

# On the Integration of Art and Aesthetic Education in College Ideological and Political Education

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**Abstract:** This paper focuses on the important topic of integrating aesthetic education and ideological and political education in colleges and universities from the perspective of “grand ideological and political education”. It analyzes the inherent compatibility and realistic challenges of integrating aesthetic education and ideological and political education, and puts forward effective ways to achieve the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education, which provides useful enlightenment for improving the level of ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

**Keywords:** Grand Ideological and Political Education; Aesthetic Education + Ideological and Political Education; Deep Integration

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## 1. Introduction

This paper focuses on the important topic of integrating aesthetic education and ideological and political education in colleges and universities from the perspective of “grand ideological and political education”<sup>[1]</sup>. It analyzes the necessity and feasibility of integrating aesthetic education and ideological and political education, the inherent compatibility and realistic challenges of integrating aesthetic education and ideological and political education, and the effective ways to achieve the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education, which provides useful enlightenment for improving the level of ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

## 2. The necessity and feasibility of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education

### 2.1 The necessity of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education

2.1.1 The deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education is conducive to cultivating college students’ sense of social responsibility and patriotism. Aesthetic education is a kind of education that covers various forms of art, which can convey the excellent cultural traditions of the Chinese nation, stimulate college students’ sense of national pride and cultural confidence through music, dance, drama, painting and other ways. At the same time, aesthetic education can also broaden college students’ international vision and enhance their cross-cultural communication skills by showing the artistic styles and cultural characteristics of different countries in the world<sup>[2]</sup>. Ideological and political education is a kind of education that aims at cultivating the core values of socialism, which can guide college students to establish correct world outlook, outlook on life and values, and enhance their ideal faith and moral cultivation by teaching the history and theory of the Communist Party of China<sup>[3]</sup>. The deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education can make college students feel the greatness of the motherland and the struggle of the people while enjoying the beauty, thus cultivating their sense of social responsibility and patriotism.

2.1.2 The deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education is conducive to improving college students’ aesthetic ability and innovative spirit. Aesthetic education is a kind of education that focuses on cultivating aesthetic ability, which can cultivate college students’ sense of beauty and aesthetic judgment, and improve their artistic appreciation and creation level by teaching aesthetic knowledge and art skills<sup>[4]</sup>. Ideological and political education is a kind of education that emphasizes cultivating innovative spirit, which can stimulate college students’ innovation awareness and motivation, and improve their innovation ability and quality by introducing the innovation practice and achievements of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The deep integration

of aesthetic education and ideological and political education can make college students learn the methods and thinking of innovation while learning the beauty, thus improving their aesthetic ability and innovative spirit.

2.1.3 The deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education is conducive to promoting college students' emotional communication and personality improvement. Aesthetic education is a kind of education that aims at cultivating emotions, which can regulate and enrich college students' psychological state, and enhance their emotional communication and understanding by expressing and feeling the emotions of beauty<sup>[5]</sup>. Ideological and political education is a kind of education that requires cultivating personality, which can shape and improve college students' personality quality, and promote their personality improvement by standardizing and guiding their behavior and attitude. The deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education can make college students feel the moral requirements and norms while feeling the beauty, thus promoting their emotional communication and personality improvement.

## **2.2 The feasibility of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education**

2.2.1 The feasibility of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education lies in the consistency of their goals. The ultimate goal of aesthetic education and ideological and political education is to cultivate high-quality socialist builders and successors, and to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the common progress of human society. The consistency of the goals of aesthetic education and ideological and political education provides the direction and motivation for their deep integration.

2.2.2 The feasibility of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education lies in the unity of their contents. The unity of the contents of aesthetic education and ideological and political education lies in that they are both based on the core values of socialism, guided by Marxism, themed on socialism with Chinese characteristics, and soulful of Xi Jinping's thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era. The unity of the contents of aesthetic education and ideological and political education provides the foundation and guarantee for their deep integration.

## **3. The internal compatibility and realistic challenges of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education**

3.1 The internal compatibility of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education lies in their theoretical support, educational object and educational effect. The theoretical support of aesthetic education and ideological and political education are both Marxist aesthetics and ideological and political education theory, which provide the ideological and theoretical guidance for their deep integration. The educational object of aesthetic education and ideological and political education are both college students, who are the youth of the new era, the builders and successors of the socialist cause, which provide the common goal and foundation for their deep integration. The educational effect of aesthetic education and ideological and political education are both to cultivate the comprehensive quality of college students, to enhance their humanistic literacy, and to promote their all-round development, which provide the same standard and evaluation for their deep integration.

3.2 The realistic challenges of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education lie in their cognitive deviation, resource shortage and evaluation absence. Some college teachers and students have cognitive deviation on aesthetic education and ideological and political education, thinking that there is no necessary connection between them, or even that they are mutually exclusive, which leads to the lack of necessary recognition and support for the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education. Some colleges do not invest enough in aesthetic education and ideological and political education, resulting in the shortage of resources for aesthetic education and ideological and political education, mainly manifested in the aspects of teachers' quantity and quality, teaching materials' content and form, teaching methods and means, practice platforms and opportunities, etc., which makes the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education difficult to implement and promote effectively. Some colleges lack evaluation on aesthetic education and ideological and political education, resulting in the difficulty of measuring and feedbacking the effect of aesthetic education and ideological and political education, mainly manifested in the aspects of evaluation's purpose and significance, evaluation's standard and indicator, evaluation's method and tool, evaluation's result and application, etc., which leads to the lack of necessary supervision and incentive for the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education.

## **4. The effective ways to achieve the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education**

4.1 Constructing the theoretical system of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education,

guided by Marxist aesthetics and ideological and political education theory, led by Xi Jinping's thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, based on the core values of socialism, and using the excellent traditional culture of China and the socialist culture with Chinese characteristics as resources.

4.2 Improving the curriculum system of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education, with students as the center, teachers as the main body, practice as the carrier, setting up courses of aesthetic education and ideological and political education suitable for students, strengthening teachers' training and exchange, and realizing the collaborative teaching and interactive learning of aesthetic education and ideological and political education.

4.3 Innovating the evaluation system of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education, oriented by the effect, focused on the process, aimed at the improvement, establishing the evaluation purpose and significance, evaluation standard and indicator, evaluation method and tool, evaluation result and application of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education.

## 5. Conclusion

The deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education is an important innovation of ideological and political education in colleges and universities in the new era, an effective way to improve the level of ideological and political education in colleges and universities, and an inevitable requirement to cultivate high-quality socialist builders and successors. We must follow the guidance of Xi Jinping's thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, take the perspective of "grand ideological and political education", base on the core values of socialism, use the excellent traditional culture of China and the socialist culture with Chinese characteristics as resources, rely on Marxist aesthetics and ideological and political education theory as support, take college students as the object, aim at cultivating comprehensive quality, and take the task of achieving the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education, and construct the theoretical system, curriculum system, and evaluation system of the deep integration of aesthetic education and ideological and political education, to provide strong guarantee and support for the innovation and development of ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

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