

ApL

Applied Learning Courses

**Applied Learning Section
Curriculum Development Institute
Education Bureau**

ApL — A Valued Senior Secondary Elective Subject



- An elective subject offers studies with **equal emphasis on practice and theory** to enrich students' learning experiences through exposure to the professional and vocational fields, to enable their early understanding of how to apply knowledge and skills in the work environment.
- Provide **different learning experience** to broaden students' horizons.
- Category B subjects of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination **complement Category A subjects.**

ApL — A Valued Senior Secondary Elective Subject



Catering for Learning Diversity

- Provide opportunity for students of **different abilities, interests and career aspirations** to study ApL courses, and to **realise their talent and potential**.

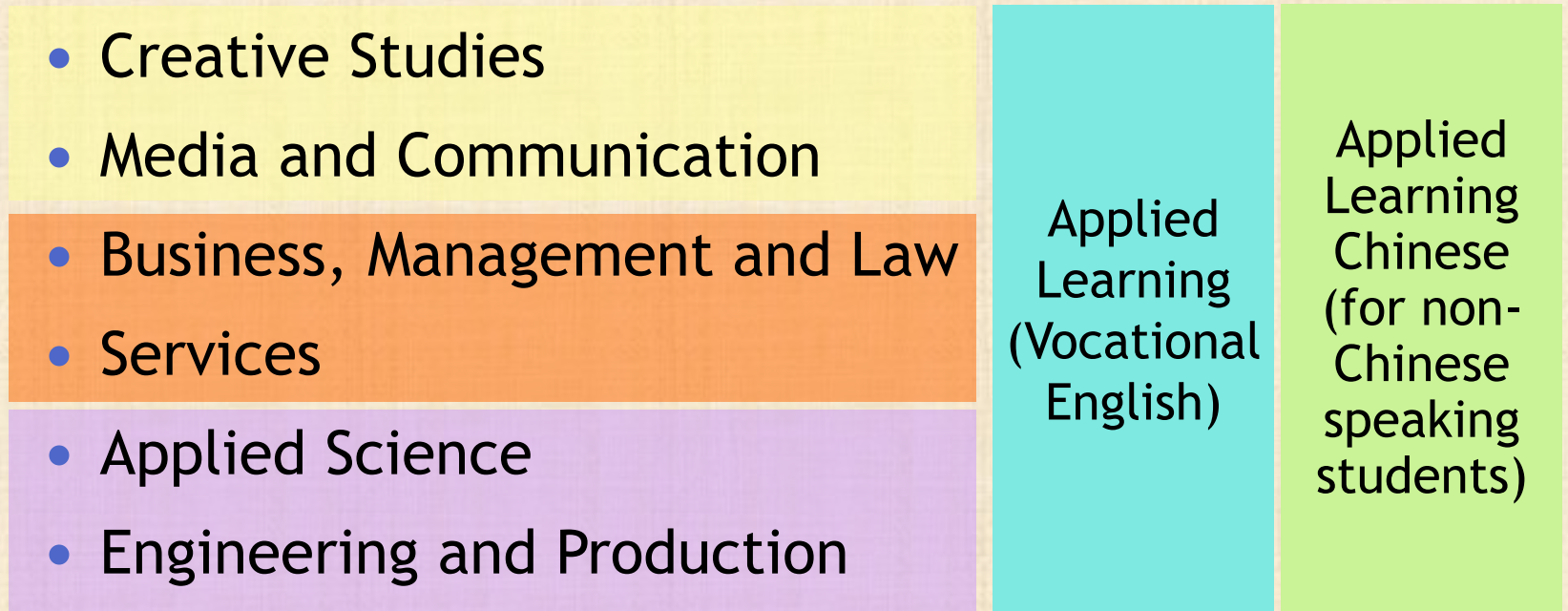
Workplace Experience and Industrial Engagement

- Involve **close industrial engagement in curriculum development, practices, workplace experience**, etc., which will help enrich students' learning experiences and enhance the recognition of courses.

ApL Courses

45 courses in 2021-23 cohort

Areas of Studies



180 Contact hours

270 Contact hours

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.**

[#] Students who have learned Chinese Language for

- (1) less than 6 years while receiving primary and secondary education; or
- (2) 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.

Features

- Designed from the perspective of **second language learners** and provides a **simulated language application context** in ApL for students to learn Chinese through different modes of activities.
- 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. In view of this, ApL(C) **cannot be treated as an elective subject**.

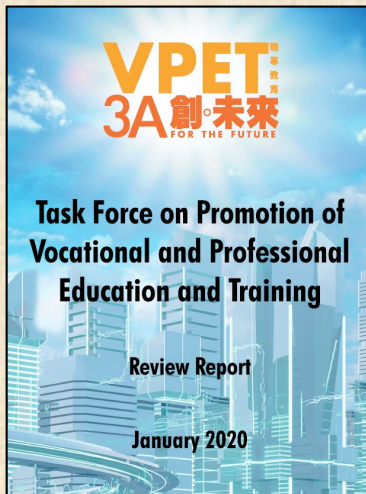
ApL(C)

3 courses are available:

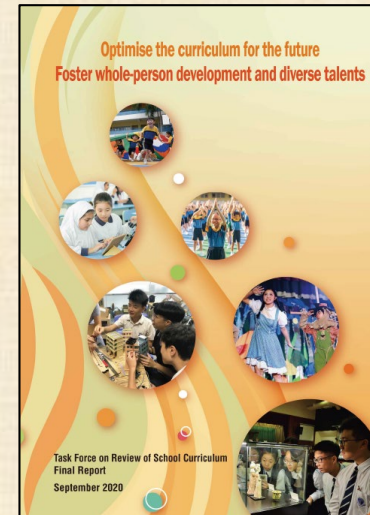
Course	Course Provider
ApL(C) - Chinese in Business Service	The School of Professional Education and Executive Development, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
ApL(C) – Chinese in Practical Context	School of Continuing Education, Hong Kong Baptist University
ApL(C) – Practical Chinese	Hong Kong College of Technology

Task Forces' Recommendations on Applied Learning

Task Force on Promotion of Vocational and Professional Education and Training



Task Force on Review of School Curriculum



Applied Learning in secondary schools 中學應用學習

- ↑ Workplace experience 職場體驗
- ↑ Industry participation 業界參與
- ↑ Articulation pathways 升學階梯




ApL — Wider Range of Courses



高中應用學習課程 (2021-23年度) 一覽表

List of Senior Secondary Applied Learning Courses (2021-23 Cohort)

學習範疇 Area of Studies	課程組別 Course Cluster	科目代碼 Subject Code	課程 註一及註二 Course NOTE 1 & NOTE 2	課程提供機構 註三 Course Provider NOTE 3	教學語言 Medium of Instruction
 創意學習 Creative Studies	1 設計學 Design Studies	701	1. 展示及首飾設計 △ Display and Jewellery Design △	HKBU (SCE)	中文 Chinese
		676	2. 時裝形象設計 △ Fashion Image Design △	VTC	中文或英文 Chinese or English
		668	3. 室內設計 △ Interior Design △	VTC	中文或英文 Chinese or English
	2 媒體藝術 Media Arts	669	4. 電腦遊戲及動畫設計 △ Computer Game and Animation Design △	VTC	中文或英文 Chinese or English
		707	5. 數碼漫畫設計與製作 △ Digital Comic Design and Production △	HKU (SPACE)	中文或英文 Chinese or English
		710	6. 流行音樂製作 ▲ Popular Music Production ▲	HKCT	中文 Chinese
		...	7. 舞出新機—舞蹈藝術 △	...	中文

ApL — Wider Range of Courses

New courses in 2021-23 cohort

- * Digital Media and Radio Production
- * eSports Technology
- * Food Innovation and Science
- * Popular Music Production
- * Rehabilitation Care Practice
- * ApL(VocE) – English for Service Professionals
- * ApL(VocE) – English Communication

Cohort	No. of ApL Courses
2019-21	39
2020-22	41
2021-23	45

ApL — Subject Combination

ApL courses can **complement other senior secondary subjects** to form a flexible subject combination that helps to provide theoretical and applied learning opportunities for **holistic learning experiences**.

Senior secondary subjects

- Economics + Physics
- Visual Arts + Geography
- Chemistry + Biology
- Physics + Information and Communication Technology

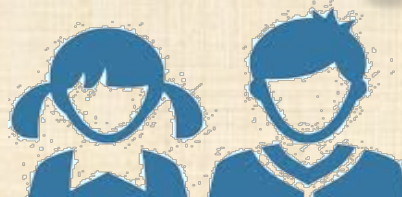
ApL Courses

Interior Design

Film and Video

Medical Laboratory Science

Railway Studies



Possible Matching of ApL Courses with Programmes in Tertiary Institutions

Some Examples of ApL Courses

Computer Game and Animation Design
Digital Comic Design and Production

Foundation in Chinese Medicine
Health Care Practice

Accounting for e-Business
Marketing and Online Promotion

Applied Psychology
Practical Psychology

Relevant Faculties / Courses in Tertiary Institutions

Design
Computer Science

Chinese Medicine
Nursing

Business Administration
Marketing

Social Science
Social Work
Psychology

ApL — Promotion of Multiple Pathways

Student	ApL Course	HKDSE Cat. A Elective subjects	Further studies
1	Computer Game and Animation Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economics Information and Communication Technology Mathematics Extended Part Module 2 (Algebra and Calculus) 	Bachelor of Engineering
2	Foundation in Chinese Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physics Chemistry Biology 	Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
3	Marketing and Online Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economics Tourism and Hospitality Studies 	Bachelor of Business Administration
4	Child Care and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chinese History Geography 	Higher Diploma in Child Care and Education
5	Computer Forensic Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology Information and Communication Technology 	Higher Diploma in Electronic and Information Engineering
6	Public Relations and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chinese Literature Biology 	Associate Degree Programme on Creative Communication

ApL — Recognition

- Starting from the **2018** HKDSE Examination, the reporting of student performance in ApL subjects is refined as

Attained with Distinction (II)

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

Attained with Distinction (I)

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

Attained

- As for ApL(C), the student performance is still reported as “Attained” and “Attained with Distinction”.

ApL — Recognition

Qualifications Framework (QF)



Cohort	No. of ApL courses recognised under QF	Total no. of courses
2019-21	39	39
2020-22	41	41
2021-23	<i>accreditation in progress</i>	45

- For the last two cohorts, **ALL ApL courses** are registered in the Qualifications Register as certificate programmes at **Qualifications Framework (QF) Level 3**.
- Students who complete these ApL courses will obtain a **QF Level 3 certificate** issued by the course provider.

ApL — 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**.

Sub-degree programmes

- Students are eligible to apply for admission to Associate Degree / Higher Diploma programmes if they meet the minimum entrance requirements of **Level 2 in five HKDSE subjects (including Chinese Language and English Language)**. In general, each student is allowed to use up to two ApL subjects in the application.

ApL — Further Studies

ApL(C)

University Grants Committee funded universities and most post-secondary institutions accept ApL(C) as **an alternative qualification in Chinese Language** for the admission of NCS students with **“Attained”** as the minimum grade required. [ApL(C) **cannot be treated as an elective subject**]

The Civil Service Bureau

- accepts candidates' ApL results in HKDSE (**up to a maximum of 2 ApL subjects**) for civil service appointment purposes; and
- accepts “Attained” and “Attained with Distinction” in **ApL(C)** as **meeting the Chinese language proficiency requirements** of relevant civil service ranks.

ApL — Course Arrangement

Which year level of students can apply for the ApL courses?

- Application at S3: Study at S4 and S5
- Application at S4: Study at S5 and S6

How ApL lessons are arranged?

- Mode 1: Mainly at the **venues of course providers on Saturdays** and are taught by the tutors who are recognised by the course providers.
- Mode 2: Mainly **in schools**, with lessons taught by tutors who are recognised by the course providers.

Remarks: The ApL courses and year levels to be offered are subject to schools' decision.

ApL Courses — Informed Choice

How do students choose ApL courses?

- Understand ApL courses and study arrangements before choosing elective subjects.
- Enable students to choose ApL courses according to their **interests and aspirations**.

Remarks: Each student can take a maximum of 2 ApL courses

Do students need to pay the course fees for ApL courses?

- Grant will be provided for eligible schools to offer ApL for their students (including taking ApL as the 4th elective subject).

ApL — Important Dates

Course Consultation cum Exhibition	28 Jan 2021 – 30 Jan 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Young Achievers' Gallery, Podium, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre• Please refer to the ApL website for details
Course Information Display	2 Feb 2021 – 6 Feb 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Young Achievers' Gallery Podium, West Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre• Please refer to the ApL website for details
Course Application Period	23 Feb 2021 – 13 Apr 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit applications by schools

Junior Secondary Taster Programmes

- Taster Programmes for students at the Junior Secondary level have been introduced in the 2020/21 school year to enable them to have early exposure to the excitements and requirements of different industries/professions and ApL courses.
- For details, please refer to the ApL website.

Thank You !



Website: www.edb.gov.hk/apl

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