

A Preliminary Exploration on the Curriculum Mode Reform of College English Teaching under the Background of Ideological and Political Education

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Abstract

Moral cultivation is the fundamental task of education. It is urgent that ideological and political education should be reflected in the whole process of college education. Therefore, this paper takes the teaching of college English courses as the starting point and curricular ideological and political education as the carrier, explores the effective paths of combining English teaching with moral education and cultivating talents, and constructs a characteristic ideological and political teaching mode of engineering college English courses.

Keywords

Ideological and political education; college English courses; teaching mode reform.

1. Introduction

The ideological and political work of colleges and universities is related to the fundamental issue of what kind of people, how to train people and for whom. We must persist in taking moral cultivation as the central link, run ideological and political work through the whole process of education and teaching, achieve full education and all-round education, and strive to open up a new situation in the development of the cause of higher education in our country. In order to implement the idea of educating people by virtue, the Party Group of the Ministry of Education issued the Implementation Outline of the Project to Improve the quality of Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities in 2017, clearly proposing to vigorously promote the teaching reform with the goal of "curriculum ideology and politics". "Curriculum Ideology and Politics" not only breaks through the traditional ideological and moral cultivation education based on "ideological and political courses", but integrates the curriculum ideological and political concept into all courses, integrates the curriculum ideological and political concept into the professional knowledge learning, fully explores the ideological and moral education elements of each course, and melts the "salt" of ideological and political education into the "soup" of education. We should make the curriculum learning return to the basic educational goal of "educating whole-person". Curriculum ideology and politics cover all majors, all disciplines, and all curriculum systems, and all courses and teachers should shoulder the responsibility of cultivating people by virtue and promoting "curriculum education" to "whole curriculum education".

2. Necessity of College English Ideological and Political Education

For a long time, public English teaching lacks of thinking about the cultivation of students' core quality of English subject. It is generally believed that English is only a tool course, and the training of students' language ability is only emphasized in English teaching. The author believes that we must change the original practice of grasping only the results of quick success and instant profit, from knowledge standard to core quality standard, and strengthen the cultivation of students' cultural character in English teaching. At present, the organic

integration of foreign language teaching and ideological and political education, which is closely related to cross-cultural education, has become the development trend and the only way for foreign language teaching in China. Meanwhile, Different from ideological and political courses, college English courses realize the function of cultivating morality and cultivating people through language teaching in an implicit way (subtly and silently) [1]. Our university is a multi-subject university mainly focusing on engineering, and students' cultural literacy is often weak. The original public English curriculum lacks the construction of ideological and political content, which needs to be changed urgently.

3. Reform Paths on the College English Ideological and Political Education

3.1. Setting Clear Ideological and Political Goals

The advantage of ideological and political construction of college English basic courses lies in the fact that the objects of ideological and political education are not only important but also numerous. All freshmen in our university are required to take the college English course: General English (I-1). These English courses, combined with ideological and political content, help to develop students' core qualities. General English (I-2) and Advanced English writing are optional courses for all undergraduates, and the ideological and political construction of these two English language core skills courses can achieve full coverage of ideological and political courses. Ideological and political education for undergraduates should not only be the task of ideological and political courses, but also other professional courses and public basic courses should be developed in coordination to achieve all-round education. Based on this starting point, the ideological and political construction of undergraduate public English courses has carried out a series of effective reforms and innovations. The ideological and political curriculum and the curriculum ideological and political education in essence are to play the function of ideological and political education, and they have internal compatibility. The construction goal of the Ideological and political project of undergraduate public English courses is to build a "major ideological and political" course for undergraduate public English aimed at educating all students, integrate the socialist core values into the teaching process, emphasize the mainstream values in the transfer of knowledge, and achieve moral cultivation imperceptibly. Moreover, the ideological and political design of foreign language curriculum should attach importance to creating a unique learning experience for learners' personality development and value formation in language learning, so that they can feel the infiltration of ideological and political teaching objectives in the silent language learning, and realize the unity of explicit foreign language learning and implicit ideological and political education [2]. Overall, the goal of the ideological and political construction of the undergraduate public English course of our university is: to improve undergraduates' Chinese identity, cultivate global citizens, increase cultural identity and national identity, promote personal development, and become a confident and self-reliant high-quality talent with deep cultural foundation.

3.2. Updating Teaching Contents

The connotation of curriculum ideology and politics can be understood as: the organic unity of knowledge imparting and value guidance in all course teaching, and the value paradigm of patriotism, social responsibility, cultural confidence and humanistic spirit contained in the course are extracted, so that students can have the right direction in cognition, emotion and behavior. English courses are divided into compulsory courses and elective courses, which are 32 hours of public basic courses. These courses have been revised on the basis of the original syllabus, adding ideological and political content. The ideological and political teaching content of each course is increased by 4 ~ 6 hours, and the total ideological and political teaching content is increased by 46 hours.

The English listening and speaking course, which has the widest student coverage, is divided into three levels after passing the Entrance Listening and Speaking Grading Machine test. In the three levels of listening and speaking teaching, teachers unified the ideological and political teaching content of each level, selected teaching units suitable for the dissemination of socialist core values for students to discuss in class, and carried out socialist core values education with English as a tool in classroom activities. The teaching of advanced English writing course requires students to complete at least one essay on ideological and political topics every semester as a big assignment, so that students can stimulate internal motivation and actively learn and explore Chinese culture in the process of completing class activities and assignments. Teachers of English reading and writing classes adapted international classic textbooks and incorporated Chinese culture-related content into the new textbooks. In order to emphasize the idea of combining the dissemination of traditional Chinese culture with English teaching, Chinese-English translation exercises related to ideological and political topics are added to the unit exercises. In addition, teachers also adjust and supplement the content of textbooks according to the ideological and political modules of the curriculum, so that English teaching and humanistic quality training can be integrated in the textbooks. For example, in the eighth unit of the reading and writing class, the content of China's important role in the international community in eradicating extreme poverty is added, so that students can correctly introduce Chinese culture and national conditions in English.

The construction of ideological and political content of English general courses is also carried out. When explaining the English etymology, the English vocabulary class adds the relevant content of the "Belt and Road" construction and "two centenary goals", aiming to promote cultural exchange and communication through vocabulary learning, and cultivate national self-confidence. Through the linkage of the ideological and political construction of English basic courses, English language and cultural application courses and English general courses, it emphasizes the integration of learning and application, emphasizes the cultivation of students' English application ability, and innovates a multi-directional and multi-level curriculum ideological and political practice teaching structure.

3.3. Improving Teaching Mode

Curriculum ideological and political combination needs to be two-way, that is, quality education and professional education take the initiative to integrate with the contents and means of ideological and political education, and take the initiative to change the form and content of curriculum. The teachers of undergraduate public English courses in our school have also made innovations in teaching forms, and combined with rich online learning resources, they have imperceptibly integrated ideological and political content into learning activities. The undergraduate Public English series carries out a variety of classroom activities, such as group discussions, public speaking, interpreting practice, simulated academic forums, etc. These activities not only meet the basic needs of undergraduates in English language skills learning, but also meet their needs for proper cross-cultural communication activities as high-quality talents in the future.

In the English listening and speaking teaching practice, the main teacher adopts the blended teaching method, combining the advantages of traditional teaching methods with the advantages of digital or network learning. Blended teaching reflects the new trend of foreign language teaching in the "Internet +" era. In the specific teaching practice, it combines classroom teaching with extra-curricular learning, and integrates the imparting of subject knowledge with the cultivation of correct ideas. In the past two years, it can be seen from the video homework submitted by the students of Listening and speaking class that the students are very interested in telling Chinese stories and Chinese culture in English. They make their own groups and choose the ideological and political topics that they are interested in. The

submitted videos include live interviews, cultural discussions, and campus dramas. Quite a few videos have also been processed with special effects in the later stage, and are beautifully produced both in content and form. At the end of the semester, teachers show the videos made by students in class, and recommend some excellent videos to share learning in other classes. The process of making, presenting and learning video assignments not only cultivates students' spirit of cooperation, but also enables students to learn more about traditional Chinese culture, which greatly enhances students' cultural confidence and national pride. These activities make the teaching of ideological and political themes keep pace with the times, and thus are popular among students.

The undergraduate public English curriculum also optimizes the curriculum evaluation in combination with the curriculum ideological and political construction. The change of teaching assessment content and method has taken into account the learning needs of undergraduates to improve their language application ability and the curriculum ideological and political needs of students to cultivate Chinese cultural literacy and socialist core values, and has achieved good teaching results.

4. Conclusion

The Ideological and political construction of College English Serial courses is highly in line with the new definition of college foreign language course objectives revised in March 2020 in the General English syllabus of the School of Foreign Languages: In terms of humanism, this course combines the unit theme with ideological and political elements, aiming to cultivate students' identity of home and country, personal character and scientific outlook. While learning languages, students can understand the society and culture at home and abroad, enhance the knowledge and understanding of different cultures, cultivate cross-cultural communication ability, improve the comprehensive quality of students, provide effective support for their all-round development, and realize the organic integration of instrumental and humanistic nature. The ideological and political construction of college English courses not only achieves the same ideological and political goals as the overall whole-person educational goals, but also improves the overall level of public English teaching in universities.

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