

Analysis on the Teaching Significance and Methods of General Education Optional Course “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation”

Mimi Yang

College of Resources and Environmental Engineering, Mianyang Normal University, Mianyang 621000, Sichuan, China

Abstract: As an optional course of general education, “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation” is of great significance and value. As a precious natural resource, gem not only has a beautiful appearance, but also contains rich cultural connotation and historical background. By learning the appreciation knowledge of gem and jade stones, students can not only cultivate their aesthetic ability and art appreciation ability, but also broaden their cultural vision and enhance their knowledge and understanding of traditional culture. At the same time, gem and jade stone appreciation is also a practical course, students can deeply understand the characteristics and identification methods of gem and jade stones through field investigation and practical operation, and cultivate their observation, analysis and judgment ability. This paper mainly analyzes the significance and methods of the teaching of general education optional course “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation”.

Keywords: General education; Appreciation of gem and jade stones; Teaching; Significance; Method

Fund Project:

This contribution was financially supported by the Research Start-up Project of Mianyang Normal University (Project No. QD2021A13) and the Natural Science Foundation of Sichuan Province (Project No. 23NSFSC0792; 23NSFSC0792-)

The optional course “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation” is to meet people’s demand for knowledge of gem and jade stone appreciation, provide professional training and education, so that learners can understand the types, characteristics, identification methods and market value of gem and jade stone, and cultivate their interest and appreciation of gem and jade stones.

1. Analysis of the teaching significance

1.1 Cultivate students’ aesthetic ability and art appreciation ability

The teaching of the optional course of general education “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation” is of great significance for cultivating students’ aesthetic ability and art appreciation ability. Through the study of this course, students can improve their cognition and understanding of gem. As a kind of material with unique beauty and artistic value, there are many kinds and colorful, and each kind of gem and jade stones has its unique characteristics and value. By learning the origin, types, characteristics and relationship with human culture and art, students can have a deep understanding of the aesthetic value and cultural connotation of gem and jade stones, so as to improve their cognition and understanding of gem and jade stones^[1]. The course can also cultivate students’ aesthetic taste and appreciation of precious stones. As a kind of art, the aesthetic value and aesthetic characteristics of gem need to be discovered and appreciated through professional appreciation skills and experience^[2]. By learning the methods and skills of appreciation of precious stones, students can cultivate their aesthetic taste and improve their appreciation of precious stones. At the same time, by learning the artistic expression forms and aesthetic laws of gem stone, students can cultivate their sensitivity and understanding of art, and enhance their art appreciation ability.

1.2 Enhance students’ cultural literacy and historical awareness

In ancient cultures, gems were often regarded as auspicious objects, representing wealth, power and status. By learning the

status and significance of gems in Chinese, Indian, Egyptian and other cultures, students can broaden their cultural horizons and understand the different interpretations and meanings given to gems by different cultures. By learning about the status and significance of gems and stones in different cultures, students can learn about the importance and value of gem and jade stones in various cultures. Gem and jade stones are often closely associated with important events and people in history. For example, the tombs of Egyptian pharaohs often unearthed a large number of gem and jade stones, which not only represent the power and status of the pharaohs, but also reflect the prosperity and development of ancient Egyptian civilization^[3]. In addition, some historical celebrities also have a close relationship with gems, such as the nobility and emperors in Chinese history often wear gems and jades to show their identity and status. By learning the relationship between gem and jade stones and historical events and figures, students can have a deeper understanding of the development of history and the stories of figures, and enhance their interest and understanding of history.

2. The theoretical basis of the teaching method

2.1 The choice of teaching content

The teaching content should be representative and typical. There are many kinds and forms of gem and jade stones, so the representative and typical stones should be selected for teaching when choosing the teaching content. This can help students establish an overall understanding of the gem, understand the basic characteristics and classification of the gem. Gem appreciation is a complex subject, which involves the knowledge of the appearance, internal structure, origin and processing technology of gem. Therefore, when choosing the teaching content, it should be organized according to a certain system and level, so that students can gradually understand all aspects of gem and jade stone. Gem appreciation is not only a theoretical subject, but also a practical subject. Therefore, in the selection of teaching content, we should pay attention to training students' practical ability and appreciation skills. Students can be personally involved through physical display, field visits, practical operation and other ways to improve their practical application ability. Gem appreciation is a subject of constant development and renewal, and new varieties and methods of gem appreciation are constantly emerging. Therefore, in the selection of teaching content, emphasis should be placed on introducing the latest research results and appreciation skills to cultivate students' innovative thinking and learning ability^[5].

2.2 The choice of teaching methods

According to the characteristics of students, we can choose the teaching method suitable for them. For example, for beginners, an intuitive teaching method can be used to allow students to intuitively understand the appearance characteristics and texture of gems by showing physical objects or pictures of gems. For advanced learners, practical teaching method can be adopted, allowing students to operate and observe gems in person to improve their practical operation ability and observation. According to the learning objectives, choose the corresponding teaching methods. If the learning goal is to cultivate students' analytical and judgmental ability, the problem solving method is adopted to guide students to analyze the characteristics and value of precious stones by raising questions and discussing them, and to cultivate their thinking ability. If the learning goal is to improve students' appreciation ability, the comparative teaching method can be used to compare the characteristics and values of different gems, so that students can accurately identify the quality and authenticity of gems. If the teaching content is more complex, the step-by-step teaching method can be used to break the content into several small steps to gradually guide students to understand and master. If the teaching content is more abstract, you can use demonstration teaching method, through demonstration and demonstration, so that students can intuitively understand and imitate.

3. Analysis of teaching methods

3.1 Combination of theoretical teaching and practice

It is very important to combine theory teaching with practice in the teaching of the general education optional course "Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation". Teachers can introduce the basic knowledge and classification of gem and jade stones, so that students can understand the origin, characteristics, quality and other aspects of knowledge. This can be done through classroom explanation, PPT presentation, video playback, etc. Through theoretical teaching, students can have a preliminary understanding of gem and jade stone and get ready for the subsequent practical activities. In order to give students a deeper understanding of the charm of gem and jade stone, teachers need to organize field trips and practical activities. For example, organize students to visit the gem exhibition, visit the gem processing plant, visit the gem market and so on. Through field visits, students can personally feel the texture, color, luster and other characteristics of the gem, and further deepen their understanding of the gem. At the same time, teachers can also organize students to appreciate treasures and stones, so that students can personally observe, compare and evaluate the quality and value of different gems. Such practical activities can enhance students' practical operation ability and appreciation ability, and cultivate students' interest and love for precious stones^[6].

3.2 Strengthen multimedia teaching and interactive discussions

Multimedia teaching and interactive discussion are commonly used teaching methods in the general education optional course “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation”. Using multimedia to display pictures and videos of gems can help students intuitively understand the appearance, color, texture and other features of gems. Through the multimedia display, students can more clearly understand the differences and characteristics of different kinds of gem and jade stones. Teachers can also use multimedia to display pictures and videos of gems to arouse students’ interest and curiosity. By watching pictures and videos, students can feel the beauty and mystery of gem and jade stone, thus stimulating their interest in gem and jade stone and the desire to study it. After showing the pictures and videos of gem and jade stone, guide the students to participate in the discussion and share their opinions and feelings. Students discuss the color, texture and value of gems and stones, and share their preferences and understandings of gem and jade stones. Through interactive discussions, students can learn from and inspire each other to broaden their horizons and cognition. Interactive discussion can also develop students’ critical thinking and expression skills. Through discussion, students can learn to analyze and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of gem and jade stones, and put forward their own opinions and viewpoints. At the same time, students can also learn to listen to the views and opinions of others, and develop teamwork and communication skills.

4. Conclusions:

Through the teaching of the optional course “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation”, it can provide a platform for students to develop in an all-round way, cultivate their aesthetic ability, cultural accomplishment and innovative thinking, and make them become talents with comprehensive quality. In the teaching method, we can use the combination of theory and practice, through explaining the relevant knowledge and field visits, so that students can personally experience and feel the charm of gem and jade stones. At the same time, it can guide students to conduct group discussion and research, and cultivate students’ ability of cooperation and independent thinking. Through the way of multimedia teaching to stimulate students’ interest in gem and jade stone appreciation, so that students can be fully involved in it, feel the charm of learning and appreciation of gem and jade stones.

References:

- [1]Gu Xianneng. Teaching Reform and Practice of Public Art Education in colleges and universities under the concept of General Education [J]. *The Artist*,2023(3):96-98.
- [2]Luo Yong, Li Dan, Meng Ke, Wang Yunfei, Wang Hongchao, Dong Yanhua, Zhao Li. Exploration on the Cultivation of Practical Ability in the Course of Appreciation of Gem and Jade -- Based on General Education [J]. *Modern Commerce and Industry*,2017,38(14):153-154.
- [3]NIU Huapeng, Xie Qingbin, LI Zhuang, Sun Jing, Wang Chunying, ZHU Yixiu. Exploration and Practice of “Gem Appreciation” general Education Course under the background of “Double first-class”: A case study of China University of Petroleum (Beijing) [J]. *Progress in Education*,2019,9(4):427-431.
- [4]Ma Xiaofan. Course Construction and Reflection on the General Education optional course “Gem Appreciation and Gem Culture” [J]. *Curriculum Education Research: Study of Teaching Methods*,2017,0(25):34-3410.
- [5]Jiang Fujian. Research on Curriculum Construction of Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation [J]. *Journal of Nanyang Normal University*,2003,2(12):109-112.
- [6]Jiang Lijun, Li Suqin. The teaching experience of General Education Optional course “Gem and Jade Stone Appreciation” [J]. *Intelligence*,2012,0(32):324-325.

About the author:

Mimi Yang, female, Han, lecturer in Mianyang Normal University, Jianyang, Sichuan Province, Doctor. Research direction: Physical geography.