

# *Investigation and Research on the Inheritance Path of Traditional Music in Korean Universities--Take the National Music Department of Seoul University as an Example*

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**Abstract:** from the sound department in the Xinluo era, the grand music department and Orchestra room in the Koryo era, the Jiaofang department in the Korean Empire, to the liwangzhiya music department in the Japanese imperialist occupation, it has been preserved and inherited by professional music institutions, continuing the lifeblood of Korean traditional music. However, in the second half of the 20th century, relying on school education, traditional music was incorporated into the education system of national music, and a special national music department was set up in the university to carry out national music education. A large number of leading talents with solid basic theory of national music, skilled professional skills, innovative consciousness and creative ability were trained, thus establishing the inheritance foundation of a new level of national music.

## 1. Introduction

From 1959, Seoul University set up a professional course of national music in the University of music to Hanyang University, Lihua women's University and Qiuxi University of art in the 1970s. At present, national music has been set up in 23 universities. [[[ Li Xiangkui, "tradition and inheritance of national music education after the 20th century", Korean music research, Vol. 34, 2003, 80.]]] These universities specialized in national music education have trained generations of inheritors of Korean national music art. The education curriculum of National Music Department of Seoul University has been established as a model of other similar school education curriculum, so it has become the leader of national music professional education in the 20th century. This paper takes Seoul great country music department as an example to explain in detail the inheritance path of its national music education.

## 2. Founding Process of National Music Department of Seoul University

In 1946, students majoring in national music were selected from the Conservatory of music of Seoul University (then Beijing Conservatory of Music). In 1954, the Department of national music was set up in Decheng women's University. The formal education of national music began with the

establishment of the Conservatory of music of Seoul University in 1959 [1]. In 1963, a theoretical Korean music course was opened in the graduate school. In 1983, a new professional course of Korean traditional instrumental music, Korean traditional music vocal music and Korean traditional music composition was opened, expanding graduate education. In 1989, a new doctoral program of theoretical specialty was established, and in 2004, a new doctoral program of practical specialty was established to strengthen professional education.

In 1959, in the first year of the establishment of the Department of traditional Chinese music, 50 students were enrolled, but only 46 actually. Regardless of their majors, students studied the practical skills of xuanqin, Jiayan Qin, flute and short flute. In 1960, in order to help students better understand the techniques of traditional Chinese music, the majors of theory and composition were added, and the specialty of traditional Chinese music was officially divided into seven majors: xuanqin, Jiayang Qin, Tuo, dacen, Short Flute and theory (theory and composition). The curriculum of grade education began to be concretized. Among them, the wind music majors (Zan, dacen and Short Flute) study zhengle for four semesters in grades 1-2, folk music (loose tune) in grade 3 and new music in grade 4. Therefore, it can be seen that the wind music major pays more attention to the study of zhengle course than folk music. Li Huiqiu, who was once the chief of the Department of national music science at that time, believed that the musical norms not only contained descriptions of national music and national music, but also detailed records of etiquette, French style, lyrics, etc. and pictures during performance, which were important historical materials for the study of Korean Musicology. Therefore, the interpretation of music learning norms is opened.), Grades 3-4 learn folk music. After studying theory and composition for 3 years, students majoring in theory must choose one of them as their main major in grade 4. At the time of the founding of the Department of national music in the 1960s, except for Li Huiqiu, the dean of the Department, all the professors were composed of lecturers. Zhang Shixun and Yuan Yingcai were responsible for the teaching of xuanqin, Huang Bingji and Han Moshu were responsible for the teaching of jiayaqin, Jin Jizhu was responsible for the Short Flute, and Jin Junxian was responsible for the flute<sup>[1]</sup>.

But by 1962, enrollment had plummeted to 15<sup>[2]</sup>. In 1973, the enrollment of Korean National Music Department increased to 25, the Short Flute specialty was removed, and the system of choosing between theory and composition changed when students majoring in theory were in the third grade.<sup>[3]</sup> In 1981, the graduation quota system was implemented for fresh students. The number of graduates has been increased to 30 and the number of students enrolled is 130% of the number of graduates. Therefore, the number of students enrolled has been increased to 39. However, with the abolition of the graduation quota system by the state, the enrollment quota of the national music department began to decrease significantly, with only 30 people in four years. Therefore, by 1984, the National Music Department of Seoul University adjusted the enrollment quota to 30.<sup>[4]</sup> In addition, professional courses have also changed. In addition to traditional instrumental music and theory (composition) majors, vocal music majors have been newly established. After 1989, the major was divided into national instrument music, national music theory, national music composition, national music vocal music, etc. In other words, the professional practice of the Department of traditional Chinese music in the 1980s was divided into instrumental music (xuanqin, Jiayang Qin, flute, dacen and Xi Qin), vocal music (Zhengge and pansuoli), theory and composition. Since 1999, the number of recruits has been reduced to 28. In 2000, the specialties of tooth Zheng, percussion and conductor were added. In 2003, the national music major was roughly divided into practice major and theory major, and the practice major was subdivided into instrumental music, vocal music, conductor, composition and other majors. By 2006, the conductor specialty was incorporated into the composition specialty, including four majors: instrumental practice of national music, vocal practice of national music, composition practice of national music and theory of

national music. Until now, the professional practical skills courses of national music department have maintained such a curriculum system.<sup>[5]</sup>

### 3. The Changing Process of Practical Skills Course of National Music Major in Seoul University

Since 1968, the National Music Department has set up 6 practical skills courses of national music, including professional practical skills, performance, orchestral music of national music, practical skills of xuanqin, accompaniment method of national music and songs. In 1976, the national music ensemble was added, and the practical skill of xuanqin was changed to the second practical skill, while other subjects remained unchanged. By 1985, the number of practical subjects had been reduced to four, with only professional practical skills, performance, Chinese orchestral music and special musical instruments (Piano). After 1997, the subjects of practical skills of national music from the 1960s to 1970s were restored, and the subjects of practical skills of sub specialty and chamber music of national music were added. By 2003, the subject of special musical instruments (Qin) was removed. In order to adapt to the changes of the times, the original subject of national music ensemble was divided into four subjects: Normal Music Ensemble, national orchestral ensemble, folk music ensemble and national music chamber music. It not only inherited traditional music, but also made new innovations, which laid a foundation for cultivating musicians who can play different types of national music. From 2006 to now, two subjects of folk music on-site practice and national music video singing and listening have been added, and the song subject has been changed to traditional singing practice. These 12 subjects constitute the current curriculum system of practical skills of national music. The practical change process of the subjects set up by the national music department from 1968 to now is sorted out as follows.

Table 1 List of Changes in National Music Practice Courses of National Music Department of Seoul University<sup>[6]</sup>

	1968-1975	1976-1984	1985-1996	1997-2002	2003-2005	2005-현재
국악	전공실기 연주 국악관현악 악 거문고실기 국악반주법 법 가곡	전공실기 연주 국악관현악 악 제 2 실기 국악반주법 국악합주 가곡	전공실기 연주 국악관현악 특수악기(현금) )	전공실기 연주 국악관현악 특수악기(현금) ) 부전공악기 국악반주법 국악합주 국악실내악 가곡	전공실기 연주 국악관현악 부전공악기 국악반주법 정악합주 국악관악합주 주 민속악합주 국악실내악 가곡	전공실기 연주 국악관현악 부전공악기 국악반주법 정악합주 국악관악합주 민속악합주 국악실내악 전통가창실습 민속악현장실습 국악시창청음

In order to clearly see the “professional practical skills” course of National Music Department of Seoul University, the specific contents of education in each academic year are sorted out as follows.

Table 2 “Professional Practice” Education Content of National Music Department of Seoul University<sup>71</sup>

	가.거	대.피.해	타악	아쟁	정가	판소리	이론	작곡	
1	1	정악	정악	정악 (기본/무용반 주) 창작악 (독주/실내악)	정악	악장	5 바탕 (춘향 가 심청가 적벽가 홍보가 수궁가)	정악입문	화성학/분석과작곡 1,2
	2	정악	정악		정악	가곡(羽)		민속악입문	
2	1	가곡	정악	판소리,산조	정악	가곡(界)	고악보해 독 (개관/역보)	엄격대위법/ 독주곡,중주곡	
	2	산조	정악		산조 A 류	가사		고악보해 독 (테마연구)	자유대위법/ 실내악곡
3	1	산조	산조	풍물,무악, 창작악(관현악)	산조 B 류	가사	춘향가 심청가	민속악 (현장실습)	전통관현악곡
	2	창작 곡	산조		산조 C 류	시조		민속악 (테마연구)	창작관현악곡
4	1	창작 곡	창작곡	팀파니,마림바	창작 곡	창작곡	춘향가 심청가	자유주제	관현악반주의성곡(합창 곡)
	2	종합	창작곡	종합	종합	창작곡		자유편성	

From the establishment of the National Music Department of Seoul University in 1959 to the present, the professional practice subjects have maintained the learning tradition in the order of positive music, loose tune and creative music. Among them, the professional practice of Zhen, Da Cen, short Xiao and Ya Zheng has been basically the positive music curriculum education in the first two academic years, laying a good foundation for cultivating sacrificial rites and music talents. However, with the development of society, folk music is gradually loved by people. The National Music Department has added many subjects related to folk music, which is a change made by the school to train generation after generation of musicians and adapt to social development. Culture has the characteristics of the times, conforms to the aesthetic content of the culture of the times, and will be widely spread. As an important means of inheriting culture, cultural education must adapt to the changes of people's cultural aesthetics.

#### 4. Curriculum System of Chinese Music in Contemporary Seoul University

At present, the National Music Department of Seoul University is divided into undergraduate and graduate courses. The undergraduate length of schooling is 4 years, the graduate length of schooling

is 2 years and the doctoral degree is 3 years. Undergraduate students study 12-16 subjects every year. In addition to the courses of national music orchestral music, traditional singing seminar, national music theory seminar, national music practice (instrumental music, instrumental music, conductor, composition), national music theory and so on, new courses will be added for students every semester to cultivate students' Professional ability from different directions. For example, courses such as introduction and appreciation of national music, history of national music, literature of national music, introduction to Oriental music, introduction to human musicology, etc; Courses such as theory, keyboard harmony and music analysis to cultivate the basic theoretical ability of national music; Courses to cultivate the cooperation ability of national music, such as Zheng Music Ensemble, reading of general score, conducting method, chorus and ensemble guidance method, Korean dance, traditional singing practice, national music accompaniment method, etc; Courses such as national music performance planning to cultivate the production and planning ability of national music performance programs; Chinese music criticism and other courses to cultivate the ability of combining Chinese music evaluation with practice. Focusing on the inheritance and development of national music, the National Music Department of Seoul University has carried out an all-round curriculum framework from the aspects of theoretical research, cultural research, artistic practice and cultural inheritance, paying attention to students' professional skill growth and ideological and moral training. This kind of curriculum arrangement of professional skill courses, theoretical research and cultural research provides valuable reference experience for the construction of Chinese music in other universities. The professional courses of national music include a large number of practical skills, which provide students with the opportunity to participate in performance and greatly improve their professional and technical ability. The practical skills courses are divided into four majors: instrumental music, vocal music, theory and composition. The actual enrollment and majors will change with the time.

In addition, the school of music of Seoul University established the Institute of oriental music in 1976. As the first Institute of oriental music in Korea, it is specially responsible for the preservation, research, development and dissemination of oriental music, through the collection and research of Korean traditional music, Asian and even national music from all over the world, Build yourself into the center of oriental music research. The Institute regularly holds academic conferences on various topics every year, and strives to promote the development of Korean traditional music by publishing research series and research results.

Under the educational policy of laying the foundation of Korean traditional music and cultivating leading talents in the new direction, the National Music Department of the school of music of Seoul National University has trained generations of excellent musicians, composers, musicologists and educators. They not only inherited Korean traditional music, but also led the development direction of Korean music and ensured that Korean music was based on the status of world music culture.

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