

The Stepping-Stone that raises students up —ARCH Education Centre

by Philip Evich & Yinyin Liao
Epoch Times Staff

ARCH Education was “a glowing beacon of hope”, for student Jeremy Lin who received offers from all 7 universities to follow his dreams to study medicine. Student T.H. states that the “individual help” ARCH Education offers helped him “build the foundation” he will need to succeed at university. T.H. has received offers from all 5 universities in hopes of studying biomedical sciences.

Just over a year ago, Lin, an IB student and T.H. an AS Level student were both looking to make the grades to stand out to top universities (such as UCL for T.H.). With admittance more competitive than ever, top grades are not recommended, but almost a requirement.

Students in today's education programs are feeling more and more lost because teachers don't have the time or resources to dedicate to students who fall behind. “I needed individual help,” says T.H. Both Lin and T.H. were looking for some personalised yet firm guidance to assist them in realising their ultimate academy goal: to get to the top University of their ideal subject.

This is where ARCH Education offers a solution for such students: an accelerated, one year A-Level course, one of the many courses that they offer to students looking for advancement. In 30 weeks between September and June, students in the ARCH Education will expect a demanding workload

and a faster pace in preparation for covering the AS and A2 syllabi. ARCH Education is a great opportunity for students who encounter difficulties in following the IB/DSE approach and want to use this A-level course for a second chance

T.H. was quick to say that he loved the “tailored and flexible” approach that ARCH Education employed to help each individual student. Extensive test preparation is just a fraction of what ARCH Education offers its students. Teachers undergo an extensive multi-round application process and the students are adamant about the large role their teachers played in contributing to their success. Small class sizes foster individual attention for each student. Lin explained that ARCH teachers encouraged him to invest himself in a “way more than learning curriculum”. Lin was pushed to apply his learning to the real world and study medicine in the news and keep up to date with the field's constant changes. Lin developed a stronger understanding of not only the material, but got a sense of what the field would be like after school.

Lin and T.H. said they loved the “wonderful community” of students and teachers. “We all became friends,” Lin said. Both students noted that there was always a teacher or counsellor around to keep them on track and facilitate their academic needs.

Further than just academic preparation, ARCH Education staff provides students with interview preparation, letters of recommendation, extra tutor-

ing when needed, and counselling on what universities would be ideal for students depending on their strengths.

ARCH Education approaches the A Level exams in a way that breaks down crippling test anxiety for many students. By implementing regular practice exams and teaching important test taking techniques throughout the year, students feel prepared in May and June when examinations start.

Both Lin and T.H. agreed that “ARCH Education is the bridge” that allowed them a smooth transition from secondary schooling to realising their dreams of a prestigious college education. ARCH Education was their chance to re-establish themselves as top college applicants.

The programs in ARCH Education are of limited acceptance. Applications for ARCH Education look at past grades (pass

minimum of four separate subjects at GCSE/GCE ‘O’ level) and for demonstration of fluency in academic English. ARCH Education meets with all applicants to gauge each student's goals and evaluate if the rigour of the program is appropriate for what the student is looking for. The Hong Kong program started this year with five students. It plans to grow more in the upcoming years as it continues to demonstrate success.

Students at ARCH Education receive “tailored”, one on one instruction, which helps them meet academic goals in order to stand out to top universities.



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