

“Learning through Competition” : New ideas of Education management for international students

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Abstract: With the continuous development of higher education internationalization, the number of international students in China’s higher vocational colleges is also increasing year by year. As for the international students in China, they come from all over the world, so there are great differences in behavior habits, ideology and other aspects, which brings great challenges for the student management in higher vocational colleges. Therefore, how to do a good job in the education and management of international students in this era of “cross-cultural communication” has become an important issue worth thinking and paying attention to in colleges and universities. In this regard, this paper analyzes how to strengthen the education and management of international students in higher vocational colleges from the perspective of “Isai-guided learning”, in order to provide some new ideas for the development of education management in major higher vocational colleges.

Key words: Higher vocational colleges, “learning with competition”, international students in China, education management

Under the guidance of the national development strategy of “adhering to the” going global “of Chinese culture, the number of international students in China is increasing, which not only greatly enhances the influence of Chinese culture in the world, but also promotes the political mutual trust, economic reciprocity, cultural integration and social communication between China and other countries in the world. According to statistics released by the Ministry of Education in 2018, 492,185 foreign students from 196 countries and regions are studying in 1,004 institutions of higher learning in 31 provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government). Therefore, in the face of the new situation and new challenges in the development of international Chinese language education at home and abroad, higher vocational colleges should seize the opportunity and actively explore new ideas of education management, so as to give full play to their own advantages in running schools to attract more international students in China.

I. Higher vocational colleges shall follow the principles of educational management for international students in China

Organizing international students to carry out cultural construction activities and promoting the integration of different cultures can effectively improve their language perception and expression ability, which is extremely important for the education and management of international students in China. Among them, these cultural contents mainly involve four levels, namely: spirit, system, behavior and material. Therefore, higher vocational colleges should take the four levels of culture as the basis and basis for the education and management of international students in China, so as to promote the all-round development of international students in China, so that they can learn Chinese more deeply, understand China, and become friendly envoys close to China.

1. Adhere to the all-round development of students as the center, and promote the growth of students, talents and adults

Education is a process of activities aimed at “cultivating well-rounded people”, and an important part of the teaching of Chinese as a foreign language to international students in China. With its unique charm and rich connotation, Chinese culture attracts many foreign students to come to China to study. Therefore, the education management of vocational colleges for international students in China should not only teach them basic language knowledge, but also meet their learning needs in other aspects, so as to provide them with multiple opportunities to deepen their cognition and understanding of Chinese language and culture. When setting the course content, higher vocational colleges can set up some special cultural courses to further strengthen the study and understanding of China’s cultural knowledge, such as Chinese human geography course, Chinese traditional culture course and so on. In this way, in addition to understanding and mastering basic Chinese knowledge, international students in China can also learn more about Chinese culture through these cultural courses. In addition, in addition to the classroom, vocational colleges and teachers also need to carry out relevant cultural and educational practice activities, so as to increase the frequency of Chinese expressions used by international students in the “purpose context”, the purpose of which is to promote the improvement of Chinese proficiency of international students through cultural activities, so as to bring them better language learning experience and cultural experience. This can not only make Chinese language and Chinese culture become an important auxiliary means to train international students in China, promote the all-round development of students, but also further promote the deep integration of Chinese and foreign cultures.

2. Rely on cultural construction to promote the connotation of colleges and universities, focusing on the integration of diverse cultures

For international students in China, the excellent traditional Chinese culture has a unique attraction to them. Therefore, when vocational colleges carry out the education and management work of international students in China, they may consider the excellent traditional Chinese culture as the spiritual motivation and source of this work, and promote and spread the excellent elements of traditional Chinese culture. In order to achieve the purpose of promoting the sustainable development of Chinese language international education with culture. Of course, in addition to attaching importance to the dissemination and promotion of excellent traditional Chinese culture, higher vocational

colleges also need to adhere to the educational ideology of “seeking common ground while shelving differences, and harmonizing without uniformity”, promote the communication and exchange of cultures of different countries and regions, and help international students to understand and accept the cultural traditions of different countries and regions. In this way, we can not only explain the “Chinese story” to the international students, but also bring them to understand the excellent cultural stories of other countries, and bring them to feel the charm of different cultures. In addition, higher vocational colleges should combine the system culture of the school, adhere to the integration of multi-culture as the goal, through the cultural construction activities of international students in China to promote the construction and development of the cultural connotation of the school, so as to further promote the pace of the development of China’s education internationalization.

3. Combining the current situation of education management, to meet the diverse demands of different international students in China

The education and management of vocational colleges for international students in China should focus on the problems and various demands of international students in China, such as the demands for culture, study, life and development, and on this basis to find a feasible path to improve the language level of international students in China and enrich their extracurricular life. Specifically, higher vocational colleges need to pay attention to the different training of students at different stages when conducting education and management for international students in China, namely: First of all, in the enrollment, the publicity of the school should highlight the Chinese culture, campus culture and its own characteristics and advantages, so that they have a good initial impression of the school, and it can also lay a good foundation for them to enter the school to participate in learning, cultural experience and exchange activities. Secondly, the study and life of international students in China during their study period, which is the main stage of their cultural construction and learning, is mainly to guide them to adapt to Chinese culture as soon as possible through systematic cultural education and practical activities, and gradually improve their cross-cultural communication ability, so as to enhance their cultural identity and improve their satisfaction of studying abroad. Finally, it is the “continuation period” of cultural construction of international students after graduation, which mainly includes the emotional sustenance, experience memory, study abroad identity brand and other factors. The purpose is to make international students become the international communication force of Chinese culture and even university culture imperceptibly.

II. The practical exploration of education management for international students in China based on “learning through competition”

1. Strengthen cultural construction and carry out practical activities with class instructors as the core

So as to realize the differentiated education and management of international students in different classes.

On the one hand, class tutors should combine teaching with information technology under the guidance of advanced teaching concepts. For example, in language teaching, flipped classroom teaching can be carried out to highlight students’ learning subjectivity and enhance their learning motivation. In the classroom, teachers also need to change their role, adhere to the student-centered, inspire and guide international students to have dialogues and exchanges in Chinese, and gradually improve their language understanding and oral expression ability, so as to ensure that they can better use Chinese to express themselves in cultural practice activities or various competitions. In the culture class, students can enrich their knowledge reserve of Chinese culture by “learning through competitions”, and teach them the contents of China’s national conditions, excellent traditional culture and contemporary Chinese cultural spirit, so as to enhance the attraction of Chinese culture to international students in China. On the other hand, higher vocational colleges should also actively organize diversified cultural practice activities. For this aspect, the management department of the school should give support and encourage class instructors to organize and carry out various themed activities. In combination with the characteristics of international students from various countries, vocational colleges may wish to establish international students’ activity center and Chinese culture Experience Center to build international students’ brand activities, so as to reflect the national culture, ethnic culture and community cultural characteristics of international students, so as to promote international students to show their national and ethnic culture, and at the same time to understand the connotation and charm of Chinese culture. In addition, class instructors should also rely on campus cultural activities, such as cultural salon, cultural week, cultural arts festival, etc., to show students traditional Chinese crafts, intangible cultural heritage, Chinese Musical Instruments, and special food of different festivals, so that international students can learn more about Chinese culture under the leadership of class instructors, so as to mobilize their enthusiasm and interest in learning.

2. Build a platform for exchanges between Chinese and foreign students with the campus community as an important position

In addition to holding cultural activities, higher vocational colleges should actively encourage and support international students to spontaneously organize mutual assistance and mutual integration of the campus community -- International students Association, through this way to promote multicultural integration, and it can fully reflect their knowledge of China, friends of China, love of China’s good spiritual quality. However, it is worth noting that the establishment of the International Students’ Association should fully take into account the cultural background of international students from different countries, and it must be established under the unified guidance of relevant departments of the university on the basis of ensuring national security, foreign security and political security. In addition to the overseas Students Association, higher vocational colleges can also encourage and support international students in China to spontaneously organize some other campus associations, such as cultural associations with Chinese tea art, calligraphy, dance, martial arts and other core themes, so as to provide more opportunities and platforms for their in-depth learning of Chinese culture. Among these associations, higher vocational colleges can also guide foreign students in China through the way of “leading and promoting learning through competition”. For example,

Chinese students can set up calligraphy association, martial Arts Association, Chinese Association, etc., in order to attract international students to actively participate in them, and carry out Chinese and foreign college students real-time debate competition, Chinese and foreign students learn from each other and other activities to help international students better improve their Chinese expression ability and cross-cultural communication ability.

3. Establish a practice base for international students and carry out special teaching practices

For the cultivation of talents, theory is important, but practice is also indispensable. The education of international students in China is an important part of the education of Chinese as an international language. If they want to improve their Chinese proficiency, it is necessary to cultivate and train the practical language ability of international students. Therefore, it is necessary for higher vocational colleges to establish a language practice base for international students in China, so as to strengthen their Chinese expression and application ability and further improve their perception of Chinese culture. In addition to normal language teaching and cultural construction activities, higher vocational colleges also need to practice the principle of “going out” and further optimize the education management of international students in China, so as to provide them with more opportunities and platforms for Chinese exchange and cultural experience, so that they can better feel China and experience culture. For example, international students in China can be encouraged to go out of school, or they can apply the language knowledge they have learned in the classroom to specific internships and practical activities, so that they can increase the understanding of Chinese society and Chinese culture, and further stimulate their love for Chinese society and Chinese culture.

III. Concluding Remarks

In short, from the current point of view, the scale of international students in China is getting larger and larger, in this competition for students without any “smoke of war” on the international battlefield, vocational colleges how to attract more international students to study in China, and how to do a good job in the education and management of international students in China, it is particularly important. Among them, “take competition to learn” is an effective new idea, which can be concretely through: take class instructors as the core, strengthen cultural construction and carry out practical activities; Take the school community as an important position to build a platform for communication between Chinese and foreign students; Establish a practice base for international students, and carry out special teaching practices to achieve this.

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