

Reflections on Integration of Ideological and Political Education in College English Curriculum

Lingli Geng

Hubei Communications Technical College, Wuhan, Hubei, 430079, China

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Abstract: Faced with the current complex domestic and international situation, new trends and contradictions in economic and social development, the construction of ideological and political systems in universities is also facing new challenges. The ideological and political education in the curriculum aims to guide proper values into knowledge transmission and ability cultivation, adhere to the unity of education and talent cultivation, implement the fundamental task of cultivating morality and talents, and comprehensively improve the quality of talent cultivation. This paper reflects on how to integrate ideological and political education into college English courses, and proposes that curriculum ideological and political construction is a systematic project. Schools need to strengthen top-level design, comprehensive planning, gradual progress, and continuously create a good situation for ideological and political work. Some practical teaching cases are listed for reference.

1. Introduction

The construction of ideological and political education in courses should revolve around the core point of comprehensively improving talent cultivation capabilities, and be promoted in all colleges and universities across the country. This fundamentally elucidates the basic functions of socialist education in our country, which has strong pertinence and practicality. It is not only necessary to attach great importance to strengthening the teaching of ideological and political courses in schools, but also to attach great importance to the political value orientation reflected in the teaching of professional courses.

To promote the construction of ideological and political education in college English courses, it is necessary to focus on the fundamental task of cultivating morality and talents, integrate value shaping, knowledge transmission, and ability cultivation, integrate ideological and political elements into curriculum design, guide proper values in knowledge transmission and ability cultivation, and help students shape correct outlook on life, world, and values. ^[1]The construction of ideological and political education in the curriculum is related to the cultivation of morality and even determines the issue of socialist successors, the long-term stability of the country, and the rejuvenation and rise of the nation. This paper discusses how to integrate ideological and political education in college English courses.

2. Based on the task of talent cultivation, do a good top-level design of ideological and political construction

The Opinion of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Further Strengthening Ideological and Political Education for College Students points out that "all courses in higher education institutions have educational functions, and all teachers have educational responsibilities. Teachers should take a highly responsible attitude, lead by example, and have a subtle influence on college students with good moral character, morality, quality, and personality." We need to integrate ideological and political education into various aspects of college students' professional learning, including teaching, scientific research, and social services. We need to deeply explore the ideological and political education resources of various courses, strengthen ideological and political education in the process of imparting professional knowledge, so that students can

consciously strengthen their ideological and moral cultivation and improve their political consciousness in the process of learning scientific and cultural knowledge.^[2]

Curriculum ideological and political education is a holistic work that faces all courses in the school and involves all teachers. It requires consensus and motivation from all departments and units in the school, with multiple departments working together and supporting each other to form a unified leadership of the school, the academic affairs department taking the lead in overall management, relevant departments working together, and teaching departments implementing and promoting the work pattern. Schools must attach great importance to it, propose overall ideas, do a good job in top-level design, promote the two-way connection and mutual promotion between professional courses and ideological and political courses, and form a synergistic effect in educating students. Each secondary college will incorporate ideological and political education into its talent cultivation plan and teaching outline, and formulate implementation suggestions. Teachers will be organized to study relevant documents and theories through thematic learning meetings, thematic discussions, and other various approaches, promoting the normalization of ideological and political education in the curriculum. By holding promotion meetings, work seminars, on-site exchange meetings, and online discussions, we can explore ideological and political elements in professional teaching, share construction experience and representative cases. Arrange observation classes and training classes to enhance the cognitive understanding of ideological and political education among teachers, and timely transform the achievements of ideological and political education into practical applications in the classroom for other teachers. Regular ideological and political course design competitions can also be organized to conduct case evaluations of ideological and political education, commend advanced teachers, strengthen publicity, and other incentive activities to continuously promote the construction of curriculum ideological and political education.

3. Enhancing Teachers' Moral Awareness and Refining the Ability of Curriculum Ideological and Political Work

The teaching staff is the "main force" of education, and the improvement of teachers' moral awareness is the key to doing a good job in curriculum ideological and political work, as well as an important prerequisite and foundation for its development.^[3] In teaching activities, the ideological and political presentations of teachers has a strong demonstrative nature, and the academic spirit and life attitude displayed by teachers have a great impact on students. When teachers are standing on the podium and communicating with students both inside and outside the classroom, their academic level, academic realm, and teaching investment, whether they have sufficient concern for students, whether they are familiar with their learning status, and whether they are fully concerned about their growth, students have the most genuine feelings and are most susceptible to the infection and influence of the teacher's professional ethics and style. So we must adhere to the principle that educators receive education first, and strive to improve their ideological awareness and professional abilities, so that teachers can better assume the guiding responsibility and guides for the healthy growth of students.

Every course is conveying and shaping value, and every course is striving to shape students into better individuals.^[4] As a language course, college English is also a good humanities education course because language itself is a carrier of culture. When imparting language knowledge to students, it can effectively educate them on humanistic thinking. Sometimes, English classrooms inevitably convey certain Western ideological values. It is important to remember that "academic research has no forbidden areas, classroom teaching has discipline". English teachers should effectively strengthen teaching resource management, strictly educate teaching discipline, and not spread erroneous views and statements that violate the Party's line, principles, and policies in the classroom, make every effort to cultivate socialist constructors and successors in the new era, further strengthen their awareness of the right perspective of education, improve their ability to educate, ensure the implementation of ideological and political education in English courses, and achieve results. Teachers must consciously integrate socialist core values into their teaching, with

love for the Party, love for the country, love for socialism, and love for the people, promote excellent traditional Chinese culture, enhance cultural confidence, cultivate students' patriotism, and correct outlook on life, world, and values, not only educate students on the application of knowledge and skills, but also inspiring their patriotism, national spirit, and dedication to the country.

4. Accumulate successful cases of ideological and political education teaching, and achieve effective teaching methods

Classroom teaching is the main channel for cultivating students. If the ideological and political education in the curriculum is artificially created as requiring all teachers to teach some ideological and political content, and all courses need to add some ideological and political elements to professional content, it will lead to a situation of "two skins" and "labeling", which will surely have poor results. ^[5]On the one hand, teachers should adhere to the correct political direction and fully play the role of cultivating intrinsic character in the classroom. On the other hand, teachers should achieve "professionalism without reducing quantity, and education should improve quality". Ideological and political elements should be intertwined and integrated with professional knowledge content, complementing each other, playing a crucial role in stirring the heart and resonating, thus achieving mutual promotion and complementarities between "teaching" and "education". This requires teachers paying attention to learning in daily life, exploring the advanced deeds of the era's role models and those models around us, organizing relevant cases of the spirit of striving for excellence as a great craftsman or undertaking the glorious mission of the discipline, understanding the application of major engineering and technological forces in daily life, and the inventions and innovations in Chinese history. Efforts should be made to accumulate successful ideological and political teaching cases and build a good library of ideological and political materials. Only in this way can classroom teaching achieve a clear direction and good effects.

The exploration of ideological and political resources in English courses can be placed within the characteristics and background of national, social, and school development. Elements of value shaping can be organically integrated into classroom teaching content and various links, introducing the spirit of self-reliance and self-improvement of some outstanding English figures, or combining typical events and meaningful dates to help students understand excellent Chinese culture, enhance their respect and understanding a pattern and perspective that embraces different cultures, helps build cultural confidence, and serves the high-quality development of the country and the construction of a community with a shared future for mankind. For example, in the English listening practice session, BBC and VOA resources are often used. It should be pointed out that when using Western news to learn language, it is important to not fully accept their expressed views, and learn to use rational analysis of their positions. Especially, the West often criticizes China's environmental protection, human rights and other issues with purpose, and even deliberately distorts facts, making good green tree photos look like withered trees, and calling high-quality Xinjiang cotton a problematic product, etc. Students must not be brainwashed by Western misconceptions. There isn't a larger and rounder moon in the West.

Another example, in the oral practice section, the lives of Chinese and American college students are compared. American college students do have richer extracurricular activities and better social resources, but students should not only see the highlights of advanced education and high university rankings in the United States. It should be noted that due to historical reasons, China started relatively late, but we have already achieved good results in limited time. Those areas that are not so good need to be improved by the younger generation. It is shameful for us to criticize our backwardness with our mouths and not find a way to contribute to the development of our country with our hands. We should remember that we defeated American planes and artillery with our millet and rifles. This miracle should definitely be proud of. Our backwardness in certain fields does not mean we will always be backward. Nowadays the world has changed, and China's development threatens the economic hegemony of the United States. The United States has provoked a trade war

to suppress Chinese companies represented by Huawei, and used chips to constrain China's technological modernization, attempting to curb the process of realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. This also serves as a negative warning to us that science knows no borders and its application has politics. China must accelerate independent innovation and strengthen key core technology research and development. We need to have the backbone and ambition to break the bottleneck situation of being stuck by foreign countries in specific fields. This is our own country. We must build it by ourselves instead of relying on others.

There are countless heroic predecessors and role models of the times, whose deeds and spirit win our admiration and are worth promoting and commemorating. The more appropriate the entry point in teaching is, the more effectively we can introduce them. For example, when discussing a sports topic, many classmates mentioned their favorite sports stars. I agreed with them and asked if they liked stars from other fields, and if they want to know my favorite star. I told students my idol is Zhou Enlai. Not only was he handsome, but he also had great talent, possessed a noble character, and made countless outstanding contributions, becoming a shining and eternal star in the long river of history. Of course, appearance is not important, what is important is having meaning, ambition, courage, and ability. In this era, role models from all walks of life have emerged, and their inspiring stories have become a monument to people's spirit.

5. Conclusion

In short, curriculum ideological and political education is a long-term and systematic project, not a phased work or a temporary activity, but an educational philosophy that must be adhered to for a long time and should be constantly updated. The construction of ideological and political education in college English courses should revolve around knowledge, abilities, and value goals, integrate language teaching into humanities teaching, construct interdisciplinary knowledge frameworks, highlight value guidance, optimize content supply, achieve equal emphasis on Chinese and Western cultures, fully utilize language teaching materials, excavate and extract noble sentiments and value points that need to be conveyed to students, and implement them in various language teaching activities, achieving the standardization and normalization of English ideological and political education. Faced with the current complex domestic and international situation, new trends and contradictions in economic and social development, the construction of ideological and political systems in universities is also facing new challenges and missions. Building a comprehensive curriculum ideological and political system is a prerequisite for implementing the fundamental task of cultivating morality and talents, a powerful guarantee for comprehensively enhancing the ideological awareness of university teachers and students, and an important measure to strengthen the construction of university culture. ^[6]Amidst the unprecedented great changes in a century, the Chinese people must strive for self-improvement and truly make China stronger. This requires every teacher to learn, understand, and speak politics, shoulder the responsibility of cultivating morality and talent, and cultivate qualified socialist constructors and successors.

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