

**NAVIGATING ENGLISH AS A LINGUA FRANCA (ELF):
EXPERIENCES OF IISMA AWARDEES**

A Research

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Fathina Naimi Shaliha

2001588

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Navigating English as a Lingua Franca (ELF): Experiences of IISMA Awardees

Oleh
Fathina Naimi Shaliha

Sebuah skripsi yang diajukan untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana
Sastra pada Fakultas Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra

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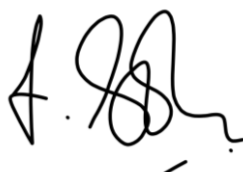
A Research by

Fathina Naimi Shaliha

2001588

Approved by:

Supervisor



Isti Siti Saleha Gandana, M.Ed., Ph.D.
NIP. 197906042003122007

Head of English Language and Literature Study Program



Eri Kurniawan, M.A., Ph.D.
NIP. 198111232005011002

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**NAVIGATING ENGLISH AS A LINGUA FRANCA (ELF):
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ABSTRACT

Supervisor: Isti Siti Saleha Gandana, M.Ed., Ph.D.

In line with the global trend of internationalization of higher education, students are increasingly seeking diverse educational experiences abroad. Consequently, English as a lingua franca (ELF) emerges as a crucial role in navigating multilingual and multicultural environments. This study examined the experiences of six Indonesian students participating in the International Student Mobility Awards (IISMA) program, focusing on their use of English as a Lingua Franca (ELF) in Asian and European universities. The research, conducted through a qualitative case study involving individual interviews and focus group discussions, found that familiarity with the host country's language and cultural knowledge significantly influenced successful communication using ELF. The students engage in various experiences related to language and cultural differences, which contributed to their development of intercultural competence. The findings encompassed various instances and challenges that highlighted their engagement with English. Analysis of their experiences pointed to two major themes: (1) individual capacity in engaging with multilingual and multicultural environments, and (2) perseverance in overcoming intercultural communication challenges. They employed specific communication strategies to overcome these obstacles in engaging with both international peers and local residents. These findings also offer insights into the complex interplay between various internal and external factors of language, culture, and intercultural communication, providing implications for the improvement of future cultural and international education programs for Indonesian students.

Keywords: challenges and experiences, ELF, IISMA Awardees, intercultural communication, internationalization of higher education

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