

# A casual discussion on the reform of English teaching in higher vocational colleges under the background of curriculum ideology and politics

Hongjing Wang

Tongren Preschool Teachers College, Tongren 554300, Guizhou, China

**Abstract:** Under the background of ideological and political curriculum, English teaching is constantly optimized and developed. How to make English subject better play its role in teaching ideological and political education is a problem that many teachers are thinking about. This paper summarizes the significance of integrating curriculum thought and politics into the process of English teaching in higher vocational colleges, and then puts forward effective strategies for the reform of English teaching in higher vocational colleges based on curriculum thought and politics, in order to provide some references for deepening the reform of English curriculum thought and politics.

**Key words:** curriculum thought and politics; Vocational English; Teaching reform; strategy

## Introduction

With the development of The Times, our country has put forward new requirements for talents, requiring talents to not only have solid professional knowledge, but also require them to have good ideological and moral literacy. Therefore, in the English teaching of higher vocational colleges, teachers should take the initiative to undertake the important task of curriculum ideological and political construction, and give full play to the key role of English curriculum education. On the one hand, they should pay attention to training and improving students' English listening, speaking, reading and writing ability, and on the other hand, strengthen their comprehensive quality, so as to lay a good foundation for promoting higher vocational colleges to realize the goal of "cultivating morality and cultivating people" as soon as possible.

## 1. The significance of integrating curriculum ideological and political construction into English teaching in higher vocational colleges

### 1.1 Ensure the quality of English teaching

In the process of English teaching in vocational colleges, if teachers blindly focus on imparting language knowledge and skills to students, and do not pay attention to discussing with students the differences and similarities between Chinese and foreign cultures and languages, students will mostly learn English on the surface, and they will not be able to proficiently use English to tell Chinese stories well. Naturally, students' English literacy can not be significantly improved, which is against the goal of English teaching in vocational colleges in the new era, and it is difficult to guarantee the quality of English teaching in the end. However, based on the requirements of curriculum ideology and politics, in the actual teaching process, teachers will try their best to convey more knowledge related to Chinese and foreign cultures to students through reading, audio-visual speaking and other teaching contents, which is invisibly conducive to enhancing students' sense of belonging to the profession, which is the internal need to improve the quality of English teaching. Only in this way, Only in this way can English teaching as a whole not deviate from the correct track.

### 1.2 Help students develop in an all-round way

The main problems of ideological and political curriculum are "for whom to train people", "how to train people" and "what kind of people to train". In this stage, students' values, outlook on life and world outlook are facing rapid shaping and formation. As a public basic course for all students in higher vocational colleges, English covers a wide range, has a long teaching cycle and has more class hours. From this point of view, English curriculum has a congenital ideological and political teaching advantage. Teachers should make full use of the advantages of English courses to provide students with patriotism education, gratitude awareness training and value shaping, so as to help students develop comprehensively.

## 2. Effective strategies for English teaching reform in higher vocational colleges under the background of curriculum ideology and politics

### 2.1 Reshape teaching objectives and jointly implement knowledge objectives and ideological and political objectives

As a brand new educational concept, curriculum ideological and political ideas are fundamentally different from traditional teaching ideas. Therefore, teachers should first quietly integrate the curriculum ideological and political ideas into the daily teaching process when teaching English, so as to truly implement the curriculum ideological and political ideas into the classroom. And give full play to the instrumental role of English curriculum to promote the collaborative development of knowledge education and humanistic education. In order to realize the goal of ideological and political construction of English curriculum as soon as possible, the key lies in reshaping the teaching goal, and trying to implement the knowledge goal and ideological and political goal together through rich teaching content and interesting teaching activities.

First of all, according to the latest revised English standards, the ideological and political goals are integrated into the English

curriculum teaching goal module, and the ideological and political education goals are formulated reasonably and scientifically based on the realization of the goal of cultivating morality and people. First, it is necessary to constantly cultivate students' craftsman spirit and dedication, and effectively integrate ideological and political education goals with professional accomplishment goals. Second, enhance students' national self-confidence and feelings of home and country, and strengthen their determination and will to inherit and carry forward the excellent traditional culture of the Chinese nation. Third, strive to promote world peace, common prosperity and development, and cultivate students' awareness of openness and inclusiveness.

Secondly, the knowledge goal and ideological and political goal are integrated into the basic English and professional English courses in a scientific and flexible way, so as to achieve the goal of all-round education and finally promote the orderly development of ideological and political courses in higher vocational English courses. As far as basic English courses are concerned, they mainly involve the goal penetration of family and national feelings, especially core values, which is necessary for students to achieve long-term and stable development; Professional English courses are mainly concerned with the cultivation of professional quality objectives, which focuses on professional quality and craftsman spirit, aiming to highlight students' personal advantages and make them integrate with the new era.

### 2.2 Enrich the teaching content and enrich the diversified carrier of ideology and politics in English courses

Textbooks are the basic teaching resources. In class, teachers should make full use of class time and integrate ideological and political content into the reedited teaching content in a timely manner, which is conducive to guiding students to actively explore the similarities and differences between Chinese and foreign cultures and deepen their cognition of excellent traditional Chinese culture, which is very important for enhancing students' international cultural awareness. However, after all, the knowledge in the textbook is limited. In the process of integrating teaching content, teachers should pay attention to introducing network teaching resources, analyze and integrate the teaching content of the same topic based on the ideological and political concepts of the curriculum, accurately extract the elements of ideological and political education, find the combination of English teaching content and ideological and political education, and then shape the students' spirit in an all-round way. As much as possible to transfer knowledge and skills, in order to comprehensively and effectively improve students' English comprehensive ability and discipline accomplishment.

For example, when teaching the unit of "Food", teachers can select teaching materials about Chinese cuisine inside and outside the textbook. Through these resources, students can have a comprehensive understanding of Chinese traditional food culture and be deeply attracted by it. Teachers can also take traditional Chinese festivals such as the Dragon Boat Festival and the Mid-Autumn Festival as the starting point, so that students can review and summarize what special traditional Chinese food we often see in these festivals, such as zongzi, dumplings, moon cakes and so on. Take food as an opportunity to guide students to fully realize the differences between Chinese and foreign cultures, and then cultivate their awareness and spirit of respecting each culture.

## 3. Innovate teaching activities and promote the coordinated development of English teaching and ideological and political teaching

First, give full play to the effectiveness of English clubs. In higher vocational colleges, the establishment of English clubs is conducive to creating a positive English learning atmosphere. At the same time, they can also become one of the main bodies of ideological and political implementation of the curriculum. In order to promote the coordinated development of English and ideological and political teaching, the key is to give full play to the unique effectiveness of English clubs and bring students a completely different learning experience. For example, taking The traditional Culture Construction Month as an opportunity, the author and the school English club organized students to carry out the theme activity of "The Analects translation". The main content of the activity was to guide students to choose the sentences in the Analects that they had deep memory or had great influence on them. On the basis of following the principle of translation from Chinese to English, students were encouraged to try to translate the selected sentences into English independently or in a group, and present the original sentences beautifully as far as possible. Through students' full participation in similar practical activities, they will have a deeper understanding of the traditional culture of the Analects, so that they can clearly feel the differences and similarities between Chinese and English in terms of language expression order and mode. Finally, the author combined the teaching content of "Be on time and in time" to let students think and collect widely the famous aphorism related to "punctuality", in order to achieve the ideological and political education purpose of "cherish time and abide by the rules".

Secondly, make use of multimedia skillfully. Compared with the traditional single teaching activity, presenting the content of ideological and political education in a more palatable form with multimedia as the carrier can help enrich students' ideological and political experience, effectively improve the quality of ideological and political education, and promote the deep integration of ideological and political education with English course teaching. In the actual arrangement of teaching activities, teachers should know how to actively use multimedia means. Take the teaching unit "travel" as an example, teachers can integrate excellent cultural relics and famous scenic spots in China into the teaching process, such as the Great Wall, the Summer Palace, the Terracotta Warriors and Horses of Qin Shi Huang, and let students watch relevant documentaries, so that students can further feel the prosperity of the traditional culture of the motherland during the watching process. And then promote the close integration of knowledge imparting and ideological and political education. Subsequently, the teachers organized groups of students to carry out the "Amazing, My Country" theme speech competition, and let the students prepare their own speech materials through various channels. In this way, the students were imperceptible in patriotism education, and then the patriotic feelings of every Chinese son and daughter were increased.

#### 4. Strengthen the construction of teachers and enhance the teachers' comprehensive ideological and political ability

In the aspect of teacher construction, higher vocational colleges should invest more efforts to improve teachers' comprehensive ability, especially their curriculum ideological and political ability. Schools can encourage teachers to participate in some training related to curriculum ideological and political construction, to understand the relevant theoretical knowledge, so as to better carry out the construction of curriculum ideological and political work. In addition, schools can also give teachers more preference in the evaluation and performance appraisal. At the same time, schools can also encourage teachers to participate in some practical activities related to their major to improve their practical ability, which can not only ensure the smooth progress of curriculum ideological and political construction, but also promote the improvement of teachers' personal professional level. In addition, schools can encourage teachers to actively participate in some competitions to promote teaching, learning and construction through competition.

First of all, promote teaching through competition. For higher vocational colleges, to carry out the reform of English teaching under the background of curriculum ideology and politics, teachers need to keep learning and making progress. Only in this way can they better integrate curriculum ideology and politics into classroom teaching. By participating in various professional skills competitions, teachers can improve their professional knowledge and skills, and also strengthen the communication and cooperation with other teachers. For example, schools can encourage teachers to participate in English curriculum ideological and political teaching competitions, English speech competitions and so on.

Secondly, we should promote learning through competition. Teachers should not only participate in the ideological and political construction of the curriculum, but also actively participate in various competitions, gain experience in the competitions, and improve their professional level and professional ability. Teachers can exercise their teaching skills and expression ability in the competition, and have a better understanding of their actual situation in the interaction with students, so as to work out a more reasonable and suitable teaching plan for students. In addition, teachers can also accumulate experience in the competition and understand the requirements and standards of different schools for the ideological and political construction of English courses, so as to constantly improve their own teaching methods. Schools can also select some excellent teachers in the competition and train them specially to take them as leaders in the ideological and political construction of English courses, so as to enrich the team of English teachers.

Finally, the competition can promote the construction of English teachers. In the course of ideological and political construction, vocational colleges can cooperate with enterprises and jointly hold some English competitions, so that students and teachers can understand the culture of enterprises through competitions. Schools can invite some relevant personnel of enterprises to serve as "lecturers" to explain some corporate culture and relevant knowledge to students, so that they can specifically understand the environment of the enterprise and the historical development of the product. Through these activities, not only can provide teachers with more opportunities and platforms for scientific research, but more importantly, it can also promote in-depth communication between teachers and outstanding employees and leaders of enterprises, achieve school-enterprise synergy, and inject a constant impetus for English teachers to continuously improve their comprehensive ability of ideological and political education and teaching in personal courses.

#### Epilogue

To sum up, the ideological and political construction of English courses in higher vocational colleges is a complicated project, which not only requires teachers to have comprehensive professional knowledge and skills, but also good ideological and moral qualities. To integrate ideological and political construction into English teaching in higher vocational colleges is an important way to cultivate morality and cultivate people. In English teaching, teachers should pay attention to the cultivation of students' ideology and morality, so that they can set up a correct world outlook, life outlook and values while learning English knowledge. Only in this way can qualified talents be cultivated and talents in the new era be helped to better inherit the excellent traditional Chinese culture.

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