in researching, writing, and analysing skill set. As a result, a person can become a better problem solver and more easily tackle complex projects. By earning a graduate degree, you continue to expand upon a wealth of knowledge, preparing you for a life of constant learning. For example, the knowledge that we get from the master's programs, can make us increase new skills such as critical thinking and analysis, can more understand about industry issues, managing relationships, communication and problem solving and also about leadership.

1.2.5 Enhanced Professional Network

There will be a quite a few opportunities to network with different people in the industry. We can meet officer that working on different background and can sharing knowledge with them. For example, universities that offer internships for students Master's program therefore it can bring the students to be closer with the people who are already a part of the industry they are studying. Whether take courses online or in-person, our fellow classmates come from a wide variety of industries and backgrounds. In addition, we can also meet friend that had different background of working field. As a graduate student, you are connected to numerous professionals many of whom are successful in their careers. You also study with professors who are industry leaders, providing real-world knowledge with valuable networks.

According to (Philott,2017) studying with a highly people with open-minded individuals has another benefits such as it can make us to enhance social network. For example, the management postgraduate TrisnaWardhani, after meeting the CEO of Shell Indonesia at an alumni jobs fair, she sent a CV and managed to get a phone interview. "After this, I was lucky enough to be selected," she says. "My skills and the selection of people and companies at the event helped facilitate an open door to my future".

1.3 Conclusion

Therefore, from the researcher perspectives we can conclude that by continue master's as a second degree can make the person have special. There are number of advantages to pursuing a master's degree that also more depending upon your circumstances and current situation. However, for all types of students at this level, there are a number of common positives and negatives, and these should be given some consideration before applying for such post-graduate studies.

Generally, studying for a master degree can provides more opportunities for employment in the labour market especially as some roles in the labour market will demand a post-graduate qualification as a basic entry requirement. At the very least, having a master's degree will help you to get ahead of the competition who do not hold such a degree. Thus, as education and the labour market becomes more and more competitive in the

years to come as a result of a rising population, and as more and more people hold an undergraduate degree, a master's degree will aid in standing out from the crowd, by going above and beyond what the majority of people are willing to do.

However, it is not too late to earn master's degree. In fact, nowadays many of the master's programs has created opportunities for adult and non-traditional students. Schools increasingly adapt their online programs to meet the needs of adult learners, prioritizing night classes for those who have day jobs, offering hybrid options so we can still meet in a classroom part of the time, offering tutorials, hosting help lines, and innovating user-friendly software to support learners of all kinds. From the above evidence we can conclude that Master's Degree can give more advantages and benefits which can also provide more opportunities for employment in the labour market, offers a different career path than would otherwise be possible, provides more focused and advanced level studies, a good introduction to PhD level work, can increase in monetary value as time goes by due to rising tuition and living costs and also provides the opportunity to experience studying at a completely different university.

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