

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of The Study

Thesis is one of the courses that student's need to complete as a partial requirement to be a Sarjana (S1) program in the university. It is used as one of the requirements for academic undergraduate in university, as it often becomes an important part of their academic requirements. Writing a thesis aimed at providing learning experiences for students. Writing a thesis is used as the implementation of skills and knowledge which have been achieved by the students during the learning process.

There are many researchers that have been done all over the world devoting to the problem of thesis writing process and the difficulties faced by students especially at undergraduate level, for the Example: (see Kareviati 2004; Emilia, (2009), Wan Xia, (2012), this research aims to see the hardest part of the student's career is to fulfill their thesis writing requirement (or thesis).

According to Thabran,&Fajaryani. (2017), a few students spend fourteen semesters or seven years to finish their study. All of this is caused by the very slow process of thesis writing completion. The tragic scenario is they have to leave without gaining their degree or drop out of the university. This phenomenon occurs a lot throughout the history of students in every university, including Jambi University. Based on their explanation above, there are many students find

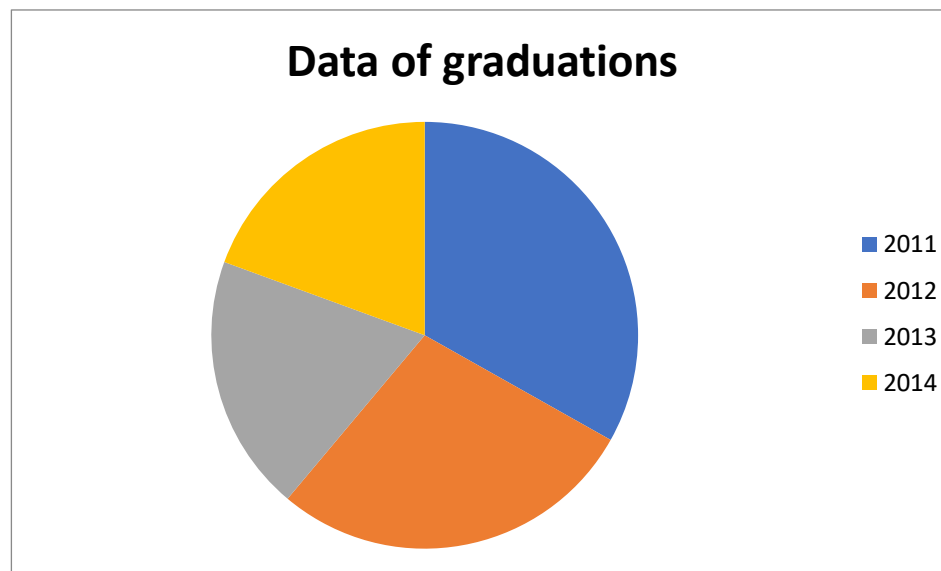
difficulties to write a thesis. It happens because in writing a thesis the students think not only about the content and the organization of the thesis. However, due to students' lack of proper attitudes towards the thesis, their limited research knowledge, and academic competence, as well as supervisors' inadequate instruction, the improper teaching of thesis writing course in their class.

In the English department at Jambi University, before students face the process of writing a thesis, they are first introduced to writing a thesis to give an idea of what they will do in next their thesis. This is summarized in the thesis writing course form. There are some students who take the subject of their thesis writing in the class, but some students do not follow this thesis writing course because the thesis writing course is still the subject of choice.

Thesis writing course is subject the material about methodology and techniques thesis writing in the English department in Jambi University, almost one semester students has got the learning related to writing a thesis, and the next stage, whether the students are able to apply the theories obtained from the thesis writing course for their thesis. As a result, the subject of thesis writing course gives an expected to have an impact on students and to give the expectations of their supervisors, so since 2015 until now the English Department at Jambi University is trying to prepare students to answers these demands.

After the subject of thesis writing course has been introduced in English Department Jambi University, this research is whether this subject has any impact in hastening the process of completing the thesis project. One of the indicators is

the students can complete their thesis within 8 semesters or four years. While the data I get from the University of Jambi English Language Education Study Program, will be displayed in the form of a diagram below:



Rekapitulasi lulusan mahasiswa, angkatan (2010-2014). Diketak melalui aplikasi siacad dosen Universitas Jambi

Based on obtained data from the Students Affairs Section of Jambi University above, the average period of study on English Education Study Program students generations of 2011-2014 is 8-14 semesters or within 4 years to 7 years. Next, from the data held by English Education Study Program 2011 showed seven years students finished their thesis, 2012 showed five years nine months students finished their thesis, 2013 showed four years eleven months students finished their thesis and 2014 showed four years a month student finished their thesis. Based on data, it can be seen that the duration of completing a thesis are quite varied. In average, English Education Study Program students need more than 8 months to complete their theses. Therefore, this research investigates students' perceptions and views on the Thesis Writing course.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the background above, the problems of this study has been arranged into these following questions:

1. Does the Thesis Writing Course give an impact on Students' knowledge and skills in thesis writing?
2. How the thesis writing course helps students to complete their thesis project?

1.3 Purpose of The Study

- 1 To investigate the impact of Thesis Writing Course helped students to complete their thesis project.
- 2 To find out the impact of the thesis writing course have significant for student's knowledge and skills in their thesis?

1.4 Limitation of The Study

First, this study is limited to the student's perception on thesis writing course in thesis completion. Second, the researcher limit the participant into the students' who was taking the thesis writing course when they still doing their thesis in English department at Jambi University, especially in Eighth Semester 2017/2018.

1.5 Significant of The Study

There are some significant of the study, such as:

1. For university, the researcher hopes that the result of this thesis will give an impact for the students' in writing their thesis.
2. For another researchers who want to conduct similar research, this researcher is hope useful as information and reference in the future when they have similar problem.
3. For students, the researcher hopes the thesis writing course help students in writing their thesis especially English Department at Jambi University.

1.6 Definition of Key Term

The researcher attaches some definition of key terms to help the readers to understand the thesis easily, as follow:

- a. **Thesis**; is an expressed proposition, primarily as a theme to be discussed or proved or maintained, Davinson (1977: 11).
- b. **Thesis writing course**; the course is a genre-based process writing course which is characterized by the instruction of structural and linguistic features of different parts of a research paper or thesis.

- c. **Perception:** perception is the process by which a person interprets sensory stimuli, Wittig (1977:76).