

# Apl

## Applied Learning Courses (2024-26 Cohort)

Applied Learning Section  
Curriculum Development Institute,  
Education Bureau



**Apl is a valued senior secondary elective subject** which complements other senior secondary subjects to form a flexible subject combination that helps enrich students' subject choices and cater for learner diversity, providing broad and balanced learning experiences for students. The courses focus on practical learning elements linked to broad professional and vocational fields with dual emphasis on theory and practice. It develops students' knowledge, generic skills, proper values and attitudes through providing simulated or authentic contexts, as well as enhances students' understanding of vocational and professional education and training (VPET), preparing them for further studies and work in future.

In the 2024-26 Cohort (i.e. the cohort of students sitting the 2026 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)), there are a total of 60 Apl courses, covering six Areas of Studies, namely Creative Studies; Media and Communication; Business, Management and Law; Services; Applied Science; and Engineering and Production. In addition, Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students) (Apl(C)) is provided exclusively for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students meeting specified circumstances<sup>1</sup>. The duration of each Apl course (except Apl(C)) is 180 contact hours, generally **spanning two school years at the senior secondary level**, commencing either at Secondary 4 (S4) (complete at Secondary 5 (S5) or S5 (complete at Secondary 6 (S6)). The duration of each Apl(C) course is 270 contact hours, spanning S4 to S6.



### Six Areas of Studies



Creative Studies



Media and Communication



Business, Management and Law



Services



Applied Science



Engineering and Production

### Application for Apl Courses

All students **MUST** apply through their schools. Generally, each student can take a maximum of two Apl courses as elective subjects throughout his/her studies at the senior secondary level (NCS students meeting specified circumstances can also take one Apl(C) course). EDB will fully subsidise eligible schools<sup>2</sup> to pay the course fees.

### Application Period

**23 February to 2 April 2024**<sup>3</sup>

### Course Providers



**Education Bureau**  
The Government of the  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
of the People's Republic of China

<sup>1</sup> Students who have learned Chinese Language for less than six years while receiving primary and secondary education; or students who have learned Chinese Language for six 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.

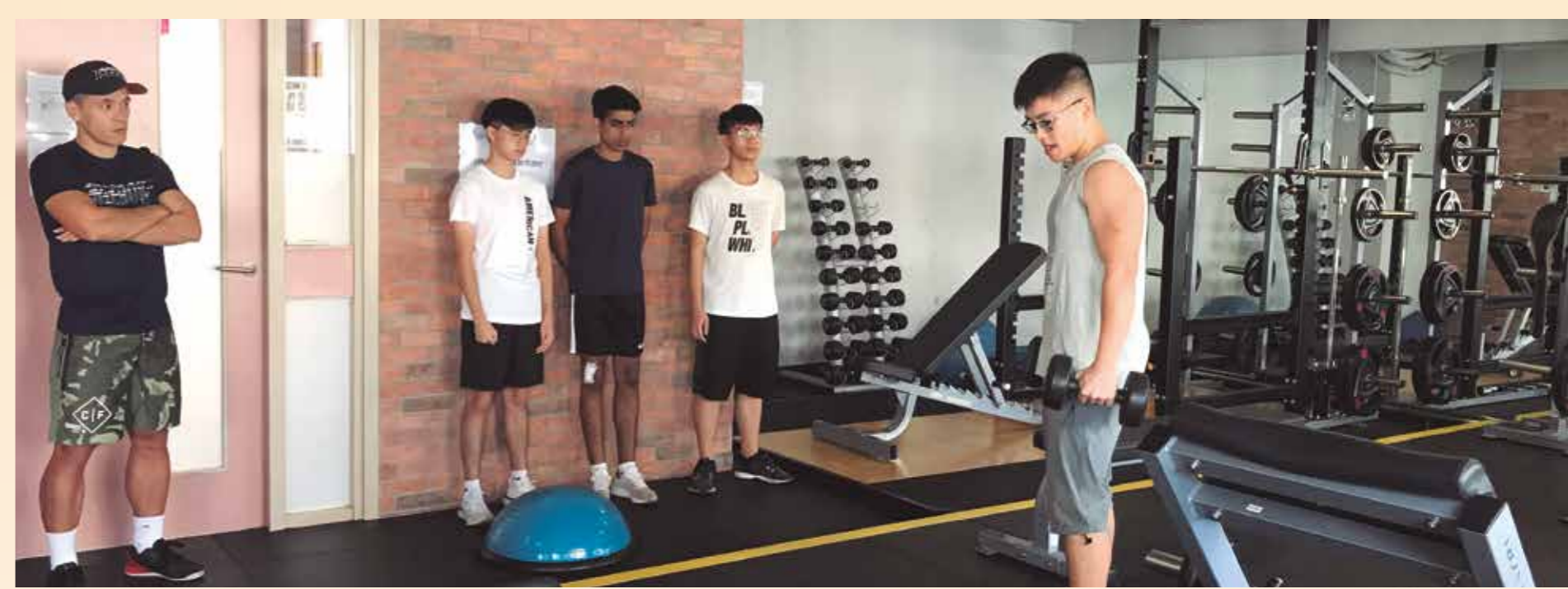
<sup>2</sup> Students in aided, government and caput schools, schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme and special schools with senior secondary classes studying the senior secondary curriculum prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and published for use in schools by EDB will be fully subsidised by EDB to take Apl courses.

<sup>3</sup> Students intending to take Apl courses in the 2024-26 cohort (i.e. cohort of students sitting the 2026 HKDSE), they can commence at S4 in the 2023/24 school year (Remark: Relevant application procedures have been completed and the courses will be commenced in September/October 2023), or at S5 in the 2024/25 school year (students should apply through their schools from 23 February 2024 to 2 April 2024).

# ApL

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### Recognition

ApL courses (2024-26 Cohort) are **Category B subjects of the 2026 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE)**. Reporting of students' performance in ApL subjects (except (ApL(C)):

Attained with Distinction (II)

Attained with Distinction (I)

Attained



Performance of "Attained with Distinction (I)" is deemed comparable to Level 3 of Category A subjects of the HKDSE; and "Attained with Distinction (II)" is deemed comparable to Level 4 or above of Category A subjects of the HKDSE. As for ApL(C), students' performance is reported as "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction".

In addition to the HKDSE qualification, students who have successfully completed ApL courses that are registered in the Qualifications Register (as certificate programmes at Qualifications Framework (QF) Level 3), will obtain a QF certificate issued by the course providers. Details are available on the Qualifications Register website ([www.hkqr.gov.hk](http://www.hkqr.gov.hk)).



### For further studies

**Undergraduate Programmes:** All along, student admission in tertiary institutions has followed the principle of institutional autonomy. For further studies in undergraduate programmes, tertiary institutions value the learning experiences that students acquire in ApL. ApL subjects are recognised 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 or above in five HKDSE subjects (including Chinese Language and English Language) are eligible to apply for admission to Associate Degree or Higher Diploma Programmes. In general, each student is allowed to use up to a maximum of two ApL subjects in the application.

Currently, 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.

For details, please refer to the relevant websites of individual institutions or the EDB website ([www.edb.gov.hk/apl/en/quality-assurance-and-recognition](http://www.edb.gov.hk/apl/en/quality-assurance-and-recognition)).



### For employment

**The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) accepts students' ApL results in the HKDSE** (including "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction", up to a maximum of 2 ApL subjects) in civil service appointments. For details, please refer to the website of CSB ([www.csb.gov.hk/english/info/2170.html](http://www.csb.gov.hk/english/info/2170.html)).

The CSB also accepts "Attained" and "Attained with Distinction" in ApL(C) as meeting the Chinese language proficiency requirements of relevant civil service ranks. For details, please also refer to the website of CSB ([www.csb.gov.hk/english/admin/appoint/35.html](http://www.csb.gov.hk/english/admin/appoint/35.html)).



**Education Bureau**  
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Please scan the QR code for the  
latest information on ApL courses.



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## Creative Studies



### Fashion Image Design



This course provides students with access to the latest developments in fashion image design and develops their creativity, communication skills, team building skills and people skills through interactive learning and teaching activities.



### Interior and Exhibition Design



This course aims to develop students' creativity and to equip them with the basic knowledge and skills required for interior design and exhibition design, enabling them to apply their learning to the creation of ideas and development of spatial design. Also, emphasis is placed on enriching students' understanding of culture, aesthetics, technology, design and society, facilitating their further development in the creative industry. Students may choose, according to their personal interest, "Interior Design" or "Exhibition Design" as their electives.



### Jewellery Design in Digital Age



This course aims to develop students' creativity and to equip them with the basic knowledge and digital technology application skills required for jewellery design, enabling them to apply their learning to the creation of ideas and development of three-dimensional jewellery design. Emphasis is also placed on enriching students' understanding of culture, aesthetics, technology, design and society, facilitating their further development in the creative industry.



### Computer Game and Animation Design



This course aims at developing students' creativity, communication skills and problem-solving skills, as well as equipping them with the knowledge and skills of manipulating different media so that they can apply them to the design and production of computer games and animations. Students may choose, according to their personal interest, "Computer Game Design" or "3D Animation Design" as their electives.



### Digital Comic Design and Production



This course introduces digital comic design, production workflow, digital comic production, application of digital comic software and comic publication on digital social media platform. It aims to enhance students' understanding of the development of the digital comic and creative industry, the related fundamental theories and concepts, preparing them for further studies in digital comic design and production and career development in the creative industry.



### Popular Music Production



The course aims to develop students' understanding of the theories and skills related to the production of popular music from performance, composition, recording, mixing to promotion. The course not only enhances students' interest in the popular music production industry, but also strengthens their foundation skills, thinking skills, people skills, values and attitudes, and career-related competencies, preparing them for further studies and career pursuits.



### Taking a Chance on Dance



This course focuses on the aesthetic aspect of dance by engaging students in a holistic experience as people, dancers and makers of dance through the "Three Key Learning Processes: Performing, Creating and Appreciation". It involves learning to perform and create dance, learning to appreciate and appraise dance, and using dance to support cognitive learning. The course also provides an all-around training to students, in developing their creativity and imagination, and on the other hand enhancing their interpersonal relationships and self-confidence.



### The Essentials of Theatre Arts



In The Essentials of Theatre Arts, student-centered learning and teaching activities are designed to engage students in a holistic experience to enrich them as people, drama artists, makers of drama / theatre, and theatre participants through the "Three Key Learning Processes: Performing, Creating and Appreciation". It provides students with a comprehensive study of drama and theatre production as an art form and introduces them to the professional world of theatre, while developing their creativity, power of imagination, people skills and self-confidence. Students may choose, according to their personal interest, "Dramatic Arts" or "Theatre Production" as their elective parts.



# APPL

# Media and Communication



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### Digital Media and Radio Production



This course aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills of the latest radio broadcasting and media technology production. Students can transfer their knowledge and skill acquired to different professional aspects of the digital media industry through radio broadcasting and digital media production, which help them further develop their career in the field.



### PR and Multimedia Communication



The course aims to develop students to be professionals with the multimedia knowledge in the field of Public Relations (PR). The course offers studies with equal emphasis on theory and practice, covering PR strategies, communication skills, brand images and the application of multimedia communication, in which students acquire the knowledge and skills of PR and Communication. Through the production of a PR and communication project, students consolidate the theories and skills acquired to prepare them for further studies and career pursuits.



### Film and Transmedia



This course provides students with authentic learning experiences to acquire the fundamental theories and concepts of film and transmedia, and helps students develop their creative mind, work ethics and various soft skills in communication, team work, problem-solving and creative thinking through hands-on practice and interactive learning and teaching activities.



### Applied Japanese and Japanese Culture



After completing the course, students could use basic communication skills in Japanese, and apply the skills to daily life and work contexts. Students can also understand the history of Japanese culture, contemporary Japanese culture, and Japanese business culture. Students will acquire effective written and oral communication skills in Japanese for further studies and career development in related industries.



### Digital Brand Communication



The course aims to enhance students' understanding of brand communication and their skills in using digital media for achieving goals of branding. Through hands-on written exercises, projects, written reports, presentation and tests, the course will enable students to understand and master the skills of professional writing for brands, principles of photo- and video- taking and editing, and how to design appropriate communication strategies to effectively build a unique brand identity. In addition to brand communication, the knowledge and skills acquired in communication and digital content production can be transferred to different digital communication industries, to help students further develop in the related fields.



### Everyday Japanese and Japanese Culture



This course introduces knowledge of Japanese language and culture. This course covers topics such as foundation Japanese language, Japanese culture, geography, society and lifestyle, pop culture, and Japanese business culture. After completing this course, students should be able to communicate in Japanese language in daily life and work contexts, demonstrate an understanding of contemporary Japanese culture, apply Japanese business culture in workplace, and enhance self-understanding and personal growth.



### Multimedia Storytelling



In Multimedia Storytelling, student-centred learning and teaching activities are designed to enable students to understand fundamental theories and concepts of storytelling, develop their generic skills, and address their career aspirations in the field of creative media and communication.



### Korean Language and Culture



This course introduces knowledge of Korean language and Korean culture. The course covers topics such as foundation Korean language, facts about Korean, past and present of Korean culture, Korean society and lifestyle, Korean wave and Korean business culture. Students who have completed the course should be able to apply Korean language acquired to daily life and work contexts, demonstrate an understanding of contemporary Korean culture, and enhance self-understanding and personal growth.



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# Media and Communication



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### Applied Learning (Vocational English) – English Communication



This course provides students with opportunities to practise English in simulated and near authentic vocational contexts, develop their English proficiency and generic skills, and to enhance their awareness of the important role of English communication in authentic work environments. Through application and practice, students are also given opportunities to develop their career-related competencies, communication skills, thinking skills and people skills while laying a good foundation of English for further studies and work.



### Creative English - Biz and Media



This course enables students to lay a good foundation in the basic skills and knowledge in creative use of English through applied learning contexts related to professional and vocational fields, including broadcast and media, advertising and public relations, and eCommerce and global business. Through application and practice, students are given opportunities to develop a set of writing, presentation, critical analysis and cultural literacy skills essential for effective communication in different genres, forms / modes and contexts, facilitating their development of essential language knowledge and skills for further studies and career pursuits in related professions.



### Applied Learning (Vocational English) – English for Business Services



This course aims to develop students' English proficiency and generic skills through practice in simulated or near authentic vocational contexts and applications, and to enhance students' awareness of the role of English in authentic work environments. Through application and practice, students are given opportunities to develop their career-related competencies, foundation skills (notably communication skills), thinking skills and people skills as well as to nurture their positive values and attitudes as in Applied Learning curriculum pillars. This enables students to lay a good English foundation for further studies or work.



### Creative English - PR and Marketing



This course enables students to lay a good foundation in the basic skills and knowledge in creative use of English through applied learning contexts related to professional and vocational fields, focusing on public relations and marketing. Through application and practice, students are given opportunities to develop a set of writing, presentation, critical analysis and cultural literacy skills essential for effective communication in different genres, forms / modes and contexts, facilitating their development of essential language knowledge and skills for further studies and career pursuits in related professions.



### Applied Learning (Vocational English) – English for Service Professionals



The course provides opportunities for students to enhance their English communication skills in authentic / near-authentic vocational and professional settings. It enhances students' flexibility in articulation pathways by increasing their academic literacy, functional workplace literacy as well as critical literacy necessary for a smooth transition from a vocational training route to higher education in colleges and universities.



### Practical Translation (CHI-ENG)



In Practical Translation (CHI-ENG), 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 translation.



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### Accounting for e-Business

**SCOPE**  
School of Continuing and Professional Education  
香港科技專上書院

This course covers three main topic areas: concepts and knowledge of e-business, accounting and accounting software application. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to understand different types of business activities; apply accounting standards and principles in the preparation of financial statements in an e-business environment; and use accounting software to record business transactions and to generate accounting reports facilitating their development in business or accounting industry.



### AI in Business

**SCOPE**  
School of Continuing and Professional Education  
香港科技專上書院

In AI in Business, student-centered 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 AI in business management.



### Data Application for Business

**香港科技專上書院**  
Hong Kong Institute of Technology

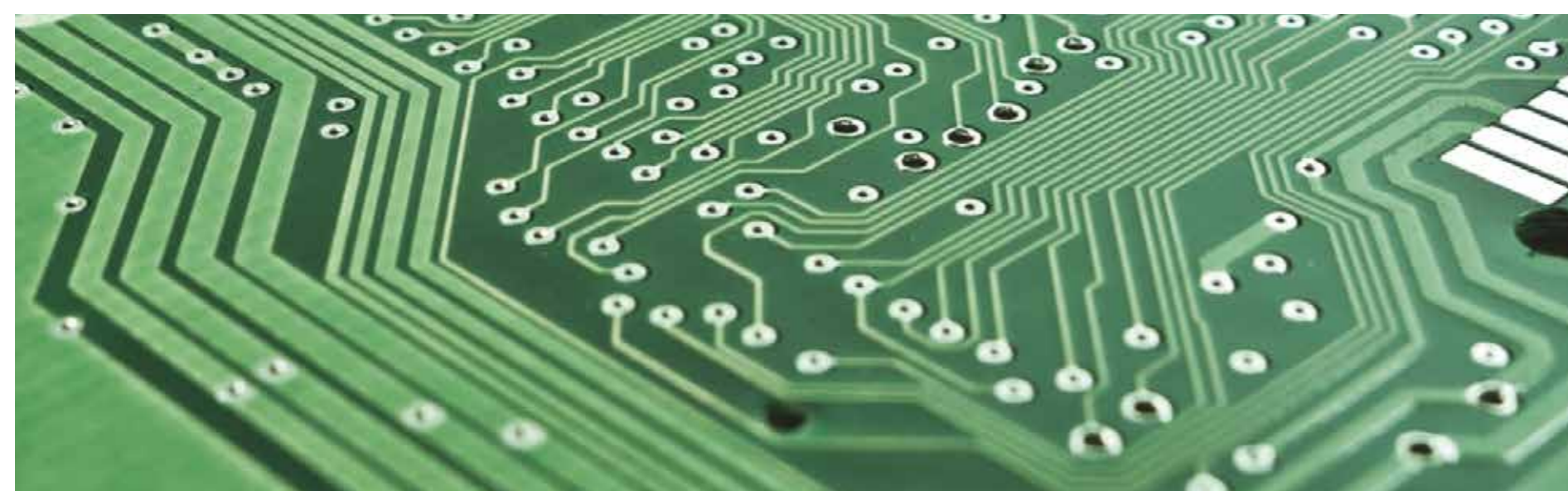
The course enables students to master the basic knowledge and skills of business data application. The course content covers data collection, planning and data analysis methods to discover the required business data and suggest related business activities. The course can pave the way for students to become business analysts, and the skills and knowledge learned can also be applied to different business sectors.



### Innovation and Entrepreneurship

**HKUSPACE**  
HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education

This course aims to develop students' innovative and entrepreneurial skills as well as generic skills, to create a more sustainable and inclusive future. Students apply design thinking in authentic contexts to develop user-centric and empathetic solutions.



### Introduction to Fintech

**HKUSPACE**  
HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education

The programme aims to provide fundamental knowledge on fintech, digital payment, blockchain technology and cryptocurrency. The programme develops students with basic coding skills in fintech.



### Marketing and Online Promotion

**SCOPE**  
School of Continuing and Professional Education  
香港科技專上書院

This course aims to help students, through various learning activities, master basic concepts and skills in marketing and online promotion; understand the developments of products and services and online business operation; evaluate the options on marketing and online promotion to optimise effectiveness and operational efficiency in local and global contexts.



### Law Enforcement in Hong Kong

**CSCE**  
香港浸會大學持續教育學院  
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION  
HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

The course is designed to develop students' knowledge and understanding of Hong Kong law enforcement operations, criminology, criminal law and criminal justice system. Students interested in or who aspire to join the law enforcement, disciplined forces or legal related professions in future would find the course content highly useful and practical. The course systematically delivers relevant knowledge on crimes, criminal justice, law enforcement operations, and the hiring and work contexts of disciplined forces and other law enforcement work so that students can explore their interests and pursue their own goals in further studies and career development in related fields.



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## Services



### Modern Southeast Asian Cuisine

This objective of this course is to enable students to have a basic understanding of the features, current trends and developments within the modern culinary landscape and explore the relationship between classical cuisine and modern Southeast Asian cuisine in the catering industry. Through understanding the origins of various culinary development in designated Southeast Asian countries, it allows students to examine the cultural, social and geographical influences of a cuisine in each country. The course enhances not only students' interest in related topics, but also strengthens their foundation skills, thinking skills, people skills, positive values and attitudes, and career-related competencies, which prepare them for future study and career development.



### Hotel Operations

The course allows students to acquire the basic knowledge of hotel operations and practical skills in front office, housekeeping, and food and beverage departments in a simulated learning environment. Besides, through the diversified learning activities, it could enhance students' interest in the hospitality industry, cultivate among them a service culture, develop their self-discipline and team spirit, as well as strengthen their problem solving, communication and presentation skills. This course is endorsed by the Institute of Hospitality, U.K. Graduates could apply at their own costs to receive international recognition.



### Pâtisserie and Café Operations

This course aims to introduce students the characteristic of pâtisseries and cafés, food production, café and operations, knowledge of food hygiene, etc. helping them build up their foundation for starting a business in desserts or coffee shops. The course provides a starting point for students' lifelong learning and develop a foundation for further studies and career development.



### Child Care and Development

This course aims to enhance senior secondary students with the basic understanding of the foundation knowledge of child development and identify the developmental characteristics of children. Based on the understanding towards children's developmental characteristics and their individual differences, students learn to design play-based activities for young children. Through different learning activities, students are given opportunities to develop creativity, communication skills and team spirit, cultivate proper values and attitudes, and explore interests and potentials in early childhood education.



### Western Cuisine

Through a simulated learning environment, students will acquire the knowledge and skills in western gastronomy, food commodities, food hygiene and safety as well as western food preparation. The course aims to develop students' interest in the hospitality and catering industry through practical training, and cultivate among them a service culture, self-discipline and team spirit as well as problem solving, communication and presentation skills. Students may choose between "Culinary Arts" and "Dessert, Baking and Pastry Arts" in the elective part of the course. Students passing the relevant module can obtain a professional certificate recognised by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of HKSAR Government. They can also attend a public examination offered by the Royal Society for Public Health, U.K., at their own costs, for an additional professional qualification. This ApL course is endorsed by the Institute of Hospitality, UK. Graduates could apply at their own costs to receive international recognition.



### Child Care and Education

This course is designed to arouse the interest of senior secondary students in early childhood education. Students are equipped with a basic understanding of the developmental characteristics of children, the basic skills in taking care of children and designing play activities for children as well as the core value and services of early childhood education in Hong Kong. Through experiential learning in authentic early childhood education settings, students are given opportunities to develop creativity, communication skills and team spirit, cultivate proper values and attitudes, and explore interests and potentials in early childhood education.



### Fundamental Cosmetology

This course allows students to learn different aspects of cosmetology, including make-up, hair design and nail art, wholistic care and salon management, etc. Students will learn to integrate knowledge and skills from various disciplines with other generic skills through practice. They will also develop a customer-oriented attitude in practicum and simulated contexts.



### Airport Passenger Terminal Operations

This course aims to equip students with the basic knowledge and skills related to the airport passenger terminal operations, allowing them to learn through practice in the areas of basic operational science, service culture and industry-related regulations. The course not only enhances students' interest in relevant subjects, but also strengthens their foundation skills, thinking skills, people skills, values and attitudes, and career-related competencies through the tutor and the authentic learning environment, preparing them for further studies and career development.



### Hospitality Services in Practice

This course is designed to equip students with fundamental knowledge about three major aspects of the hospitality industry, namely front office, housekeeping, and food and beverage operations. Learning will be acquired through practice, and students will be given the opportunity to visit hotels to understand the importance of quality service.



### Gerontech and Services

This course is based on elderly services to introduce students a basic knowledge of gerontechnology including concepts, products and services, systems and technology, so that students can understand the importance of gerontechnology to daily life and services for the elderly from people-oriented and technology perspectives and to improve the quality of elderly services. The course also enhances students' interest and career-related competencies in related fields through visits such as regional residential care homes / research & development centers and experience and application in Gerontech. It also develops students' proper values and attitudes, preparing them for further studies and work in future.



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## Applied Science



### Food Technology and Nutrition



This course introduces the overview and development of the food and nutrition industry, and enables students to grasp the basic knowledge and skills of food technology and nutrition to create innovative healthy food products through interactive learning activities. Students will also understand the work ethics and responsibilities, occupational safety, and sustainable development, to facilitate their further development in food and nutrition industry.



### Rehabilitation Care Practice



This course aims to equip students with the basic knowledge and skills of rehabilitation care, preparing them for further study and career development in the rehabilitation care profession. The content includes human pathophysiology, as well as principles and practice of rehabilitation, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy.



### Animal Care



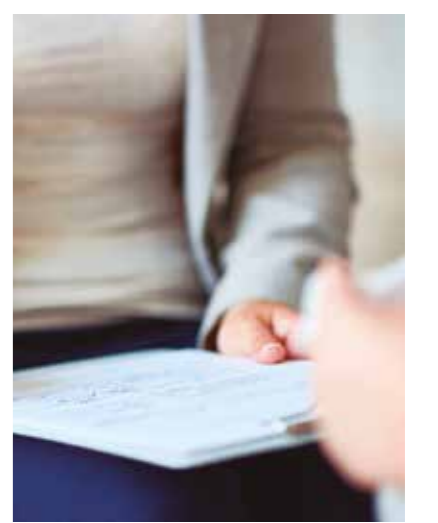
This course is designed for students who have an interest in animals, in particular how animals and people depend on each other in society and how to care for them. Students will not only learn knowledge about animal care and host of work that are related to animals and skills for safe care practices, but also prepare themselves for further studies and career development in animal care.



### Applied Psychology



This course introduces fundamental knowledge of psychology and provides an overview of the profession of psychology in Hong Kong. Diverse areas in psychology, such as motivation, intelligence and personality development, stress and conflict management, mental health or positive psychology will be covered. Students who have completed the course should be able to grasp the foundations of psychology theories and application techniques towards individual, social and professional contexts. Meanwhile, students' self-understanding and personal growth will also be promoted.



### Practical Psychology



This course is a broad-based introduction to psychology in everyday life. It is suitable for students who are interested in further studies in psychology. Topics include foundation of psychology, lifespan development, personality, social psychology, abnormal behaviors and positive psychology. Upon completion, students will be able to apply basic concepts in both personal and social contexts. Students will go through a journey of personal growth and be ready for further studies and career development in psychology-related fields.



### Foundation in Chinese Medicine



To understand the basic knowledge of traditional Chinese Medicine and enables students to apply such knowledge in their daily life. Students will explore their further studies and career pathways with the basic understanding of the profession of the Chinese Medicine and the development of the industry through the application and practice of the knowledge of traditional Chinese Medicine of this subject.



### Exercise and Fitness Coaching



This course aims to equip students with the foundation knowledge in the areas of exercise science, fitness and health as well as the fitness testing and assessment through the practice of exercise and fitness skills. Through training in coaching, and integrating the foundation knowledge and skills to design and implement an exercise and fitness training activity. This course not only arouses students' learning interest in exercise and fitness related topics, but also enhances their career-related competencies, foundation skills, thinking skills, people skills, and values and attitudes, preparing them for further studies and career development.



### Health Care Practice



This course is designed to equip students with knowledge of applied science as well as knowledge and skills for health care practice, including pharmacology, immunology, food and nutrition, nursing and first aid, etc. Through the hospital and simulation ward clinical training, students will develop interest in the health care profession and enhance their understanding of it, preparing themselves for further studies and career development in the health care industry.



### Medical Laboratory Science



Medical laboratory science involves the application of sophisticated instruments and techniques in performing complex laboratory procedures on tissue specimens, blood samples or other body fluids. These tests and procedures will provide critical information for medical professionals to monitor a person's health condition, to diagnose and to treat diseases. This course aims to promote students' interest in medical laboratory science through the application of scientific principles in disease diagnosis and health monitoring. Different modes of activities are employed to provide students with a systematic understanding about the context, enabling students to understand the fundamental theories and concepts, to develop their generic skills, and to address their aspirations for further studies and career in medical laboratory science.



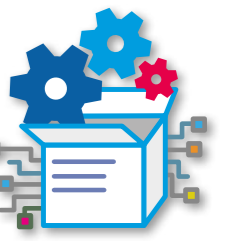
### Exercise Science and Health Fitness



This course equips students with knowledge about the basic elements in exercise science and health fitness through practice, including fitness training and assessment, sports and recreation management, nutrition and health, etc. Students who have completed the course will acquire a basic understanding of exercise science and coaching techniques for further studies and career development in sports and recreation related industries.







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### Digital Construction



Through a simulated learning environment, students will learn the general profile of the construction industry and construction technology, and its latest local and global development. They will understand the work ethics and responsibilities, occupational safety as well as sustainable development applications. Through interactive learning activities, students will acquire the theories and applications of building studies and civil engineering.



### eSports Technology and Management



This course aims at providing students with fundamental knowledge and skills in the field of eSports technology. The curriculum covers a wide range of study areas including eSports business development, devices and network infrastructure for eSports, digital content production and eSports event management. This is to prepare students to further study in relevant discipline and pursue a career in the eSports industry.



### Electrical and Energy Engineering



Through a simulated learning environment, students will learn the general profile of the electrical and energy engineering industry, and its latest local and global development. They will understand the work ethics and responsibilities, occupational safety as well as technologies for sustainable development applications. Through diversified learning and teaching activities, students will acquire the theories and applications of electrical and energy engineering.



### Tech Basics



Technological advancement is affecting the nature of jobs globally. To maximize economic and social benefit in age of globalisation and digitalisation, it is critical that secondary students are equipped with skills in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). As the name implies, basic concepts of information technology will be introduced in this courses including computer programming, database, IT project management skills, application development, data communication and networking. The course focuses on imparting essential knowledge in practice and application to students for new collar jobs. Upon the completion of the course, students will acquire basic knowledge in programming and data analysis and prepare for employment the IT industry and further studies.



### AI and Robotics



This course is designed to introduce students the concept of artificial intelligence and robotics technology development and enhance their awareness of the emerging technology development through building relevant simple prototype and applications. The curriculum covers the fundamentals of robotics (from design to the movement of robots), artificial intelligence programming, their applications and issues in society, as well as automation and system integration. This is to prepare students to further study and pursue a career in the industry.



### Aviation Studies



Aviation is the dream of many teenagers. This course introduces students the operation of the aviation industry, with an emphasis on the knowledge and skills required for aircraft pilots, aircraft maintenance, aviation services and air cargo. It aims to help students understand the reality and prospects of the aviation industry, and to prepare them for further studies and career development in the field.



### Computer Forensic Technology



The rapid development of information technology has been followed by a huge demand in computer devices. To collect digital evidence in a rapidly changing computer environment is not easy. This course is designed to nurture secondary school students' interest in computer forensic technology and equip them with the knowledge of authentication, preservation, analysis and examination of digital evidence. This course covers Introduction to Computer Forensics, Computer Forensics Tools and Applications, Digital Evidence Handling, and Social and Ethical Issues in Computer Forensics. It aims to prepare students for further studies and career development in the IT industry.



### Railway Studies



This course aims to equip students with the safety, technological and operational knowledge being used in modern railway industry. It also introduces the roles, responsibilities, skillsets and qualifications required for various positions in the railway industry, and enhances students' awareness on the future need and the development of railway systems in the local and abroad. This course consolidates students' academic foundation and provides a starting point for students' lifelong learning for further studies and development in the pursuit of careers in railway transport operations and management, logistics as well as electrical engineering industry.



# ApL

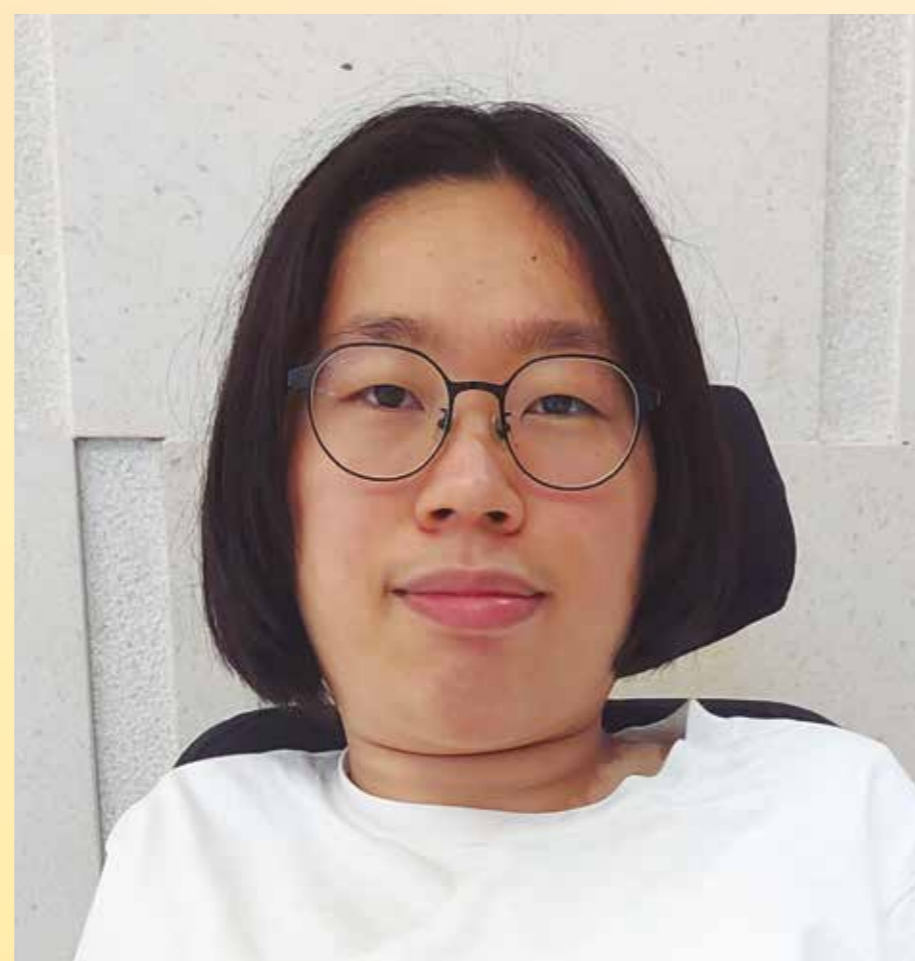
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**Wong Ho Lai**  
Exercise and Fitness Coaching  
HKCT

In 2020, I enrolled in the ApL course "Exercise and Fitness Coaching" at HKCT. Throughout the course, I have learnt various basic theories of professional coaching. For example, we learnt about human anatomy to better understand human movement. Besides, the ApL course covered topics ranging from warm-up routines, core training, cool-down stretching, to the planning of coaching sessions. I observed that what we studied were interrelated. Apart from the theories, we have put what we have learnt into practice too. We had the opportunity to apply what we learnt in class to real-life coaching situations. For instance, we learnt about yoga postures, sports science and fitness testing. We also learnt about coaching and planning skills and put them into practice. In sum, the teaching method, theories, and organizational skills that I learnt in the course were useful for me to be an assistant coach. Studying this ApL course was a meaningful and fruitful learning experience.



**Lam Yuk Shan**  
Animal Care  
CityU (SCOPE)

Since studying in the ApL course, I have gained a wealth of knowledge about animals, not only from the course materials, but also from the practical skills I have acquired in taking care of animals. Firstly, I have developed a deeper understanding of the human-animal relationship and the interactions and bonding between human and animals. Secondly, I have learnt about various aspects of animal welfare, which has enabled me to evaluate whether animals are living in a good environment and in good physical condition. Thirdly, I have learnt about animal body structure. Furthermore, I have gained an understanding of animal behavior, enabling me to identify signs of happiness, relaxation and aggression in dogs and cats, which can help prevent accidents. I have also learnt how to train animals. Finally, I have gained valuable skills in caring for both dogs and cats.

Prior to taking this course, I was uncertain about my passion for animals and whether I wanted to pursue a career in this field. However, this course has given me a chance to learn more about animals which has confirmed my interest in animals. After nearly a year of study, I have consistently performed well in the course. Overall, this course has helped me identify my interest and potential, and I am now certain that I want to work with animals in the future.



**Law Cheuk Yin**  
Animal Care  
CityU (SCOPE)

Studying ApL Animal Care has provided me with the scientific knowledge, practical skills and mentality to pursue veterinary medicine as a career. This course has been instrumental in guiding my career path towards becoming a veterinarian. During my year-long study, I attended seminars, conducted research projects, and reviewed case studies on animal welfare, anatomy, physiology, and behavior. Most notably, I devised care plans for a rescued mongrel and an adopted Persian cat based on the "Five Needs" and Nurse Care Plan rubric. This helped me understand the importance of evidence-based and holistic quality care provided by animal caregivers. I have also learnt to use "Gibbs' Reflective Cycle" to reflect on my field trips and practical experiences, which helped develop my self-directed learning skills.

When I shadowed a vet nurse at a local animal hospital for two weeks, I witnessed the challenging yet meaningful work of a vet and put my knowledge from animal care lessons into practice. For instance, I learnt directional terminologies to take X-rays, prepared blood smears for hematology and serum biochemistry, and set up cages for hospitalisation. Throughout this Animal Care course, my knowledge of veterinary science and animal welfare science was immensely deepened, and my dedication to studying veterinary medicine and becoming a veterinarian has undoubtedly grown. This course has equipped me with the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue my dream of becoming a veterinarian.



**Chung Chun Wing**  
Computer Forensic Technology  
HKU (SPACE)

The ApL course Computer Forensic Technology provided me with a lot of interesting and practical experience such as live forensic, file encryption and decryption, and the art and skill of presentation. Through these experiences, I was equipped with basic knowledge and skills of the forensic field. Through classifying the digital evidences with my groupmates, my co-operation skills had been enhanced. Besides, I learnt disruptive thinking and problem-solving skills by analysing the case and solving the technical problems. There is no doubt that this course has improved my interpersonal skills. I do believe that this course had helped me prepare for entering the Engineering or Computing industries.