

## **Chapter I**

### **Introduction**

This chapter describes several points that will be discussed in this research. This chapter is divided into five subtopics, they are: background of study, research questions, objective of research, significance of study, and delimitation of study. All of the subtopics are discussed further below:

#### **Background**

Conducting thesis is not an easy task for students, especially for the English department students. According to the data obtained from English Department, it is found out that there are some problems with the number of the students who graduate from the English Department Study Program. The data shows that from the total numbers of 137 students in 2010 class, there were only one student who graduated in three and half year, and there were only nine students who graduated approximately four years. The data also shows that from the total numbers 148 students in 2009 class, there was not any students who could graduate in three and half year. Meanwhile, there were only seven students who could graduate on time. Based on the data collected from English department, it is assumed that the number of graduated students has not shown any improvement. It is further explained that those numbers of students have not even reached half of the English Department Students and the expectation of the English Department Study Program which nowadays has made some regulation in producing more graduated students.

Moreover, one of the things that are considered as the obstacle for the students to graduate on time is the process of advising. The fact shows that there are a lot of numbers of students who get stuck during the thesis advising process. Research advising process has been considered as the most difficult stage in thesis writing. The advising process could run smooth and fast depends on the cooperation between the students and the lecturers themselves. Therefore in some points, the advising process will take a very long time if the students and the lecturers could not cooperate well. As explained by Taylor (1970, p. 79) that adaptability and independence in students are the most important student characteristics associated with successful thesis research. According to Taylor (1970), the character of the students will be one of the most important aspects during the research advising process. Success or unsuccessful of the research is become a responsibility of the student who did the research. Then success is also influenced by the environments of the student. When, the internal motivations of the student in the process of advising decreased. Thus, the external motivation from the environments more need by the student. And advisor is part of the student environments'. Not only that, the time duration of the thesis advising process are determined based on the difficulties, problems, and obstacles faced not only by the students but also by the lecturers who help them in finishing their research . Thus, it is very important for both students and lecturers to understand the problems or obstacles that may face by both of them during the advising process.

### **Problem Statement**

Based on the basic consideration above, the problems that will be analyzed in this research are:

What are the problems and obstacles faced by the students during the thesis advising process in English Department Study Program?

How do students overcome those problems?

### **Research Objective**

The objectives of this research are to find out students' problems and obstacles during the advising process in English department Study Program and to solve the problems face by the students during the advising process.

### **Research Significance**

There are several significances of this research. Firstly, from this research, the students and the lecturers can learn and get the illustration in order to understand the effectiveness of the advising process. To find out the English department students' perceptions towards the advising process. Second, this research is expected to be able to help the students to be well motivated in conducting their research and to stimulate their interest for the thesis advising process also as a reference of the future studies. The last, this research is expected to make the educational degree holder to understand and figure out the advising process in English Department Study Program, State University of Gorontalo.

### **Delimitation of Study**

This study is delimited in terms of participant and focus of study. This study was only conducted to the seven students of the English Department Study Programs who are under a thesis advising process due to the concern of this study is to find out the students' difficulty during the thesis advising process. Moreover, this study will focus only in the students' problems and obstacles during the advising process. This study considers every aspect of students' personal information that has an impact to their performance in doing the thesis advising process.