

Applied Learning (Senior Secondary Level)

2016-18 Cohort

Learning and Teaching

Subject Title : **Accounting in Practice**
Area of Studies : **Business, Management and Law**
Course Provider : **School of Professional and Continuing Education,
The University of Hong Kong**

In Accounting in Practice, 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 accounting.

Different modes of activities are employed to provide students with a systematic understanding about the context (e.g. lectures on accounting theories) and eye-opening opportunities to experience the complexity of the context (e.g. visits to accounting firms, multinational corporations, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority; seminars by professional accounting bodies and practitioners).

Students acquire an understanding of the requirements, 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. exercises on preparing financial statements, online quiz, group discussion, role play exercise in a simulated business context to understand the operations of a business organisation).

Students are also encouraged to develop and apply conceptual, practical and reflective skills to demonstrate innovation and entrepreneurship (e.g. case study on evaluation of the financial position of a company and suggestions for performance improvement). Students are given opportunities to integrate the knowledge and skills acquired and consolidate their learning (e.g. in the accounting integrated project, students prepare a business proposal which covers financial projection and identification of key risks that may impact the business. In the process, students apply knowledge in financial accounting, management accounting, taxation, professional ethics and corporate governance, etc).

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Curriculum Pillars of Applied Learning in Context – Accounting in Practice

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

- prepare the books of accounts in accordance with accounting concepts and principles;
- apply thinking skills and knowledge in financial accounting and management accounting to solve business problems;
- demonstrate understanding of the Hong Kong tax system and compute tax liabilities;
- use accounting software to prepare financial statements and analyse business performance
- demonstrate understanding of accounting standards, and the importance of professional ethics and corporate governance; 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

- explain the role and function of accounting in business;
- apply fundamental concepts in accounting and taxation to handle business transactions; and
- demonstrate an understanding of accounting standards and principles governing financial reporting, and the importance of professional ethics and corporate governance.

2. Foundation Skills

- demonstrate communication skills through presentations, discussions, report writing and practical exercise;
- apply information technology skills when preparing financial statements and project reports, and using accounting software; and
- handle and present financial data in a business context.

3. Thinking Skills

- apply problem-solving and analytical skills through discussions, case studies, project work and practical exercises;
- apply critical thinking skills through discussion on issues related to professional ethics, corporate governance and corporate social responsibility; and
- analyse the financial position and performance of a business.

4. People Skills

- demonstrate self-management skills through completing the accounting project;
- demonstrate team working skills through group tasks; and
- apply interpersonal skills in discussion and presentation of the accounting project.

5. Values & Attitudes

- develop responsibility through understanding the importance of professional ethics in accounting; and
- develop self-confidence through completion of practical tasks and presentation in simulated business context.