Comprehensive Hands-on Learning

WITH a global community of more than two billion in an industry that is forecast to generate US$196bil (RM807.3bil) in 2022, gaming has become a prominent part of today's global culture, according to Business Insider. This growing industry continues to push the boundaries of creativity and innovation, providing abounding opportunities to explore and discover new trends in this booming industry.

To be able to do this, one must not only have solid fundamentals but the exposure in developing games to better understand what is required in the booming gaming industry. At Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC), students who study the Interactive Software Technology programme are not only equipped with strong computer science fundamentals. Students are also trained in the application of these fundamentals through hands-on experience in the games development process which enhances their understanding of the gaming industry ecosystem.

TAR UC student Chong Zheng Hong who is currently pursuing his Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons) in Interactive Software Technology, can readily attest to it.

"The syllabi of my diploma and degree programmes are not only comprehensive but are systematically structured which enhance my understanding of the subject matter. There were relevant and exciting assignments to complete as part of the learning process. I clearly remember my first assignment which I enjoyed completing. I learnt how to create games with C++ programming. It was fun as I learnt how to use coding and images to create a particle system to produce different effects from the system such as shooting bullets," he said.

"I also learnt a lot about 3D game development, especially the important visual specifications to consider when designing a game as visual is a vital aspect in game development. My final year project is a team-based project to create a virtual reality (VR) racing simulator which allows users to drive a remote car through a gaming programme using only a physical steering wheel and pedals. I am in charge of the multiplayer architecture and developing the communication system between the remote-controlled car used in the VR simulator and the gaming programme. Besides learning a lot about networking in game development, I have also gained valuable experience in working in a team which has enhanced my communications and interpersonal skills," he explained.

Yap Tian Wei, a TAR UC graduate who is currently working as a mobile app developer, also affirms TAR UC's well-designed programme has prepared him well for his career. He graduated from TAR UC last year after completing his Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons) in Interactive Software Technology. "Prior to studying at TAR UC, I had already developed my first video game in Form 3. However, I realised that I still lacked other fundamental knowledge and exposure in many areas of the gaming industry. My studies in TAR UC not only filled those gaps but provided me with a lot more knowledge which is very useful in my current work. My diploma syllabus is comprehensive and systematic which has strengthened my fundamentals in programming," he said.

"Subjects like Programming Concept and Design have deepened my understanding of programming in C Language which not only helps me understand advanced level subjects but also other programming structures common in the industry.

In my degree, I was exposed to more hands-on learning such as building games using game engine as well as advanced-level programming including how to fine-tune the programming script based on the specification requirements. While I was studying at TAR UC, I also attended various informative events which helped me discover and understand the current happenings in the industry. These are very useful skills and experiences especially in my work which is related to the gaming industry," said Yap.

To find out more about TAR UC computing and information technology programmes, join its Virtual Open Day happening every weekend until April 25, from 10am to 5pm. Alternatively, log on to www.tarc.edu.my/focs or call 011-1075 8554. Prospective students are also encouraged to apply online at www.tarc.edu.my. SPM trial exam results are accepted for Foundation and Diploma programmes for May/June 2021 intake. Applicants who submit their applications online by April 30 will receive a RM60 waiver of the processing fee. Attractive scholarships are also available at TAR UC based on academic merit and sibling discount for qualified students

🌐 **www.tarc.edu.my** | **Follow us on** 📘 ▶️ 📷