
Mathematics Students' Satisfaction In Carrying Out Online Thesis Advisory During The Covid-19 Pandemic at IAIN Bukittinggi

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Abstract

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a thesis advisory was carried out online. Further, online thesis advisory has motivated students to immediately complete their thesis even though the student lives in a different place from the supervisor. This study aimed to describe students' satisfaction in carrying out online thesis guidance. The subjects of the study were 40 students. The instrument used was in the form of a questionnaire distributed via a google form. Besides, the data analysis used was a descriptive data analysis using formulas and student satisfaction tables. The results of this study; 1) The guidance of the supervisor in thesis advisory obtained a final score indicating an average of 80.6. 2) The thesis advisory is given by the supervisor also indicated a very good assessment with the acquisition of a score of 87.3, and 3) Very good assessment was also given by students towards facilities available indicating an average score of 75.7. In conclusion, students who carried out the online thesis advisory process were very satisfied with its process.

Keywords: *Mathematics education, online thesis advisory, Covid 19 pandemic.*

INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus disease 2019 (covid 19) first appeared in a province of the Republic of China namely Wuhan. It quickly spread to countries around the world. Due to this pandemic, several countries had imposed a lockdown to prevent the infection of covid 19 and as anticipation to avoid the massive loss of life due to this virus. Since the first Covid-19 case was confirmed in Indonesia, the Indonesian government made COVID-19 the main focus issue to fix. The Indonesian government worked quickly to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by arising some urgent policies such as enforcing health protocols, closing public facilities, imposing Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB), and urging people to work from home (Sarmadi, 2021).

Regarding the above phenomena, the policies implemented by the Indonesian government raise problems in the field of human living mostly. One of the several problems arising influenced the process of education where initially learning was carried out face-to-face; during the COVID-19 pandemic it had to be carried out by distance learning or online learning. Online learning was learning carrying out using technological tools such as laptops/computers and androids and was assisted by using applications such as zoom, WhatsApp, google drive, and others so that they can communicate with each other even though students and teachers were in different places.

Moreover, online learning is also applied in universities where lecturers and students include online learning or lectures. Not only in online learning but thesis guidance is also carried out online. Online tutoring is carried out with live chat, audio, and video prepared using a smartphone, computer, or other device (Koutsonika, 2009). The main feature of an online thesis advisory is connecting to the internet and using applications such as WhatsApp, Google

meets, Goggle drive, and others. Furthermore, the same thing also happened to lecturers and students of S1 Mathematics' students at IAIN Bukittingg where the thesis advisory process during the pandemic had to be carried out online. This online thesis guidance aims at continuing to provide the best assistance to students while they are still being protected from the infection of Covid 19. Besides, online thesis advisory did by lecturers also aims at providing convenience for students to be able to complete their thesis even though they are in a far place . Lecturers can monitor students even though they are far away so that student thesis can be completed, (Utariani & Herkules, 2017).

Regarding the importance of online thesis advisory, many educational stakeholders observe and conduct research about the case. Among the results of research that have been conducted are as follows; Effective online tutoring is seen from the process of advisory and completeness and the number of students who have completed their thesis (Satriah, et al. tt). Lecturers can monitor students in working on their thesis so they can complete it on time (Utariani & Herkules, 2017). Online guidance provides convenience for lecturers and students in conducting advice, (Sastypratiwi, 2016). The quality of online thesis advisory for IAIN Kerinci tadriss students during the COVID-19 pandemic has good criteria, (Juwita & Yusmaridi M, 2020). Students can conduct thesis advisory without meeting in person and can save the outcomes, (Kasiwulan, et al. 2019). The problem of online thesis guidance is very complex, especially the ability of students to write a thesis, (Susiwati & Rakiyah, 2022). Then, students experience problems in online advisory related to the availability of online libraries and networks that hinder the completion of theses (Nurrahman, et al. 2021). At last, online thesis advisory is less effective, (Kintama, et al. 2021).

Based on the thesis advisory which is carried out online by the Mathematics both students and lecturer of IAIN Bukittinggi, the researcher tries to figure out about the assistance of lecturers toward the students themselves. As primary data, the researcher interviewed one student who carried out online tutoring and obtained information that the mathematics education lecturer served well when students were tutored online and this made students feel satisfied during having thesis advisory which was carried out online.

In the light of the findings of previous studies related to online thesis guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic, which were various and based on the results of interviews—the researchers wanted to figure out more about students' satisfaction in carrying out online tutoring. This research is positioned to enrich research results related to online thesis advisory during the COVID-19 pandemic.

RESEARCH METHODS

This is quantitative descriptive research with the aim is to describe students' satisfaction in carrying out an online thesis advisory during the covid 19 pandemic. This research was carried out at the Mathematics Education Study Program of IAIN Bukittinggi. The subjects of this study amounted to 40 students whose thesis advisory was carried out online. The instrument used in collecting data in this study was a questionnaire distributed using Google forms. Data analysis was summarized by elaborating a descriptive analysis using the formula:

$$Final\ Score = \frac{Total\ Score\ of\ each\ indicator}{The\ highest\ Score\ of\ each\ indicator} \times 100$$

Next, The following table is used to determine the satisfaction category of each indicator:

Table 1. Category of Student Satisfaction in Online Tutoring

No	Range	Category
1	$75 \leq \text{Final Score} \leq 100$	Very Good
2	$50 \leq \text{Final Score} < 75$	Good
3	$25 \leq \text{Final Score} < 50$	Enough
4	$0 \leq \text{Final Score} < 25$	Bad

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study began by distributing *google form* links. The links were distributed to students who carried out online thesis advisory. The data on student satisfaction in online advisory collected includes the competence of the supervisor in sharing income about the thesis, the service of the supervisor in the thesis advisory, and the facilities available during the thesis advisory process. The results of the analysis obtained data such as in Figures 1, 2, and 3 below.

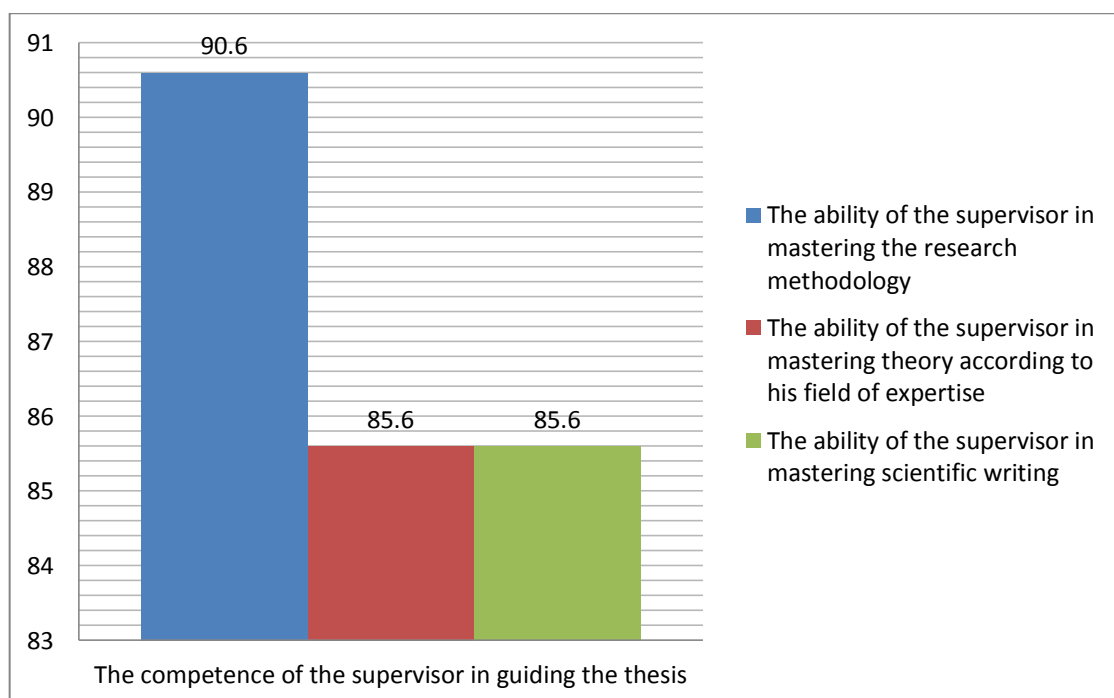


Figure 1. Competence of the supervisor in guiding the thesis

Based on the results of the data analysis presented in Figure 1, the satisfaction of students who carry out online thesis advisory indicates a *very good* assessment of the competence of the lecturer in advising the thesis. Simultaneously, assessment of each indicator on the competence of the supervisor in advising the thesis such as; the ability of the supervisor in mastering the research methodology, the ability of the supervisor in mastering theory according to his field of expertise, and the ability of the supervisor in mastering scientific writing indicated an average score ranging from 80.6 to 90.6. According to such obtained score, it is assumed that student satisfaction with the competence of the supervisor in advising on students' thesis is indicated as a *very good* score.

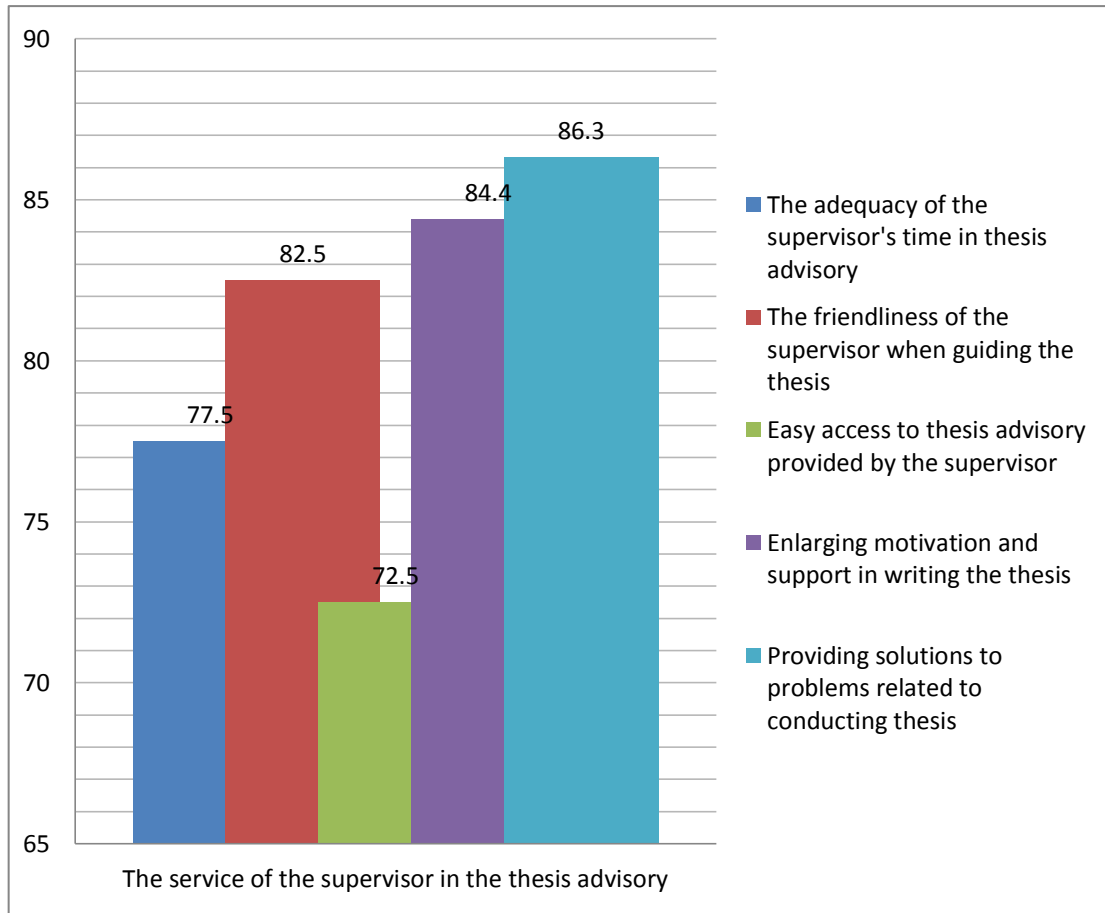


Figure 2. The service of the supervisor in the thesis advisory

Data analysis with the assistance of the lecturer in thesis advisory obtained a final score with an average of 80.6. This result shows student satisfaction with the service of the lecturer as supervisor indicating a *very good* category. These indications are supported by the results of the assessment of each indicator with the assistance of the lecturer as a supervisor in thesis advisory. These indicators include; the adequacy of the supervisor's time in thesis advisory, the friendliness of the supervisor when guiding the thesis, easy access to thesis advisory provided by the supervisor, enlarging motivation and support in writing the thesis, and providing solutions to problems related to conducting thesis.

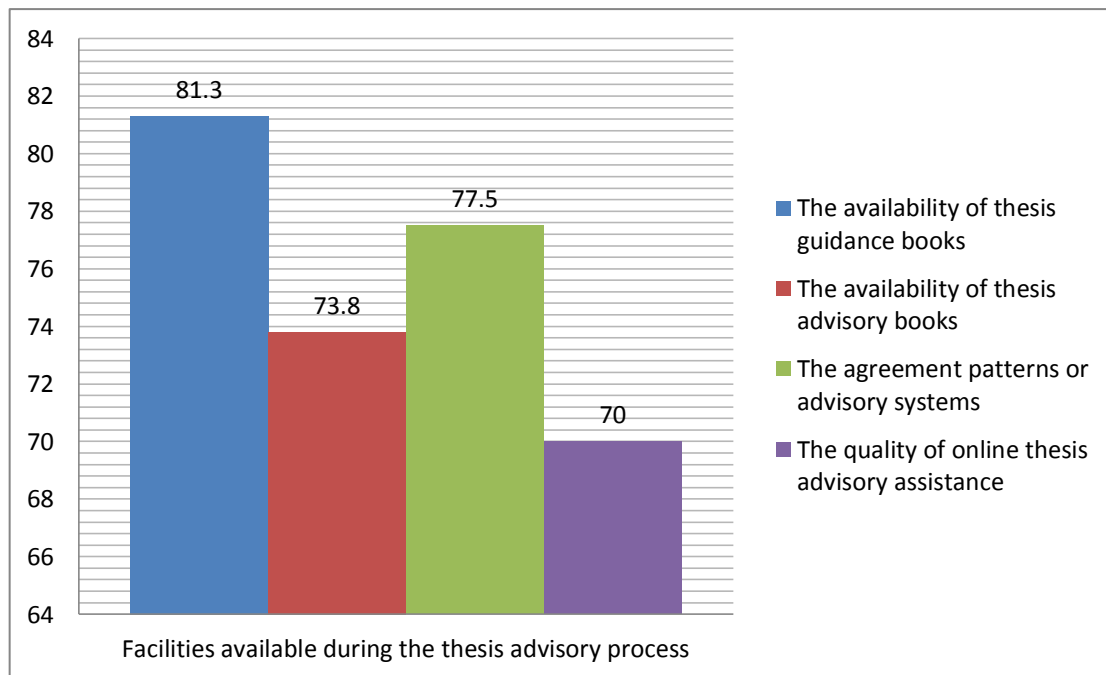


Figure 3. Facilities available during the thesis advisory process

In addition, the analysis of facilities available during the thesis advisory process indicates four indicators, namely: the availability of thesis guidance books, the availability of thesis advisory books, the agreement patterns or advisory systems, and the quality of online thesis advisory assistance. Based on the value obtained from these four indicators, the score obtained for the facilities available during the thesis advisory process is an average of 75.7 indicating *very good* criteria.

Thesis advisory which is carried out online aims to provide easy advice to S1 Mathematics Education students at IAIN Bukittinggi who are completing their thesis, but still maintain the spread and the risk of covid 19. This effort has made it easier for students to keep completing their thesis during pandemics. However, students still experience problems during advisory, such as the internet quota costs much even though they have received quota assistance from the government, unstable internet networks, and the lack of ability of students to write a thesis which is indicated as a very serious obstacle. This is in line with the findings of research conducted by UWKS PGSD students who carry out online thesis advisory. The students do not understand the results of guidance from supervisors, insufficient internet networks and quotas emerged, and the students cannot share ideas with friends regarding their thesis, (Juita & Yusmaridi, 2020; Kintama, et al. 2021).

The online tutoring that was carried out finally had an impact on the assessment of student satisfaction and dissatisfaction with their supervisor during the guidance process. Based on the data obtained, the Mathematics Education students of IAIN Bukittinggi were *very satisfied* or gave a *very good* assessment of the competence of the supervisor in guiding the thesis. Although the assistance of the supervising lecturer in thesis advisory also indicates a *very good* assessment, the indicators of the access to thesis guidance provided by the supervisor only indicate *good* criteria with an average value of 72.5. A *very good* assessment was also given by students to the facility's availability during the thesis advisory process even though the indicators of its availability related to the books as well as the quality of online thesis guidance advisory only received *good* ratings with an average value amount of 73.8 and 70. Likewise, student satisfaction can be seen in the effectiveness of the number of students who

can complete their thesis. The same thing was concluded by Satria, et al. (tt), online advisory can run effectively in terms of academic completion. Thus, the satisfaction of mathematics education students at IAIN Bukittinggi who carried out online advisory was generally *very satisfied*. The researcher predicts that in the future after the COVID-19 pandemic passes, online thesis advisory will continue to be carried out alternately with direct one (face to face).

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it can be summarized: 1) The student's assessment of the competence of the supervisor in guiding the thesis is *very good* with an average value of 87.3, 2) The assistance of the supervisor in the thesis advisory also provides a very good assessment with the acquisition of a score amount of 87.3 but on the indicator of the access thesis advisory given by the supervisor indicates *good* criteria with an average value of 72.5, and 3) *Very good* assessment is also given by students to the facilities available with an average value amount of 75.7 related to the availability of the books and the quality of online thesis advisory only obtains *good* ratings with an average value amount of 73.8 and 70. However, it can be concluded that the implementation of online thesis advisory for mathematics education students at IAIN Bukittinggi can satisfy students with *very good* criteria in general.

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