

Research on the Path of Ideological and Political Construction of Basic French Course from the Perspective of New Liberal Arts

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Abstract: The construction of the new liberal arts is different from the traditional liberal arts, and there is also a coincidence point with the curriculum ideological and political construction. The construction of new liberal arts emphasizes value leading, its basic starting point is to improve the quality of curriculum, and the only way is to keep the right innovation. This paper starts with the analysis of the problems existing in the teaching of "Basic French", excavates the elements of the combination of ideological and political education and professional education, and explores the innovative way of the ideological and political construction of "Basic French" from the teaching methods and means.

Keywords: New liberal arts; Ideological and political construction; Curriculum reform

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On November 3, 2020, the New Liberal Arts Construction Work conference sponsored by the New Liberal Arts Construction Working Group of the Ministry of Education was held in Shandong University, and "new liberal arts construction" became the key word for the innovative development of Chinese liberal arts education. Director Wu Yan made a theme report at the meeting for the construction of the new liberal arts, he pointed out that the fundamental requirement of the construction of the new liberal arts is to lead the value, but also put forward the requirements for the comprehensive promotion of curriculum ideological and political construction of liberal arts education - "to create a liberal arts classroom with feelings and righteousness, temperature and love."^[1] Prior to this, the Opinions of the CPC Central Committee and The State Council on Strengthening and Improving Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities under the New Situation and the Implementation Outline of the Project to Improve the Quality of Ideological and Political Work in National Colleges and Universities all proposed that ideological and political education reform should take moral cultivation as the fundamental task, and actively cultivate and promote socialist core values. Adhere to the "knowledge, ability, quality" trinity of education mode, which shows that to promote the construction of new liberal arts in colleges and universities, there is a great degree of fit with the ideological and political education in colleges and universities, the core concept of this fit point is "value guidance". We can understand that under the background of the current era of social change, we need to carry out the construction of new liberal arts, and the new liberal arts construction requires the goal of "value-leading", which can be achieved by integrating teaching reform into ideological and political education.

1. Introduction of Basic French course and analysis of existing problems

The “Basic French” course in each university starts from the first stage, and basically faces students with zero foundation, which is the biggest difference with English majors. This characteristic determines that this course needs to occupy a large weekly class time, and the four courses should span the two years from the first to the second grade of the undergraduate course. As a basic course, teachers have spent a considerable part of their time in teaching students basic French grammar knowledge, basic vocabulary and basic sentence patterns since the establishment of the French major in our school. On the basis of consolidating language knowledge, we should train our language application ability. At present, humanities is in an important stage of “new liberal arts construction”, curriculum reform and innovation are urgent, “Basic French” course there are some “old diseases”, in the face of social changes, but also highlighted some new problems.

1.1 Teaching materials out of the trend of The Times

For a long time, the national unified textbook French, edited by Professor Ma Xiaohong of Beijing Foreign Studies University, has been used by French majors in colleges and universities. Although the content of this textbook is relatively comprehensive and the explanation of basic language knowledge such as pronunciation, grammar and words is very detailed, the publication year is too early, the theme of the text is not in line with the current trend, and the corpus is too outdated. The texts of the old textbooks are basically one-sided introductions of French culture, history, society, and the daily life and customs of the French people, and they are all from the 19th century to the 20th century in France. The example sentences of grammar knowledge involved are also out of step with The Times. In the new era where we advocate the integration of communicative culture, cross-culture and multi-culture, it is an inevitable trend to exchange the old for the new.

The New Classic French series is published by Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press and edited by Professor Fu Rong. The content is rich and the set of modules is flexible. In addition to making the introduction of grammar knowledge easier and emphasizing gradual progress, it also emphasizes communicative skills, active learning ability and cross-cultural perspective. In addition, the topics involved in each lesson can be closely related to the pulse of The Times. To cultivate talents with both Chinese feelings and international vision.

1.2 Single teaching method and lack of innovation in teaching design

Traditional French teaching takes teachers as the main body, teaching basic language knowledge, and students as the auxiliary, receiving special exercises such as reading, listening and speaking, translation and so on. The teaching methods used are usually mainly lecturing, supplemented by group discussion and simple situational communication. The teaching design mainly divides the content of each unit into four parts: grammar, vocabulary, text and practice, which are completed step by step. Such a teaching mode is not interesting, and inflexible and inflexible, and students’ desire for knowledge will be lower and lower over time. The most important thing is that professors who pay too much attention to knowledge can not exercise students’ language ability, let alone have theoretical thinking, and can not increase their international vision.

1.3 Ignore ideological and political education and understand the concept of “narrowness”

French language teaching has traditionally focused on teaching knowledge of the French language and introducing social, historical and cultural information about France and French-speaking areas. Many French teachers will not think of ideological and political education in the teaching process, but will unconsciously spread more Western consciousness and ideas. Of course, it is necessary for foreign language learners to understand Western ideas, which can also promote the exchange of ideas and cultures between China and the West. However, blindly learning and understanding Western ideologies, exceeding a certain “degree”, and ignoring our own ideological and political education at the same time, will make the whole national identity and national identity confused, and it is difficult for us to form a unified ideology and establish national pride. The consequences should not be

underestimated.

With the strengthening of ideological and political education in colleges and universities, many foreign language teachers have realized that ideological and political education should be carried out at the same time in the process of training students and implanting professional knowledge, and they are also exploring various practical experiences. However, for foreign language majors, it is easy to separate professional education from ideological and political education by integrating ideological and political education into the teaching process. Moreover, most teachers have too narrow an understanding of the concept of “thinking and politics”, believing that only the knowledge in political books is thinking and politics, confusing the concepts of “thinking and politics course” and “curriculum thinking and politics”. This will cause ideological and political integration too deliberately, stereotyped, students lack interest, the effect is not good. Therefore, the first step of ideological and political reform of Basic French course should correct the understanding of “ideological and political”, combine the teaching materials we use, dig out more ideological and political elements, and find the convergence point of professional education and ideological and political education.

2. Broaden the breadth of teaching and explore ideological and political elements

The new liberal arts requires cultivating people with self-confidence, pride and autonomy, so as to promote the prosperity of national culture and form national cultural consciousness, which has a high requirement for value guidance. At the same time, curriculum improvement is one of the basic starting points of the new liberal arts construction, Director Wu Yan pointed out that should be based on the knowledge and value of the double integration, double promotion, double promotion. These two parts point to the value guidance from the discipline requirements and specific starting points. In the course of ideological and political reform of Basic French, according to the characteristics of French language, combined with the theme and corpus in the series of textbooks of New Classics, we have dug out the following ideological and political elements.

2.1 Establish a correct outlook on life and values

According to the “Guidelines for the Ideological and Political Construction of the Curriculum in Colleges and Universities” issued by the Ministry of Education, to comprehensively promote the ideological and political construction of the curriculum is to guide the values in knowledge imparting and ability training, and to help students shape a correct world outlook, outlook on life and values, which is highly consistent with the value leading spirit of the new liberal arts construction. In the process of combining ideological and political education with professional education, we should combine the theme of teaching materials and carry out ideological and political education in silence.

According to the content of “New Classics” and the characteristics of contemporary college students, we can guide students to grasp the correct outlook on life through the use of certain grammar points or certain sentence patterns. In the second lesson of the second book “What do celebrities look like”, after learning the character description, guide the students to tell their understanding of the temperament of Chinese celebrities and their contribution to the construction of the motherland, in this process, with the moving stories of great people or celebrities to lead the youth dream, explain the meaning of life, and establish lofty ideals. We can also expand the discussion through the theme of the text, such as “It is hard to be a child” in Book 3, Lesson 9, and “Like a family” in Book 4, Lesson 2. The text explores the relationship between French family members. Through sentence construction exercises and personal display, students are guided to think in other people’s shoes and improve their understanding and recognition of their parents. Have further understanding and reflection on the relationship between oneself and parents, and establish a good family tradition concept. In addition, good views on employment, love and friendship, correct moral concepts, and ecological and environmental protection concepts should be gradually extended and discussed in different textbooks with the help of text themes.

2.2 Master the correct learning methods

Ideological and political education is not only the propaganda and penetration of ideology, but also the correct methodology is

an important part of ideological and political education.^[2] In the sixth lesson of Volume 3, “Open Book is Beneficial”, teachers can organize a unique book recommendation exchange meeting, exchange reading experience between teachers and students, recommend good books, so as to guide students to establish a correct view of learning. In the process of French learning, we guide students to establish a chain of learning habits of preview - independent learning - review and reflection, teach tips for memorizing words and understanding grammar points, master correct learning methods, and improve learning efficiency. This will not only benefit students, but also be applied in future job hunting.

2.3 Build cultural confidence

The main purpose of foreign language teaching is to teach foreign languages and understand foreign cultures. In this process, we should correct our attitude towards foreign cultures, integrate “ideological and political elements” with Chinese characteristics, and integrate communicative culture, cross-culture and multi-culture throughout the teaching, so as to train students to have both Chinese feelings and Western culture in the process of facing the differences between Chinese and Western cultures. Build an international perspective.

Students should be guided to actively understand and spread the excellent traditional Chinese culture, learn about a certain aspect of France through learning, and guide students to explore the situation of China at the same level. In the “New Classics” series of textbooks, there are texts promoting French cuisine, texts introducing French geography and economy, texts praising French language, texts introducing French history, French celebrities, French literature and culture, while our Chinese history and culture is richer, there are a large number of famous scribes, using the learned grammar knowledge and sentence patterns to guide students to understand the excellent Chinese culture. And to express them in French, this process is the process of students to establish cultural self-confidence, in order to cultivate a new era of liberal arts talents worthy of national rejuvenation, we must first cultivate talents who know China and love China.

3. Adhere to innovation

“New Liberal Arts Construction” puts forward the connotation of integrity and innovation, “integrity” refers to the inheritance of excellent traditional Chinese culture, “innovation”, used in the curriculum reform of Basic French, is to innovate teaching methods and means, learn the support of modern information technology, explore the road of interdisciplinary complementarity, and cluster integration with similar majors. To achieve the requirements of the construction of the new liberal arts, while at the same time skillful in seeking change.

3.1 Innovative teaching methods and means

On the basis of the traditional teaching method used in foreign language teaching, we try a new teaching method, mainly the communicative teaching method, which changes the teaching mode from “teacher-centered” to “student-centered”, and the teaching content from the teaching of language forms to the teaching combining grammar knowledge and communicative ability. Take the second lesson of Neo-Classical French^[3] as an example. The theme of this lesson is family, and grammar knowledge is conditional present tense. After the study of the text, we design a communication scene combining the theme of family, and require students to use conditional present tense in the communication process. For this practice lesson, we set up two communication scenarios: watching a French video, assuming that we are the character in the video, and completing the sentence beginning with “Si j ‘etais”; A short story is presented in the form of a dialogue with the parents. In the process of this practice, three goals have been achieved: language knowledge goal, language skill goal and emotional attitude goal, and ideological and political education has been carried out while learning language.

Since the application of communicative teaching method puts students as the main body, it requires more participation of students in the teaching process, thus making class time more precious. Therefore, the method of online autonomous learning + offline teaching of major and difficult points should be tried to strengthen the requirement of students’ preview and put all basic knowledge learning online. Offline is mainly to adhere to the key and difficult points and display students’ communicative homework, in this process to

find out the shortcomings of students' language learning and application. ^[4] This teaching mode requires the assistance of various new media means, such as EDUku, where teachers and students can send pictures, text and video resources to the screen at any time in class; Xiwo teaching assistant, mobile phone and computer screen, teachers can step off the platform to participate in student discussion and interaction, and can freely control the screen anywhere in the classroom, send pictures, text, video resources; Learning to achieve check-in, online self-study, discussion, in-class tests, testing integrated learning process.

3.2 Explore the way of discipline integration

“New liberal arts construction” requires the promotion of interdisciplinary integration. In the process of teaching French language knowledge, we should know more about the literature, culture, society and history of French. As we all know, there are many French-speaking countries and regions in the world, so the major of French can cooperate with the major of country and Area studies. On the basis of learning French language knowledge and application, students can understand the humanistic knowledge of French-speaking countries and regions, understand the new global pattern, and realize the internationalization of foreign language discipline.

French learning can also use artificial intelligence technology to improve the translation classroom, guide students to identify the differences between machine translation and human translation and the advantages and disadvantages, and learn to use artificial intelligence for language use. We can also use big data technology to learn how to build and use corpora. Through school-enterprise cooperation, we can also cooperate with enterprises or even local museums and art galleries to carry out red culture translation practice, build practice bases, and provide internship platforms for students, which is a deeper understanding and practical exploration of the concept of interdisciplinary integration.

The ideological and political construction of Basic French curriculum should not only explore ideological and political elements in breadth, but also expand the depth of course teaching. In our research, we should mark the “big foreign language era” and explore how to help students establish and maintain a Chinese perspective in classroom teaching. Focusing on the themes of “Construction of China’s Foreign discourse System” and “Community with a shared future for Mankind”, students are taught how to use the language they have learned to tell Chinese stories well and improve our national influence. It can be seen that there is a long way to explore the path of ideological and political reform of “Basic French”, and it needs to continue to explore in teaching practice.

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