

Applied Learning (Senior Secondary Level)

2016-18 Cohort

Learning and Teaching

Subject Title : **Applied Psychology**
Area of Studies : **Applied Sciences**
Course Provider : **Lingnan Institute of Further Education**

In Applied Psychology, student-centred learning and teaching activities are designed to enable students to understand fundamental theories and concepts, develop their generic skills, and address their career aspirations in Applied Psychology/Psychology related field.

Different modes of activities are employed to provide students with a systematic understanding about different contexts (e.g. students will debate on various controversial psychological issues such as the nature or nurture debate or ethical issues such as the extent to which psychological professionals should uphold the privacy of their clients, games with psychology, and they will participate in role plays of various situations to sharpen their presentation and expression skills) and eye-opening opportunities to experience the complexity of the context (e.g. site visits to different psychology related organisations and exchange with different psychological professionals or ex-mentally ill patients).

Students can acquire the fundamental knowledge and skills essential for further learning within the area through learning-by-practising opportunities in an authentic or near-authentic environment (e.g. scenario-based experiment to test psychology theories, and developing behavioural programmes for the target groups).

Activities in teaching and learning also foster students' development in conceptual, practical and reflective skills to demonstrate practices in innovation and entrepreneurship (e.g. design programmes on enhancing motivation, hosting an exhibition booth about enhancing mental health awareness, and designing activities for developing relaxation techniques or techniques of sales promotion). Students are given the opportunities to integrate the knowledge and skills acquired and consolidate their learning (e.g. reflection on in-class psychology games, group discussions and analysing real life cases)

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Curriculum Pillars of Applied Learning in Context – Applied Psychology

Upon completion of the subject, students should be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of major perspectives and fundamental theories in psychology;
- apply psychological principles and research findings to analyse human mental processes and behaviours in professional, social and personal contexts;
- demonstrate critical thinking, problem-solving and creative thinking skills in solving problems related to human behaviours;
- recognise the professional ethics of psychologists and demonstrate positive values and attitudes; and
- develop self-understanding for further studies and career development in the related field.

Through the specific contexts related to the subject, students have different learning opportunities, for example:

1. Career-related Competencies

- identify the career paths of psychologists and the related qualification requirements;
- describe major specialties in psychology and distinguish the roles of psychologists;
- explain major perspectives of psychology and apply appropriate principles to account for psychological phenomena; and
- evaluate the latest development in research and practice in psychology.

2. Foundation Skills

- demonstrate effective communication skills in written and verbal forms through role-play, group discussion, presentation and report writing;
- apply numeracy skills to analyse and interpret the data from a psychological research; and
- apply information technology skills in researching for information and composing multi-media presentation.

3. Thinking Skills

- analyse and interpret the data from a research to explain human behaviour and to provide evidences for the explanation;
- use psychological principles and research results to understand the causes and mechanisms of human cognitive functions and behaviours; and
- apply critical thinking, problem-solving and creative thinking skills to tackle problems in personal, social and professional contexts from a psychological perspective.

4. People Skills

- demonstrate interpersonal and collaboration skills through interaction with fellow students in different contexts; and
- apply concepts of group dynamics to enhance interpersonal communication and relationship.

5. Values & Attitudes

- value intellectual honesty in the process of scientific research related to psychology;
- appreciate the importance of professional ethics in applied psychology; and
- recognise the complexity of human behaviour and respect individual differences.