

# Research on the Concept, Path and Method of Construction of the Teaching Innovation of Ideological and Political Education in English Course in Private Colleges and Universities

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**Abstract:** On the basis of elaborating the connotation of ideological and political in university English courses, this paper analyses the problems encountered in the penetration of ideological and political education in university English teaching in private colleges and universities, and combines the characteristics of the development of ideological and political education, so as to put forward targeted countermeasures to solve the problems.

## 1. Concept of English Civics Construction in Private Universities

With the 2016 National Conference on Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities, a new round of

In December 2017, the *Implementation Guideline of the Quality Improvement Project for Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities* proposed to vigorously promote the reform of classroom teaching with the goal of ideological and political education in all courses. In May 2020, the Ministry of Education issued the *Guidelines for the Construction of Ideological and Political Work in the Curriculum of Higher Education*, stressing that the construction of the curriculum should firmly grasp the "main battlefield" of curriculum construction and the "main channel" of classroom teaching. In order to implement the *National Vocational Education Reform Implementation Programme* promulgated in 2019, and further guide higher vocational colleges and universities to deepen their teaching reforms, the Ministry of Education promulgated the *English Curriculum Standard for Higher Vocational Education Specialists* (hereinafter referred to as "the new curriculum standard") in March 2021. The new curriculum standard takes "cultivating morality and nurturing people" as the fundamental and ultimate education goal. Every and each part and aspect of the curriculum, from the nature and mission of the curriculum to the core qualities and objectives of the subjects, from the curriculum structure to the curriculum content, and from the quality of academic work to the implementation of the curriculum, highlights and demonstrates the concepts of "Moral education first, competence first, and all-around development". With the promulgation of the new curriculum standard, the teaching of English in private colleges and universities will certainly set off a wave of reform guided by the new curriculum standard.

The author takes the research of the subject as an opportunity, takes the new curriculum standard as a guide, takes the course ideology as the educational concept, carries out the practical exploration of the reform of ideological and political education in college English teaching and the integration path of course ideology, and gradually establishes the concept of the construction of the reform of the course ideology of private colleges and universities' college English teaching and the analysis of the path.

As a brand-new educational concept, curriculum ideology and politics refers to the integration of ideological and political education into all aspects of curriculum teaching and teaching reform, so as to subconsciously influence students' ideology and behaviour, and to realize the realization of establishing moral education and making things silent. The construction of university English course ideology and politics needs to be based on the following four concepts:

### **1.1 Using University English Courses as a Vehicle for Ideological and Political Education in the Curriculum**

Language is the carrier of culture, English learning can not be separated from the understanding of Western culture, college English programme is a tool for students to understand the world's multiculturalism. As the public basic course with the widest coverage, the largest amount of class time and the longest teaching cycle in colleges and universities, college English course has a unique advantage in the implementation of ideological and political education that other courses do not have. Therefore, taking college English course as the carrier of course ideology and politics and internalizing ideology and politics education in the course content will help to give full play to the advantageous role of this course in talent cultivation, and help to achieve the goal of cultivating morality and nurturing people through the course.

### **1.2 Using university English textbooks as the content of the programme's ideology and politics**

The English teaching innovation of ideological and political education is not a course of ideological and political education, and the content of ideological and political education cannot be rigidly implanted into the content and teaching process of university English teaching, not to mention that it cannot be detached from the English teaching materials to talk about ideological and political education. Therefore, the construction of ideology and politics education in university English course must be based on the content of university English teaching materials. In the choice of teaching materials, it is recommended to give preference to the teaching materials of several authoritative publishers in the foreign language sector. At present, several major foreign language publishers have published the edition of university English textbooks which contains content of ideological and political education. Comparatively speaking, the editors of those new editions have taken into account the ideological and political education elements contained in the theme of each unit during the preparation of the textbook, and have set up a special ideological and political education section in the content of the unit. In addition, the teaching platform of the publishing house is also equipped with some resources of ideological and political education, such as teaching courseware, audio and video. Excellent teaching materials coupled with resource-rich teaching platforms can not only reduce the pressure on teachers to prepare lessons, but also provide teachers with inspiration and ideas for lesson preparation. Teachers can screen, add or subtract and secondary process the existing ideological and political education resources according to the actual situation of students and the teaching situation in the process of lesson preparation.

### **1.3 Contextualisation of tasks as a focus for the design of ideological and political education teaching and learning**

Teaching design of ideological and political education is an important part of ideological and political education in curriculum teaching. How to attract students' attention in teaching in the era of mobile phone popularity and developed network is a problem faced by many teachers. A good teaching design can pull students' attention back to the classroom from the Internet. Therefore, English teachers should pay special attention to the teaching design in the process of lesson preparation. The design of ideological and political education teaching should be student-centred, ideological and political education goal-oriented, and this type of teaching design focuses on the context creation task. English textbooks for private universities are basically written with career-related teaching themes as unit themes. The categories of topics include three aspects: career and individual, career and society, and career and environment. Each aspect corresponds to different topics, such as history and culture, types of occupations, professional ethics, workplace culture, ecological environment, voluntary activities and so on. According to the different theme categories and topics of each unit, teachers can create corresponding ideological and political education-related contextual tasks for students to complete.

#### **1.4 Task-driven, group collaborative enquiry as a form of learning in the ideological and political education of the curriculum**

In the teaching process, the teacher takes the lead, takes the task as the driving force, takes the students as the main body of the teaching activities, takes the learning points reward as the means, and completes the learning tasks and achieves the teaching objectives through the form of group cooperation and exploration. Teachers enable students actively participate in teaching activities through guidance and inspiration, so that the teaching process becomes an active and interactive dynamic process. Teachers set up ideological and political education-related contextual tasks in the teaching design, assign the tasks to students in the teaching process, and let students complete the tasks in the form of group cooperation. The form of the task can be diversified, such as watching videos to fill in the blanks, role-playing, group discussions and speeches. On the surface of the students to complete a language learning task, but the creation of the situation is integrated into the ideological and political education elements, then the students in the completion of the language task at the same time subtle acceptance of the ideological and political education, to achieve the effect of silent ideological and political education teaching.

### **2. The path of integration of university English teaching reform and curriculum Civics and Politics**

Ideology and politics in all courses is the inherent requirement of ideological and political education teaching reform in colleges and universities, the core of which lies in tapping the ideological and political education resources of different disciplines and professional courses, establishing an organic and unified curriculum system, and forming an all-discipline, all-encompassing, and all-empowering ideological and political education curriculum system. Therefore, the reform of college English teaching in private colleges and universities should be guided by the new curriculum standard, with ideology and politics as the core and human education as the fundamental, so as to achieve the knowledge transfer and value leadership for students through college English teaching.

#### **2.1 School level: policy support and sound mechanisms**

First, the establishment of a system of education on the ideology and politics of the school curriculum should be coordinated. Teaching management departments have strengthened their guidance and supervision of curriculum teaching in the implementation of moral education and the enhancement of core qualities to ensure that the construction of curriculum civics and politics is put into place, rather than merely requiring the filling out of a few forms to find points of integration of curriculum civics and keeping the teaching of curriculum civics and politics on paper.

Secondly, teachers should go out to learn and experts needed to be invited in to teach the course teachers, so that teachers can strengthen their practical and theoretical reserves through lectures and other forms. In order to improve the overall level of teachers' teaching and infusion of ideological and political education, it is necessary to provide teachers with more opportunities for training and further education. Schools can establish a full-time teachers and Marxism College teachers "friendship" or "mentoring" mechanism, through the "fixed-point help", under the guidance of the teachers of the course of ideological and political education, full-time teachers can grow faster.

Thirdly, the supporting mechanism should be improved to stimulate teachers' enthusiasm. By refining the teaching management mechanism, perfecting the assessment and evaluation mechanism of curriculum Civics education, incorporating teachers' curriculum Civics construction and teaching into the evaluation of teachers' titles, job grading, and evaluating priorities and merits, the enthusiasm of teachers' Civics teaching will be comprehensively stimulated. In addition, the school can set up special funds to encourage teachers to carry out the construction of the ideological and political education in English course, do research on ideological and political education, participate in ideological and political education in English teaching competitions. Scientific research can promote thinking while competition may promote learning, which gradually improve the teachers'

awareness and ability to implement ideological and political education in English teaching. In a word, the school should provide strong guarantee for the construction of ideological and political education of the English course from the policy, management and other aspects through multiple measures and precise measures.

## **2.2 Teachers' level: enhancing the awareness and improve the ability of ideological and political education**

As the dominant players in classroom teaching, teachers are the key force in promoting the construction of Civics and Politics in the curriculum. English teachers should take the initiative to adapt to the requirements of the new curriculum, adapt to the new situation of the development of private education, constantly update their educational concepts, strengthen their awareness of educating people, improve their ability to educate people, pay attention to the value orientation of the course content, and refine the elements of the course's ideological and political education content. According to the characteristics of the English subject, they should reasonably design teaching activities and situational tasks, cleverly and organically integrate the contents of the course ideology and politics in the material library into the teaching process, and drive students to think actively and positively, so as to ensure that the construction of the course ideology and politics is implemented and put in place, and to see the achievements and effects, so as to truly realize the goal of the course to educate people.

## **2.3 Practical aspects of pedagogical reform**

The first innovation practice is the revision of curriculum standards and other relevant teaching documents in accordance with the new curriculum standards, with an emphasis on the specific embodiment of curriculum ideology in those documents. Curriculum standards are the basis for the preparation of teaching materials, classroom teaching, teaching evaluation and test propositions, and have direct guiding significance for teachers' work, as well as being the criteria and basis for evaluating the quality of teachers' teaching and students' learning effects. With the promulgation of the new national curriculum standard, the original English curriculum standard of university is bound to be revised. Therefore, the standards should be revised according to the actual situation of the school under the guidance of the new standards. In addition to the original knowledge objectives and ability objectives, additional objectives are set for course ideology and politics. For example, students should be able to recognize, understand and respect the multiculturalism of the world, broaden the international perspective, enhance national identity, strengthen cultural self-confidence, and establish the sense of community of the Chinese nation and the sense of community of human destiny; be able to communicate effectively across cultures in daily life and in the workplace, and use English to spread the Chinese culture.

Secondly, another innovation practice is to strengthen the development of the curriculum's ideological and political education resources, and promote the in-depth integration of the English curriculum and ideological and political education. English teachers should make full use of the network and platforms, docking textbooks to find, accumulate and establish a database of ideological and political education materials for the curriculum. There are a lot of good video resources on the Internet, such as the documentary film *Xi Jinping's Strategy for Ruling the Country*, *The China Story*, and *A Bird's Eye View of China*. In the "Learning World" section of the international channel of *Learning Power*, you can find English versions of various party and government documents, speeches of leaders at major conferences, and current political news. In addition, there are also media channels such as *CGTN*, *China Daily*, *English World*, etc., which have a lot of traditional cultural knowledge, such as bilingual recitation of the classics, Chinese traditional festivals in English, twenty-four solar terms in English, and so on. As long as they search attentively, teachers can find a lot of English ideological and political education materials corresponding to the content of the teaching materials on the platform. After establishing the Civics and Politics materials database, it will be much easier for teachers to prepare for the subsequent lessons. Teachers can strengthen their collective lesson planning, dig deep into the ideological and political education elements of the teaching materials, make creative teaching design, prepare a

manual of ideological and political education classroom teaching activities, integrate ideological and political education into specific contextual tasks and teaching activities, promote the in-depth fusion of the English curriculum and ideological and political education, and finally cultivate the students' humanistic qualities while improving their language skills.

## **2.4 Grasping the main channel of ideological and political education in the first classroom teaching**

First, the teacher should seize the first three minutes of the class to give away the vocabulary of ideological and political education teaching content. The English vocabulary of private college students is generally smaller, and the vocabulary related with ideological and political education teaching content is even more difficult for them, for example, some of them don't even know the English expression of "People's Republic of China", but only know China. So teachers can make use of the first three minutes of the class to teach this type of vocabulary, such as the Communist Party of China, the three "representatives", the socialist core values and so on. Through the accumulation of the English expressions of ideological and political education vocabulary taught and learned in the classroom, the vocabulary will be expanded gradually to understand the meaning of "China".

Secondly, the teaching means need to be enriched to enhance students' interest in learning. Ideological and political education vocabulary teaching can be taught by the teacher, but also by the students. Teachers can set up vocabulary tasks before class, and let students act as teachers in class to teach their classmates to learn vocabulary. In the classroom, teacher could play the video related to the teaching content to create a situation, devise group task to guide the students to divide the work and feel the power of the collective, change the traditional way of assessment by the use of the learning points method to encourage students to participate in more classroom activities to get more points. In short, English teachers should find ways to open their minds, constantly enrich the teaching methods and use a variety of teaching methods. The teacher should not always complain that nowadays students are more and more difficult to teach, but should adapt to the new situation of private education, by changing the traditional indoctrination teaching methods, increasing the students' sense of experience, and fully mobilizing the students' subjective initiative in order to enhance the students' interest in learning, and change passive learning to be active learning.

Thirdly, rich extracurricular activities should be carried out to realise the effective linkage between the first classroom and the second classroom. The second classroom is also a stage to show the results of the construction of university English programme ideology and politics. The University English Teaching and Research Department actively cooperates with the school's new model of "Mentoring Workshop" which plays the role of "main force" of teachers in the second classroom and serves as the quality mentor of student clubs, and carries out a number of concurrent nurturing work. The second classroom of University English takes the Sunshine English Club of the school as the core, the team of instructors as the structure, and competitions as the handhold, and further promotes the nurturing effect of the course's ideology and politics through rich and colourful extracurricular activities. The club regularly organizes morning reading, English corner, school-level English writing and speech contests and English song contests with a clear theme of ideological and political education, so as to make classroom learning and extracurricular activities complement each other and integrate organically.

In addition, the University English Teaching and Research Department has set up a team of competition instructors to give full play to the instructor's guiding role in the second classroom. At the same time, by selecting outstanding students to participate in mentor training, we have built a scientific and effective preparation mechanism for English subject competitions, and helped breakthroughs in subject competitions, and achieved good results in the Sichuan Region of the "Foreign Studies Society Cup" Writing Competition and Speech Competition. The rich students' activities in the second classroom complement the teaching in the first classroom, realising the active linkage of the two classrooms, creating a strong and good atmosphere for English learning on campus, and improving students' practical English ability and ideological and political literacy. The

linkage of the two classrooms is not only the consolidation of the results of the teaching classroom, but also the expansion and extension of the comprehensive quality training of students.

### 3. Conclusion

As a core course in the general education and public foundation courses of private institutions, the university English course should carry out teaching reform practices under the guidance of the new curriculum standard, improve students' comprehensive English application ability, do a good job in the construction of the course's ideology and politics around the goal of cultivating people by "cultivating morality and nurturing people without any sound", sort out the elements of ideology and politics embedded in teaching materials, and improve the teaching design. We will use the Internet to establish a material database of ideology and politics, improve the teaching design, give full play to the role of the main channel of the first classroom teaching, and carry out colourful extracurricular activities in combination with the second classroom, so as to achieve effective linkage between the two classrooms, improve the effect of college English teaching, and achieve the organic unity of the curriculum in educating people and the ideological and political education with the education of knowledge system.

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3) Model Teaching Team ( Public English Teaching Team of Ideological and Political Education Teaching Innovation) of Higher Education under Sichuan Provincial Department of Education , April of 2021, first principal researcher, under research.

4) Model Course *College English I* of Ideological and Political Education Teaching Innovation of Higher Education under Education Department of Sichuan Province, December of 2020, first principal researcher, under research.

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