

# **The Responsibility and Mission of Ideological and Political Course in Colleges and Universities**

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**Abstract:** Ideological and political course is the main channel and position of ideological and political education for students in colleges and universities. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Party Central Committee, with Comrade Xi Jinping as its core, has attached great importance to ideological and political work and to strengthening the construction of teachers of ideological and political course. Only by constantly reforming and innovating and strengthening the construction of Ideological and political courses in colleges and universities can they shoulder the responsibility and mission of training socialist builders and successors.

## **1. Introduction**

Since the 18th National Congress of the CPC, the CPC Central Committee, with Comrade Xi Jinping as its core, has attached great importance to ideological and political work in schools and to strengthening the construction of teachers in Ideological and political courses, and has made a series of major decision-making arrangements for this purpose(1,2). From the National Conference on Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities in December 2016 to the National Education Conference in September 2018 and the Symposium on Teachers of Ideological and Political Theory in Schools in March 2019, General Secretary Xi Jinping fully affirmed the role of teachers of Ideological and political courses in carrying out the fundamental task of establishing morality and cultivating new persons of the age who are responsible for national rejuvenation, and gave full recognition to the construction of Ideological and political courses(3,4). The development direction and specific requirements are put forward. As the first course in the curriculum system of colleges and universities, ideological and political courses are facing unprecedented opportunities and will inevitably shoulder unprecedented responsibilities and missions (5).

## **2. Importance of Ideological and Political Courses**

### **2.1 Fully Understanding the Role of Ideological and Political Courses in Talents Training in Colleges and Universities.**

General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that the primary issue of education that whom to train at the National Conference on Education. China is a socialist country under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, which determines that our education must take the training of socialist builders and successors as the fundamental task, and train generations after generations of useful talents who support the leadership of the Communist Party of China and our socialist system and aspire to struggle for socialism with Chinese characteristics for life(6). This is the fundamental task of educational work and the direction and goal of educational modernization.

### **2.2 Fully Implementing the Party's Educational Policy and Solving the Fundamental Problem.**

At the colloquium of teachers of Ideological and political theory in schools, General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized once again that the most fundamental thing to do well in Ideological and political theory course is to fully implement the Party's educational policy and solve the fundamental

problem of whom to train, how to train and for whom to train. Our Party is committed to the great cause of the Chinese nation. We must train generations after generations of useful talents who support the leadership of the Communist Party of China and the socialist system of our country and aspire to struggle for the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics for life. Ideological and political theory course is the main channel and position of Ideological and political education for students in Colleges and universities. It is a course of special nature. Unlike other courses, its main task is to disseminate Marxism, Mao Zedong Thought and the theory of socialism with Chinese characteristics, vigorously promote socialist core values, and cultivate firm beliefs, stable positions and world outlook (7). A qualified builder and reliable successor of a socialist cause with a correct outlook on life and values, a decent style of work and good morality.

### **2.3 The Healthy Growth of Students is the Starting Point and the Foothold of College Work.**

General Secretary Xi Jinping said that the adolescent stage is the jointing and booting stage of life, which requires timely fertilization and watering, and careful guidance and cultivation. The healthy growth of students is the starting point and the foothold of College work. The ideological and political course in Colleges and universities relentlessly disseminates Marxist scientific theory, grasps the education of Marxist theory, and lays a scientific ideological foundation for students' life-long growth (8,9). Therefore, the ideological and political course in Colleges and universities plays an irreplaceable role in running through the Party's educational policy and fulfilling the fundamental task of establishing morality and cultivating people.

## **3. Strengthening the Construction of Teachers is the Key to Running Ideological and Political Courses in Colleges and Universities**

General Secretary Xi Jinping stressed that ideological and political work is the lifeline of all kinds of work in schools. Party committees at all levels, competent educational departments at all levels and Party organizations in schools must firmly grasp it. We should carefully train and organize a contingent of political workers who can do ideological and political work, and make ideological and political work every day and individual.

The key to running the ideological and political theory course well lies in the teachers, and the key lies in giving full play to their enthusiasm, initiative and creativity. Ideological and political teachers should be strong in politics, deep in feelings, new in thinking, broad in vision, strict in self-discipline and correct in personality. Ideological and political teachers in Colleges and universities should give full play to the role of personnel training. Ideological and political teachers must meet the requirements of six essentials and do deep work in constantly improving their comprehensive quality.

### **3.1 Firmly Belief.**

Xi Jinping put forward that teachers of Ideological and political course should be strong in politics, let people who have faith talk about their beliefs, be good at looking at problems politically, and keep political sober in the face of major and minor issues. The nature of the ideological and political course has clearly endowed the ideological and political teachers with lofty political mission. At the same time, it clearly requires the ideological education content and responsibility of the ideological and political course teachers. As we all know, the post of Ideological and political teachers in Colleges and universities has special requirements compared with the general post of teachers, which requires the qualifications of Party members.

The identity of Communist Party members determines that ideological and political teachers should consciously establish the consciousness of position, overall situation, responsibility and responsibility. We should have strong political sensitivity and discrimination. We should learn, understand, believe, speak and use the theories and values disseminated in class. Of course, at the same time, we should be consistent in words and deeds, unified in class, people before and after. Teachers teach thousands of lessons, teach people to seek truth, students learn thousands of lessons, learn to be real people.

### **3.2 Talk about Theory and Lay a Solid Foundation.**

Armed with scientific theories, teachers of Ideological and political courses in Colleges and universities must form a knowledge structure that combines specialized knowledge with extensive knowledge so as to achieve the thoroughness of theory. At present, many ideological and political teachers are facing the predicament of lacking theoretical foundation and single professional background. For example, some teachers have legal background, some teachers have political and economic background, and some teachers have historical background. They cannot show the integrity of Marxist theory in their lectures. To this end, ideological and political teachers must read the original works of Marxism, grasp the true meaning of Marxism, read a large number of books, follow the pulse of the times, and study the latest theoretical achievements of Marxism in depth. As Xi Jinping said that feelings should be deep, keeping the feelings of the country and the nation in mind, paying attention to the times, society and learn from the great practice of the Party and the people.

Ideological and political teachers should keep pace with the times, be good at learning and discovering, and incorporate correct and new theories that meet the needs of the times into their teaching. Only with broad academic horizon and profound theoretical foundation can we open up a good ideological and political course in a rational and vigorous manner.

### **3.3 Speaking of Thought and Touching the Soul.**

Karl Jaspers, a German philosopher, has a famous saying that the essence of education means that one tree shakes another tree, one cloud drives another cloud, one soul awakens another soul. Many ideological and political teachers in Colleges and universities only pay attention to the imparting of knowledge in the teaching process, but neglect the guidance of ideas, and do not lead students to question, explore and speculate. Such teaching cannot arouse students' deep desire for knowledge, solve students' practical problems, and make students accept and believe in Marxist theory. Therefore, the ideological and political course in Colleges and universities is not only to disseminate Marxist theoretical knowledge, but also to solve the puzzles of students' thoughts, to bury the seeds of truth, goodness and beauty in the minds of young students, to help them button the first button in life and to help students grow up and become talented adults.

Practice has repeatedly proved that any course that integrates ideas into theoretical knowledge is a good one, and any course that only emphasizes theoretical knowledge and does not emphasize ideas cannot achieve the teaching objectives of Ideological and political course. Therefore, the ideological and political course in Colleges and universities must have a thorough understanding of students' reality, grasp the law of students' growth and development, lead the thinking, and touch the soul of students, so that students can really be taught.

### **3.4 Language Affinity and Infusion of Emotion.**

When it comes to ideological and political education, what people think of is that they preach with a rigid face, the general principles, the emptiness and rigidity. Such ideological and political lessons cannot achieve good results if they refuse students thousands of miles away. Sukhomlinski who's a famous educational theorist of the Soviet Union, once said that Education is concerned, thoughtful and careful to touch the young mind. Xi Jinping also said that if you kiss your teacher, you can believe his way.

Ideological and political teachers should understand the artistic propaganda of Marxist theory, and use poetic language and vivid life language to show the charm and vitality of Marxist theory. At the same time, the ideological and political teachers must also integrate emotions, passion and affinity in their lectures. This kind of emotion is a natural expression. Only by truthfully believing in what they say, can teachers impress students, infect and attract them, and let students learn truthfully. If we change knowledge into action, the middle is letter, and enter our minds, we will achieve results.

## **4. Efforts To Promote The Reform And Innovation Of Ideological And Political Courses In Colleges And Universities**

### **4.1 Doing a Good Job in Classroom Teaching.**

General Secretary Xi Jinping said that cultivating talents should run through the whole process of education and teaching. The ideological and political course in Colleges and universities is the only way to educate people through classroom teaching in the whole process, so we must base ourselves on the classroom and stabilize the classroom. Every lesson should be elaborately designed, the introduction should be novel and attract the attention of students; the main content should be systematic, systematic, logical, in-depth layer by layer, and the key and difficult points should be clear; the questions should be concise, targeted, with certain difficulties, which can arouse students' thinking and solve some practical puzzles; finally, we must summarize, point out the theme and highlight the ideological nature.

For a period of time, some schools and some teachers neglected classroom teaching, blindly pursued form, and even appeared the tendency of teaching entertainment, which completely deviated from the purpose of Ideological and political courses in Colleges and universities. The ideological and political lessons in Colleges and universities must be cautious about the classroom, revere the classroom, cherish the classroom and make full use of the classroom.

### **4.2 Combining Practice Teaching.**

The teaching form of full-house irrigation and duck-filling is ineffective. Contemporary young students experience simplicity and lack of social practice experience. Combining classroom teaching creativity with social practice makes students strengthen their cognitive perception of classroom theory in social practice, which is conducive to their recognition of correct theory and the establishment and stability of value beliefs. There are many forms of practical teaching. One is to visit the educational base of patriotism. For example, museums, red revolutionary sites, celebrities' former residences and so on, on-site teaching has achieved good results. Second, sing red songs, appreciate red art works or read Red Classics aloud.

In modern and contemporary China, there are representative Red Classics in every period. Teachers are required to carefully design the activities according to the teaching content and to set principles and directions. All the students participated and divided into groups. Through the activities, students can broadly dabble in relevant knowledge and show their works with emotional experience. More importantly, the whole practice link needs the students to work together, make collective efforts and accomplish together, so as to maximize the cohesion of the people's hearts and cultivate the concept of collectivism.

### **4.3 Making Good Use of Network Media Means.**

With the development of modern social network, available resources and media platforms emerge in endlessly. Of course, the uneven situation is also very prominent. Teachers should be good at guiding and making good use of network resources to serve teaching. Some excellent movies and TV works, such as The Founding of the People's Republic, The Founding of the Party, The Founding of the Army, The Stronger Our Country, The Diplomacy of a Great Power, The Glorious China, etc., can be partially broadcast or recommended to the students themselves. Through the movies and TV works, the students enter the flood of modern Chinese history and feel the revolution, construction and reform of generations after generations of Chinese people.

The process of learning has been transformed into the driving force of today's learning, and the four self-confidence has been firmly established. At the same time, we can use the big data platform of the network, through questionnaire survey and other ways to understand students' ideological status, understand students' social problems of concern, guide students correctly, and enhance the pertinence and timeliness of teaching.

#### **4.4 Reforming Examination Method.**

For a long time, there have been two main methods for the assessment of Ideological and political courses in Colleges and universities: one is the traditional mechanized and formulaic examination, which only examines basic knowledge and basic concepts, and students cannot really solve ideological problems by rote memorization; the other is the simplified one or two questions, open-book examination, students copy books or answers online, which cannot really reflect the ability and level of students. To reform the examination methods, we should not only pay attention to the assessment of students' learning process in peacetime, but also to the cultivation of students' abilities and the ability of students to understand, analyze and solve problems with the basic principles of Marxism.

#### **5. Conclusions**

The times are changing and the contents and requirements of Ideological and political courses in Colleges and universities are also changing. Only through constant reform and innovation can the ideological and political courses in Colleges and universities really play its role. Education is the foundation of a century-long plan. The ideological and political course in Colleges and universities bears an important function of political education. Only when it is constructed into a course that students genuinely love and benefit for life, can it be irresponsible and mission.

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