

Senior Secondary Applied Learning Courses



Applied Learning Section
Curriculum Development Institute
Education Bureau



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Six Areas of Studies in ApL

- Creative Studies
- Media and Communication
- Business, Management and Law
- Services
- Applied Science
- Engineering and Production

Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) *



In the 2018-20 cohort, **36** ApL courses will be available for application. Secondary 4 students in the **2017/18** school year may apply via schools.

* Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) aims to provide an additional channel exclusively for non-Chinese speaking students to obtain an alternative Chinese language qualification.

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Course Design of ApL

- ▶ Enable students to understand fundamental theories and concepts **through application and practice** and to develop **beginners' skill set and generic skills** for further studies and career pursuit.
- ▶ Provide diverse course choices for students to cater for their different **interests and aspirations**.
- ▶ A **flexible combination** of ApL with core subjects, elective subjects and Other Learning Experiences provides students with **holistic learning experiences**.
- ▶ Provide students with the opportunities to explore their orientation for **lifelong learning and career aspirations** in specific areas.



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Senior Secondary Elective Subject: Applied Learning

- ▶ can take **up to two** Applied Learning courses as elective subjects*
- ▶ submit applications in S4, courses commence in S5 and complete in S6 (**180** contact hours)



Flexible arrangement to match students' needs in subject choices

- Mode 1** : Courses take place mainly at the venues of course providers (Saturday mornings or afternoons)
- Mode 2** : Courses take place mainly in schools (matching school's timetable)



* excluding "Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students)"

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Flexible Combination of Subjects

Examples:

Student	X1 (ApL Course)	X2	X3
1	Fashion Image Design	History	Economics
2	Film and Video	Chinese Literature	Chinese History
3	Entrepreneurship for SME	Economics	-
4	Western Cuisine	Geography	Information and Communication Technology
5	Sports and Fitness Coaching	Physical Education	-
6	Aviation Studies	Physics	Economics

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Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) (ApL(C))

Aims

- To provide an additional channel exclusively for **non-Chinese speaking students** fulfilling the specified circumstances* to obtain an alternative Chinese language qualification to **prepare them for further studies and career pursuits**.

Features

- Designed from the perspective of **second language learners** and provides a **simulated language application context in Applied Learning** for students to learn Chinese through different modes of activities.

* *Students who have learned Chinese Language for less than 6 years while receiving primary and secondary education; or students who have learned Chinese Language for 6 years or more in schools, but have been taught an adapted and simpler Chinese Language curriculum not normally applicable to the majority of students in local schools.*

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Course Information of ApL(C) (2018-20 Cohort)

Three courses have been developed according to the ApL(C) curriculum framework:

Chinese for the Service Industry

School of Continuing Education, Hong Kong Baptist University

Chinese in Business Service

The School of Professional Education and Executive Development, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Practical Chinese in Hospitality

Hong Kong College of Technology



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Student Performance in ApL (including ApL(C))

- In the 2017 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination, about 3,500 ApL subject entries were assessed. Overall performance of students in ApL was encouraging.
 - more than 90% were awarded "Attained" or above
 - more than 20% were awarded "Attained with Distinction"

Note: *Students attaining the results of "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction" in ApL courses are accepted as attaining the competencies required at Level 2 and Level 3 or above of Category A subjects of the HKDSE Examination respectively for the purposes of further studies and/or work.*

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Student Performance in ApL(C)

- In the 2017 HKDSE Examination, about 150 subject entries were assessed.
 - about 90% were awarded "Attained" or above
 - about 20% were awarded "Attained with Distinction"
- ApL(C) is also pegged at the Qualifications Framework (QF) Levels 1-3.
 - about 80% of students were awarded QF qualification at each level (QF levels 1 to 3)
 - most of the remaining 20% students obtained QF qualification of individual modules

Note: University Grants Committee-funded institutions and most post-secondary institutions accept ApL(C) as an alternative qualification in Chinese Language for the admission of non-Chinese speaking students with "Attained" as the minimum grade required.

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Reporting of Performance

Starting from the **2018** HKDSE Examination, the reporting of students' performance in ApL subjects will be refined to:

Attained with Distinction (II)

(comparable to **level 4 or above** of the Category A subjects of the HKDSE Examination)

Attained with Distinction (I)

(comparable to **level 3** of the Category A subjects of the HKDSE Examination)

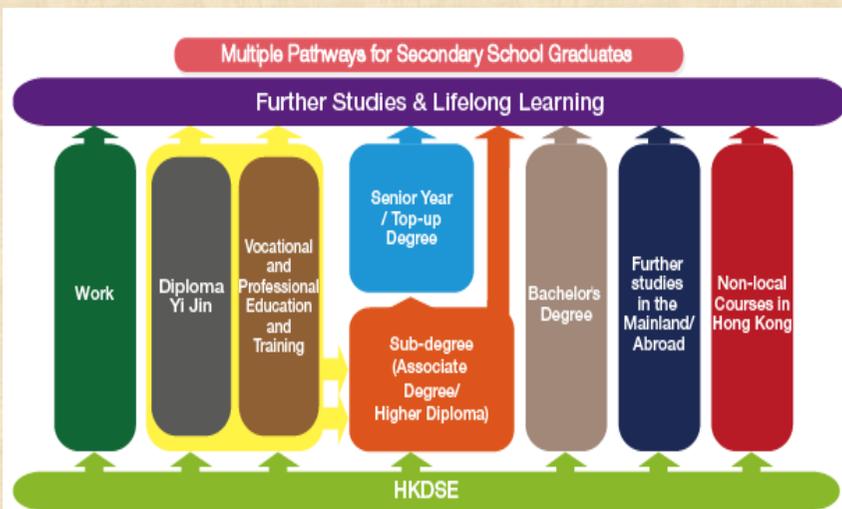
Attained

This will **enhance** the understanding of both institutions and employers on the performance of students in ApL.

Note: For ApL(C), the two levels of results, i.e. "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction", will continue to be used.

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ApL Facilitating Multiple Pathways of Students



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Articulation

Further Studies

Undergraduate programmes

Tertiary institutions in general value the learning experiences students acquired in ApL. ApL subjects are used as **elective subjects**, or considered for **award of extra bonus** or **additional information**, varying by individual institutions, faculties or programmes.

Sub-degree programmes

Students with **Level 2** in five HKDSE subjects (including Chinese Language and English Language) are eligible to apply for admission to Associate Degree and Higher Diploma Programmes. Up to **two ApL subjects** may be used in the application.

ApL(C)

University Grants Committee - funded institutions and most post-secondary institutions **accept ApL(C) as an alternative qualification in Chinese Language (ACL) for the admission** of NCS students with "Attained" as the minimum grade required.

Note: For details, please refer to the websites of individual institutions.

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Articulation

For Work

- Students may deepen their understanding of different industries through simulated career related learning context. The **practical experiences** gained in ApL also helps students to explore their career aspirations and orientation for lifelong learning.
- Most ApL courses are registered in the Qualifications Register as certificate programmes at **Qualifications Framework (QF) Level 3** which will facilitate students' pathway in further study/work.

Survey on Opinions of Employers: Senior Secondary Graduates under the New Academic Structure

More than 40% of the employers who knew ApL courses claimed that they would **give preference to the senior secondary graduates who had taken relevant ApL courses.**

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Articulation

For Work

Civil service appointment

- Students' ApL results in HKDSE are accepted for appointment purposes (subject to a **maximum of two ApL subjects**).
- "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction" in **ApL(C)** are accepted as **meeting the Chinese language proficiency requirements** of relevant civil service ranks.



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Recognition of ApL(C)

- **HKDSE qualification** - reported as "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction" in the HKDSE
- **ApL(C) is recognised by**
 - University Grants Committee (UGC) -funded institutions[#]
 - Most post-secondary institutions[#]
 - Civil Service Bureau
- **Qualifications Framework (QF)**
 - pegged at the **QF Levels 1-3**

[#] By design, ApL(C) is a language course using the vocational field as the context. It differs from other ApL courses which focus on the knowledge and beginners' skill set related to a specific professional/vocational field. Against this background, ApL(C) is accepted as an alternative qualification in Chinese Language for the admission of NCS students with "Attained" as the minimum grade required. In view of this, **ApL(C) cannot be treated as an elective subject.**

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Sharing of Graduate with ApL

Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) - Chinese for the Service Industry; Medical Laboratory Science (2015-17 Cohort)

- ✓ Opportunity was provided for the student to **learn about hospitality services** and **enhance her proficiency in Chinese.**
- ✓ She **gained confidence when communicating with people** and learned a lot of relevant vocabularies which **further improved her communication skills in Chinese.**
- ✓ She is studying a **Bachelor of Science degree.**



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Sharing of Graduate with ApL

Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) - Practical Chinese in Hospitality (2015-17 Cohort)

- ✓ This course gave the student **an insight into hospitality** such as tourism in Hong Kong.
- ✓ He considered the **practical reading, writing and listening skills** learnt in the course **very useful in daily communication**.
- ✓ He attended different workshops and **got hands-on working experience** in Hong Kong.
- ✓ He is studying an **Associate Degree of Arts in Digital Visual Design**.

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Sharing of Graduate with ApL

Western Cuisine (2015-17 Cohort)

- ✓ The ApL course **enhanced the student's culinary skills** and enabled him to have a **better understanding of his career aspirations**.
- ✓ He has participated in the ApL Extension Programme for Workplace Experience and **acquired working experience** in Western cuisine.
- ✓ He is working as a **line cook** in a Korean restaurant.

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Sharing of Graduate with ApL

Applied Psychology (2014-16 Cohort)

- ✓ The ApL course was more about knowing different things of life and ways to **improve oneself rather than memorising facts**.
- ✓ The Applied Learning Scholarship helped her **build up self esteem and confidence in study**.
- ✓ The course **inspired her to become a Forensic Psychologist** in the future.
- ✓ She continued to study an **Associate Degree of Social Science in Applied Psychology**.

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Applied Learning Mobile App



Android



iOS

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Thank You !

Enquiries : 3698 3186

Website : www.edb.gov.hk/apl/en