

# *The Principles and Approaches of Ideological and Political Education for Foreign Language Majors in the Context of Ideological and Political Education*

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**Abstract:** Moral education is the fundamental task of higher education, Ideological and political education is an effective way to implement this fundamental task. For a long time, foreign language teachers have been satisfied with the teaching of language skills and professional knowledge, and have not realized the importance of moral education and value guidance, thus ignoring the mission of maintaining ideology. At the same time, it also restricts the improvement of the ideological and political construction of foreign language courses. Under the background of the great ideological and political situation, this paper explores the principles and Implementation Paths of Ideological and political education for foreign language majors. There is a high similarity between the training objectives of foreign language professionals and the objectives of Ideological and political courses. According to the principles of combination of explicit and implicit, unity and integrity, the ideological and political importance of foreign language courses should be strengthened and perfected from the aspects of teachers' team construction, professional orientation, course teaching and teaching means.

## 1. Introduction

Since 2010, "cultivating people by virtue" has been established as the fundamental task of higher education. "Lide" emphasizes the fundamental of human beings, while "Shuren" emphasizes the comprehensiveness of talent training. Only by combining the two can we form a talent training target system that meets the needs of modern society [1].

The relationship between ideological and political courses and ideological and political courses is one body and two wings. They go in the same direction, develop together, and jointly serve the fundamental task of "cultivating people by virtue" in colleges and universities. Emphasizing that the two go in the same direction is to realize the transformation from ideological and political courses to curriculum ideological and political courses, and to promote the transformation from one-dimensional ideological and political courses to three-dimensional ideological and political patterns [2].

Foreign language is the most important communication tool and thinking tool for human beings. A foreign language has the function of bearing and spreading cultural values and ideology. For a

long time, foreign language teachers have been satisfied with imparting language skills and professional knowledge, thinking that ideological and political education has nothing to do with themselves, not realizing the importance of "cultivating people by virtue" and leading by value, and thus ignoring the mission of maintaining ideology. At the same time, it also restricts the improvement of the ideological and political construction level of foreign language courses. Exploring the principles and realization paths in the construction of curriculum ideological and political education for foreign language majors will help to push the curriculum reform in colleges and universities to a new level and better implement the fundamental task of "cultivating people by virtue".

## **2. The Connotation of Curriculum Ideological and Political Education**

According to the Guiding Outline of Curriculum Ideological and Political Construction in Colleges and Universities, the specific connotation of curriculum ideological and political education is: to carry out ideological and political education practice activities by fully excavating the ideological and political elements contained in general courses, professional courses, ideological and political theory courses and other courses, to form a systematic ideological and political education system, to realize the guidance of values in knowledge transmission and ability training, and to help students shape a correct world outlook, outlook on life and values. From this statement, it can be seen that the course ideological and political education is an education in essence, with the aim of realizing moral education and fostering people, and its concept is collaborative education [3]. In the work of "cultivating people by virtue", value shaping is the first priority of educating people, which is more important than ability and knowledge. It should be organically integrated into the process of knowledge imparting and ability training. It is necessary to fully explore the potential ideological and political content and elements of various courses, so as to make the spring breeze turn into rain and make people feel excited, and effectively achieve the effect of educating people [4]. Lu Daokun believes that curriculum ideological and political education is a form of ideological and political education [5]. From the perspective of cultivating people, we should integrate ideological and political education into all aspects of curriculum education, and improve personality and lead value in the process of imparting knowledge and improving ability based on curriculum construction [6].

Economic globalization and social value diversification all affect the value orientation of college students, especially foreign language majors. Therefore, foreign language courses must have clear value goals and value guidance, and cannot be aimless and aimless. Foreign language majors should strengthen the direction and guidance of curriculum ideological and political education, improve the systematic integration of curriculum ideological and political education, and deepen the process of three-round education, which is also the proper meaning of the collaborative construction of majors and courses and the inherent demand of cultivating high-quality talents[7]. The teaching of foreign language courses is the carrier of ideological and political education, and it is also the cultivation and transmission of ideas and values. So that students can internalize socialist core values and concepts into their action guides in a richer, more effective, interesting and acceptable form.

## **3. Principles of Ideological and Political Education in Foreign Language Courses**

Foreign language education not only refers to language learning, but also involves the study and dissemination of religion, politics, social culture and other aspects, reflecting different world views and values. An important duty of foreign language education is to cultivate students' ability to distinguish Chinese and western cultures and critical consciousness, thus forming a sense of identity with their own national culture, which is of great significance for carrying forward socialist core values and cultivating high-quality foreign language talents with correct and lofty ideals and beliefs.

Therefore, the ideological and political education of foreign language courses should be based on the following three principles.

### **3.1. Value-oriented, Emphasizing the Principle of Combining Explicit and Implicit**

Curriculum ideological and political education is "latent" at first. All courses are a kind of education, teaching and educating people, and the course itself contains humanistic spirit. However, this spirit is hidden in different degrees because of the nature of different types of courses. The classroom teaching process itself is the most important educational process and the most important way to teach and educate people. Knowledge imparting and value guidance are the basic forms of educating people. In the course of teaching, we should not only focus on condensing knowledge in value dissemination, but also emphasize value guidance in knowledge dissemination, highlighting the integration of explicit education and implicit education, and realizing the creative transformation from ideological and political courses to courses [8]. The essence of ideological and political elements in college courses is actually the resources of "cultivating people by virtue". The core of these resources is value guidance, the purpose is to educate people, and the form is both explicit and implicit.

### **3.2. People-oriented, the Unity Principle of Knowledge and Skills Imparting and Moral Education**

"Moral education" is the goal of training foreign language professionals to cultivate applied and compound talents with all-round development in morality, intelligence, body, beauty and labor, international vision and feelings of home and country. Both of them explore the problem of talent training from the perspective of people-oriented. In addition, foreign language major is the forefront of cultural and ideological security, and its professional attributes, educational functions and personnel training objectives determine the necessity of strengthening the ideological and political construction of foreign language major courses.

For a long time, foreign language courses are the most widely accepted courses in colleges and universities and the main battlefield of ideological and political work. If there is no ideological and political education function in foreign language education, foreign language teaching will only be instrumental, without humanity, thus losing its "soul", "direction" and "essence" and unable to realize the connotative development of foreign language education [9]. Therefore, it is the requirement of the times to deeply explore the ideological and political elements in foreign language courses, implement value guidance and achieve the organic integration of knowledge and skills teaching and moral education, so as to cultivate socialist successors who can stand on their own national conditions, face the world and have both ability and political integrity and realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Establish the awareness of spreading China's cultural thoughts in foreign languages, and achieve the two-way development of cultural inheritance and reform and innovation. Through comparison, we can enhance our national cultural self-confidence and cultivate the spirit of patriotism. The ideological and political construction of foreign language courses should guide and inspire college students to think deeply about themselves and society by establishing correct humanistic values. The construction of ideological and political courses for foreign language majors will help to keep a good ideological position, and will also greatly help to serve the country's strategic goal of cultivating a group of international professionals with excellent political quality [10].

### **3.3. Three-dimensional Pluralism, to Achieve the Principle of Integrity in Form**

Under the impact of multicultural values, especially under the influence of western values and ideas,

the young generation's national traditional cultural concepts are becoming increasingly weak. Ideological and political education for foreign language majors should not only introduce and learn the world's excellent culture, but also be based on the excellent traditional virtues accumulated and passed down by China for thousands of years, so that it can be rooted in the study and life of young people.

The implementation of curriculum ideology and politics means the change of educational structure, which means that new requirements and goals are put forward for personnel training and curriculum teaching, that is, the organic combination and pluralistic unity of knowledge imparting, ability training, quality improvement and character shaping (value leading) [11]. Under the background of the interweaving of multiple social values, we should give full play to the advantages of multi-disciplines, educate people in all courses and in all directions, and adhere to the principle of realizing the integrity of forms. This requires the reconstruction of teaching content, which involves the concept of talent cultivation, the application of teaching paths and methods, the arrangement of teaching priorities, and the design of teaching activities, with overall integration.

#### **4. The Realization Path of Ideological and Political Education in Foreign Language Courses**

Curriculum ideological and political education is a long-term and complicated system engineering. To promote the ideological and political reform of curriculum and realize the goal of educating people, it is necessary to "adapt to the situation, advance with the times, and innovate with the situation" and scientifically choose the effective implementation path of "ideological and political education of curriculum" [12]. The problems and contents involved in the ideological and political reform of foreign language courses are even more cumbersome. According to the principle of ideological and political education in foreign language courses, it is necessary to strengthen and improve the teaching staff, professional orientation, course teaching and teaching means.

##### **4.1. Strengthen the Construction of Teaching Staff and Enhance Teachers' Moral Education Awareness and Ability**

Teachers are the first responsible person and implementer of teaching and educating people, preaching and dispelling doubts, and are the main force to promote curriculum ideological and political education. Therefore, teachers should be the first to receive education, and teachers are responsible for imparting knowledge and guiding values. To play its key role, teachers should not only master professional knowledge and skills, but also understand the social value contained in knowledge. In the practice of teaching and education, it is necessary to unify the thoughts of professional teachers, improve their moral education consciousness and ability, conduct value guidance, and help them to clarify the rationality, purpose and regularity of integrating ideological and political elements into professional courses from the perspective of cultural concepts such as "integration of Taoism and morality, and taking advantage of the trend"[13].

As the main body of teaching and educating people, foreign language teachers have the responsibility and obligation to cultivate students' ability to distinguish cultural differences between China and the West and their critical awareness, to enhance their sense of identity with China's traditional culture, and to establish cultural safety awareness and correct core values.

Foreign language education should do a good job in top-level design, do a good job in the education of teachers' morality and style from the two levels of schools and colleges, strengthen the training and cultivation of teachers, guide teachers to establish a positive new concept of educating people through various trainings, realize the organic unity of teaching and educating people, and let teachers develop the consciousness and methods of actively learning and studying ideological and political education in their daily study work, so as to enhance their ability of ideological and

political education. In the past, many foreign language teachers focused more on imparting professional knowledge and skills, paid little attention to ideological and political education, failed to realize the importance of ideological and political work, and lacked the concept of curriculum ideological and political education. In fact, course ideological and political education will not only affect the teaching effect of professional courses, but also help students to establish a correct world outlook, outlook on life and values. Only when the ideological and political concept of the curriculum is deeply rooted in teachers' hearts can teachers "enjoy teaching" and "be good at teaching" in teaching practice, and they will consciously dig and think like digging professional teaching resources. Foreign language teachers should actively explore how to combine professional courses with ideological and political education by mail in their daily teaching training and teaching thinking, and how to accurately use Marxist standpoints and methods to analyze practical problems in teaching and respond to students' practical needs [14].

Colleges and universities should fully understand the connotation and grasp the principles of curriculum ideological and political education, formulate relevant rules for the implementation of curriculum ideological and political education, strengthen the construction of teachers, carry out teacher education, training, supervision and evaluation in the whole process of curriculum teaching, and enhance teachers' moral awareness and ability.

#### **4.2. Clear Curriculum Orientation, Explore the Starting Point of Curriculum Ideological and Political Reform**

While emphasizing the knowledge and skills of foreign language courses, it is the greatest significance of ideological and political education in foreign language courses to highlight its educational function and realize the organic combination of knowledge and skills teaching and value guidance, so as to achieve the goal of coordination, synchronization and complementarity between ideological and political education and professional courses teaching [15]. Taking professional knowledge and skills as the carrier, actively implementing ideological and political education has strong persuasiveness and appeal.

How to better serve the national strategies such as "the belt and road initiative" for foreign language majors is a breakthrough point of ideological and political education for foreign language majors. Focusing on the strategy of serving the country, foreign language majors can make great achievements in integrating Chinese and foreign countries, international communication and the construction of foreign discourse system. The development of ideological and political courses for foreign language majors can also form a better system in content, and foreign languages can also play an important role in discourse transmission and discourse transformation as a tool for integrating Chinese and foreign communication[16]. All kinds of courses need to find suitable goals and entry points. For example, when teaching the course "Interpretation Theory and Practice", we can choose the international conferences attended by Chinese leaders, the foreign translation of China's traditional culture and other audio and video as practice materials to convey the voice of China and tell the story of China well, so as to leave a deep impression on students. The teaching process is integrated with the teaching of professional content, which has achieved value guidance. Combined with the characteristics of the course itself, the elements of professional training and value guidance are skillfully integrated into the teaching content in the most appropriate and most suitable way for China's national conditions, so that students learn far more than skills and knowledge in class.

The process of excavating and combing the ideological and political elements in college courses is actually the process of unifying truth and value in the process of professional knowledge education. It is to convey the value pursuit for truth and consolidate the truth background for the value pursuit. The key point of excavating and combing lies in "digging deep into the moral

education content and elements in professional course teaching, taking professional courses as the spiritual intermediary connecting value and science, and integrating Lide Shuren into the whole process of teaching and educating people" [17].

### **4.3. Highlight the Ideological and Political Concept and Integrate It into the Whole Process of Foreign Language Teaching**

In the teaching documents such as curriculum standards and teaching plans, the ideas and elements of ideological and political education are integrated, and the ideological and political ideas are highlighted in the whole teaching process of foreign language majors, which requires the redesign of curriculum standards and other teaching links. Curriculum standard is the logical main line of teaching, which runs through all aspects of curriculum objectives, content, teaching implementation and evaluation. Therefore, the first thing to be revised and improved is curriculum standard. It is a prerequisite for curriculum reform and adding ideological and political elements to integrate the ideological and political dimension and highlight the moral education orientation of foreign colleges. Teachers should be based on curriculum standards, combined with the specific characteristics of each course, each lesson into the ideological and political elements.

This requires teachers to accumulate all kinds of materials in peacetime, skillfully integrate ideological and political elements, and design all aspects of teaching scientifically and reasonably, so that professional knowledge and moral education can form a synergistic effect.

In addition, most of the textbooks used in foreign language education in domestic colleges and universities are foreign original textbooks, which lack China elements that can reflect China's excellent traditional culture and socialist core values. We should take textbooks as the starting point, reconstruct teaching contents, strengthen the construction of textbooks, integrate ideological and political elements, enhance ideological and political ability and implement ideological and political effects. Incorporating the maintenance of mainstream culture and ideological security into the textbook system will promote the improvement of teaching quality, which is very important for building an ideological education system and maintaining national cultural security.

### **4.4. Keep Pace with the Times, and Build Diversified Courses, Ideological and Political Methods and Means**

Teaching method is the fulcrum to achieve the goal of foreign language teaching and cultivate first-class foreign language talents. The essence of ideological and political education for foreign language majors is a foreign language course with language and culture learning as its basic content. To combine the ideological and political elements into all aspects of language teaching activities, it is necessary to realize the diversification of teaching methods and means, and it is difficult for a single teaching method to meet such new requirements. With the continuous progress of information technology and diversified teaching methods, teachers should also keep pace with the times and construct ideological and political methods and means of diversified courses.

In the Internet age, teachers should take the initiative to learn Internet technology, learn how to use all kinds of software necessary for life and work, innovate teaching methods, be good at using modern educational technologies such as massive open online course, Rain Classroom and Tencent Conference, create online and offline mixed teaching, be close to students' study habits, stimulate students' learning enthusiasm. At the same time, the teaching form should be flexible and diverse, and the teaching methods such as case analysis, comparative analysis, divided classes, inspiration and guidance should be used to make students develop learning habits such as positive thinking, hard exploration and reasonable analysis. In particular, the comparative analysis method, taking professional knowledge as the breakthrough point, extracts ideological and political elements for

comparison, which can deeply understand the essence and law of knowledge and achieve the purpose of value orientation. It is especially effective for the teaching of foreign language specialized courses, which is one of the most effective ways to skillfully integrate ideological and political elements. Teachers and students share different understandings and concepts, and through mutual understanding, teaching can learn from each other and develop together.

## 5. Conclusions

The core mission of a university is talent training, and the quality of talent training is related to the survival and development of the university. With the rapid development of informationization and globalization, the goal of university personnel training is to have both ability and political integrity, and to develop morally, intellectually, physically and artistically. Curriculum ideological and political education has become an important direction for the development of ideological and political education in the new era. Curriculum ideological and political education is the implementation of the fundamental task of moral education in colleges and universities, and it is the political guidance for teachers to take responsibility for the mission of teaching and educating people.

Strengthening and perfecting the ideological and political construction of courses is a systematic and long project, which is related to all levels, departments and links of colleges and universities, and needs multilateral cooperation to form a joint force and advance steadily. Foreign language major is the forefront of cultural and ideological security, and its professional attributes, educational functions and personnel training objectives determine the necessity of strengthening the ideological and political construction of foreign language major courses. The ideological and political education of foreign language courses should be strengthened and improved from the aspects of teaching staff construction, professional orientation, course teaching and teaching means according to the principles of combination of explicit and implicit, unity and integrity.

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