

Education Bureau organises online exhibition to promote Applied Learning courses (with photos)

The Education Bureau (EDB) today (April 14) informed all secondary schools and encouraged students, parents and teachers to visit the "Applied Learning Courses Virtual Exhibition 2021" (edb-aplvirtualexhibition.hk) to enhance their understanding of Applied Learning (ApL) courses.

A spokesman for the EDB said, "This event, held from today until July 15, is jointly organised by the EDB and ApL course providers. In view of the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Exhibition this year is conducted in a new mode via an online platform. A total of 10 course providers are participating in the Virtual Exhibition. Information on more than 40 ApL courses, including course briefs, course introduction videos and student works are exhibited, aiming to help students, parents and teachers understand that ApL is a valued senior secondary elective subject.

"ApL focuses on practical learning elements and links to broad professional and vocational fields with a dual emphasis on theory and practice. It develops students' knowledge, generic skills, positive values and attitudes through simulated or authentic contexts, preparing them for further studies and work," added the spokesman.

The local senior secondary elective subjects comprise over 40 ApL courses which cover six areas of studies: Creative Studies; Media and Communication; Business, Management and Law; Services; Applied Science, and Engineering and Production. There are also courses under Applied Learning (Vocational English) and Applied Learning Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students).

Last year, the Task Force on Review of School Curriculum and the Task Force on Promotion of Vocational and Professional Education and Training submitted their respective reports to the EDB. ApL was recognised as a valued senior secondary elective subject and recommended for further promotion to enhance public understanding of its value in both reports.

In addition to the Virtual Exhibition, the EDB will continue to promote ApL courses through different channels, including the production of television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest and a series of success stories of ApL graduates entitled "Applied Learning, Apply the Learning!", in which graduates will share their personal stories on how ApL had helped them realise their studies and career aspirations step by step. This will help dispel the misconception that ApL is only for underachievers.

The first two short videos in the series are entitled "Realising aspirations, Broadening horizons" (emm.edcity.hk/media/t/1_27iekizz) and

"Equipping ourselves, Pursuing our dreams" (emm.edcity.hk/media/1_9pj46d5r). The former features an ApL graduate who studied the ApL course "Medical Laboratory Science" and the latter an ApL graduate from the course "Film and Videos". Through studying the ApL courses, the two students not only mastered relevant knowledge of the respective fields, but also realised their real interests, thereby laying a solid foundation for further studies and career pursuits. The two videos are now available for viewing on the EDB Educational Multimedia website.

For further details about ApL, please visit the EDB website (www.edb.gov.hk/apl/en).

