

Thoughts from a student
Applied Learning course – Practical Accounting for SMEs
Equip yourself. Prepare for the future



Wong Tsz Po (graduate of 2005-07 cohort)
 Secondary School : T.W.G.Hs. Yow Kam Yuen College
 Current study:
 Higher Diploma in Accountancy (Year 3)
 Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education
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Wong Tsz Po is a graduate of the HKIAAT Applied Learning (ApL) course “Practical Accounting for SMEs” 2005-07 cohort. He is a year three student and is currently studying the four-year Higher Diploma in Accountancy at IVE (Kwun Tong).

Question: *Does the knowledge you gained from the HKIAAT Applied Learning (ApL) course “Practical Accounting for SMEs” help you with your Higher Diploma?*

Answer: Yes, it does. Since I studied this ApL course and IVE is one of the deliverers, my application to IVE’s Higher Diploma in Accounting programme was given preference. I gained a basic understanding of the fundamental accounting theories and techniques from the ApL course, making it easier for me to move on to advanced accounting knowledge. The skills in handling accounting software that I learnt from this ApL course helped me with the techniques needed in the subject “Information Technology Applications in Accounting” in my year two study. However, I still have to devote more effort to other subjects covered in my Higher Diploma programme, such as law and auditing, which demand stronger language skills.

Question: *Why did you apply to join the ApL course?*

Answer: It is no news that there is a shortage of talent in the accounting profession and that accounting is essential to every business. Therefore, I believe that studying accounting will be beneficial to my future career development. Furthermore, two of my classmates attended classes with me and we provided good support for each other.

Question: *Did you also study the “Principles of Accounts” subject at secondary school? How did this contribute to your learning?*

Answer: Yes. The accounting subject taught in secondary school was more theoretical while the ApL course placed emphasis on the application of accounting software MYOB. It was a new experience for me to use computer software to manage accounts while also learning the accounting theory. Using the software is far more convenient and efficient than making calculations with pen and paper.

Moreover, the ApL course was taught in Chinese while the Principles of Accounts course was taught in English. The ApL course helped me understand the areas I was unsure of at school and strengthened my accounting knowledge.



Question: *What did you find most impressive about the ApL course?*

Answer: My tutor's interactive teaching method. She never simply read out of the book, but explained the theories by using real and simple examples, as well as by talking about her previous work experience. She also taught us a better way of answering questions. I learnt a lot from her.

The course arranged for us to visit an accounting firm and meet a Certified Public Accountant. From what he told us of his experience, I know that having a clear vision is the first step to embarking on a career in the accounting profession. One should also be prepared to keep up-to-date on new accounting knowledge in order to stay competitive.

Question: *How do you feel after being awarded the HKIAAT Applied Learning Scholarship?*

Answer: I am very honoured and excited to be awarded this prize. It is a huge encouragement for me and has proved that my hard work pays off.

Question: *What are your plans after graduation?*

Answer: I will try to apply for a job as an accounts clerk and see if I really like the nature of the work. Then I will be able to plan the next step on my career path.