

Applied Learning (Senior Secondary Level)

2019-21 Cohort

Learning and Teaching

Subject Title : **Applied Psychology**
Area of Studies : **Applied Science**
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 the context (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 engage in role plays of various situations to sharpen their presentations 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 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. scenario-based experiment to verify psychology theories, and developing behavioural programmes for target clients).

Students are also encouraged to develop and apply conceptual, practical and reflective skills to demonstrate entrepreneurship and innovation (e.g. design programmes on enhancing motivation, hosting an exhibition booth about enhancing mental health awareness, and designing activities for developing relaxation techniques or sales promotion techniques). Students are given opportunities to integrate the knowledge and skills acquired and consolidate their learning (e.g. reflection on in-class 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 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
- assess 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, project, presentation and report writing; and
- apply information technology skills in delivering multi-media presentation and projects.

3. Thinking Skills

- apply psychological principles 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 others in different contexts; and
- apply concepts of group dynamics to enhance interpersonal communication and relationship.

5. Values and Attitudes

- value intellectual honesty in the process of scientific research related to psychology;
- appreciate the importance of professional ethics in applied psychology;
- recognise the complexity of human behaviour and respect individual differences;
- recognise strategies for healthy development and psychological well-being; and
- motivate students towards exploration in different aspects of life.