

# *Characteristics, Difficulties, and Solutions of College English Curriculum in Vocational Undergraduate Education*

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**Keywords:** Vocational undergraduate education; College English; Curriculum construction

**Abstract:** In today's globalized society, English has become an essential communication tool. For vocational undergraduate education students, mastering English proficiently is the key to achieving personal and professional development. However, many students feel confused when facing college English courses. This article reveals the key methods and skills of college English courses in vocational undergraduate education.

## **1. Introduction**

In modern society, vocational undergraduate education is receiving increasing attention from people. As an essential part of it, the importance of English courses cannot be ignored. However, this course is a huge challenge for many students. Below, we will explore how to crack the key to college English courses in vocational undergraduate education.

## **2. Characteristics of College English Curriculum in Vocational Undergraduate Education**

### **2.1. Integrating Practice and Theory**

With the process of globalization, vocational undergraduate education plays an important role in cultivating students' employability and adapting to future work environments. And college English courses play a crucial role in this process, providing students with language communication and cross-cultural communication skills. However, in order to better meet the needs of vocational undergraduate education, integrating practice and theory has become the key to developing college English courses<sup>[1]</sup>.

The core idea of integrating practice and theory is to combine classroom learning with practical applications, enabling students to apply the knowledge they have learned in real scenarios. In college English courses, this method can be achieved through the introduction of case studies, simulated scenarios, and on-site research. For example, in Business English courses, students can explore business culture and communication skills by discussing real business cases; In the tourism English course, students can organize on-site visits to improve their oral expression and tour guide skills. This teaching method of applying theoretical knowledge to practical situations can enhance students' hands-on and problem-solving abilities, and cultivate their comprehensive qualities<sup>[2]</sup>.

In addition, the integration of practice and theory can also promote interdisciplinary cooperation

and awareness of lifelong learning. For example, in medical English courses, students can collaborate with medical students to conduct case analysis; In the Engineering English course, students can collaborate with engineers to conduct on-site inspections and design projects<sup>[3]</sup>. By collaborating with students from different majors, students can view problems from different perspectives and learn knowledge and skills in different fields. At the same time, teaching methods that integrate practice and theory also encourage students to continue learning outside of the classroom, such as improving their English proficiency and practical abilities through online resources and practical opportunities<sup>[4]</sup>.

However, teaching methods that integrate practice and theory also face some challenges. Firstly, teachers need to have rich practical experience and theoretical knowledge to effectively guide students. Secondly, teachers need to design teaching plans based on actual situations and adjust teaching strategies in a timely manner to meet the needs of different students. Finally, schools need to provide necessary resources and support, such as laboratory facilities and practical opportunities, to ensure effective integration of practice and theory<sup>[5]</sup>.

The integration of practical and theoretical vocational undergraduate education in college English courses is crucial for cultivating students' employability and adapting to future work environments<sup>[6]</sup>. By combining practical applications with theoretical learning, students can acquire more comprehensive knowledge and skills, and develop problem-solving and collaborative abilities. However, achieving this goal requires the joint efforts of teachers and schools to ensure the effective integration of practice and theory.<sup>[7]</sup>

## 2.2. Emphasize professional areas

With the deepening of globalization and rapid economic development, more and more people are realizing the English proficiency required to succeed in their professional fields. Therefore, the importance of emphasizing the professional field of vocational undergraduate education in university English courses is increasingly prominent. Undergraduate vocational education in professional fields can enhance students' language proficiency through university English courses. In the modern workplace, good English communication skills are an important competitive advantage. Through these courses, students can learn professional terminology and expressions related to their future work, enabling them to communicate more fluently in English<sup>[8]</sup>.

In addition, these courses can also help students understand professional knowledge in different fields. As part of vocational undergraduate education, these courses not only focus on cultivating students' language abilities, but also on cultivating their professional knowledge in specific fields. Whether in the fields of business, finance, healthcare, or engineering, vocational undergraduate education and college English courses in professional fields can help students better understand and master relevant knowledge<sup>[9]</sup>.

In addition, these courses can also improve students' cross-cultural communication skills. In the professional field, collaborating with people from different countries and regions has become the norm<sup>[10]</sup>. Through vocational undergraduate education in the professional field and university English courses, students can learn the skills and knowledge required for effective communication with people from other cultural backgrounds. This cross-cultural communication ability is crucial for students' future career development and can enable them to gain more opportunities on the international stage<sup>[11]</sup>.

Emphasizing the importance of vocational undergraduate education in the field of expertise, college English courses can enhance students' language proficiency, help them understand professional knowledge in different fields, and enhance their cross-cultural communication skills. These courses provide students with the key skills and knowledge they need to develop their career path, making them more competitive in their future career development. Therefore, students should

attach importance to these courses during their university years and strive to learn and master the necessary skills.

### **2.3. Diversified teaching methods**

With the development of globalization, diversified teaching methods have played an increasingly important role in college English courses in vocational undergraduate education. Diversified teaching methods can help students better adapt to the needs of vocational undergraduate education and improve their English proficiency. Diversified teaching methods can meet the learning needs of different students. Students in vocational undergraduate education university English courses come from different backgrounds and disciplines, and their English proficiency and learning goals are also different. Therefore, using diversified teaching methods can develop personalized learning plans based on students' differences to meet the learning needs of different students. For example, teachers can combine teaching activities such as group discussions, project research, and practical activities to stimulate students' interest and enthusiasm in learning. In vocational undergraduate education, students need to have good English communication skills to cope with daily work and challenges. Through diversified teaching methods, students can be exposed to different contexts and topics, improving their listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities. For example, by introducing real-world cases and materials, students can engage in scenario simulations and role-playing to cultivate their problem-solving and effective communication skills.

In the context of globalization, vocational undergraduate education requires students to possess cross-cultural communication skills in college English courses. Through diversified teaching methods, students can understand the differences and similarities between different cultures and learn how to communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds. For example, teachers can organize cross-cultural exchange activities to allow students to share their own culture and experiences with each other, promoting mutual understanding and respect. In vocational undergraduate education, students need to possess the ability to innovate and solve problems in college English courses. Through diversified teaching methods, students can engage in activities such as teamwork, project design, and practical operation, cultivating their creative thinking and practical abilities. For example, teachers can design entrepreneurial projects and have students group together to write and deliver business plans, stimulating their innovation awareness and practical abilities. Diversified teaching methods play an important role in college English courses in vocational undergraduate education, which can meet the learning needs of different students, improve their language proficiency, enhance cross-cultural awareness, and stimulate creative thinking. Therefore, we should actively adopt diversified teaching methods to provide students with a better English learning environment and opportunities.

## **3. The Dilemma of College English Curriculum in Vocational Undergraduate Education**

### **3.1. Insufficient integration of disciplines**

With the advent of globalization and the information age, vocational undergraduate education has received increasing attention in China. However, one issue that we must face in this new field of education is the insufficient integration of disciplines, especially in college English courses. Vocational undergraduate education should aim to cultivate students' ability to possess interdisciplinary skills and knowledge, enabling them to adapt and successfully cope with complex challenges in the real world. However, the reality is that many college English courses still focus on traditional language skill training, neglecting the integration with other disciplines. The insufficient integration of disciplines has led to the one-sidedness of vocational undergraduate education.

Currently, college English courses mainly focus on improving students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities, neglecting the knowledge and skills of other disciplines. However, in the real work environment, a successful professional needs to possess more abilities, such as teamwork, problem solving, innovative thinking, etc. Therefore, the insufficient integration of disciplines makes college English courses have certain limitations in cultivating students' comprehensive qualities.

The insufficient integration of disciplines limits students' professional development in college English courses. College English courses should provide a platform for students to apply the language skills they have learned to various professional fields of practice. However, due to the lack of integration with other disciplines, many college English courses cannot effectively meet the personalized and professional needs of students. This not only limits students' professional development, but also affects their future employment and career development opportunities. The insufficient integration of disciplines has led to the waste of educational resources. Vocational undergraduate education focuses on cultivating students' practical skills. However, if college English courses only focus on traditional language skill training, these educational resources will not be fully utilized. On the contrary, integrating college English courses with other disciplines can better meet students' actual needs and maximize the utilization of educational resources.

### **3.2. Heavy teaching burden on teachers**

In recent years, with the development of society and the progress of education, the teaching burden of teachers has gradually increased, especially in vocational undergraduate education college English courses. Teachers need to bear more workload and responsibility to ensure that students receive high-quality education. In vocational undergraduate education college English courses, teachers must master rich professional knowledge in order to be able to impart the latest practical English skills to students. They need to constantly update their textbooks to keep up with the development of the times and provide students with the best education. This means that teachers need to spend more time and energy preparing lesson plans and handouts.

Teachers also need to conduct more evaluations and feedback to help them improve and enhance their language abilities. These assessments include multiple aspects such as speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and require teachers to conduct extensive testing and assessment work. This undoubtedly increases the workload and pressure of teachers. In addition, teachers also need to have more communication and exchange with students and parents. Teachers not only need to have face-to-face teaching with students, but also need to communicate with parents to understand their learning situation and needs. This requires teachers to invest more time and energy in providing individual guidance and guidance to ensure that every student receives a good education.

### **3.3. Insufficient student motivation**

Student motivation refers to the level of enthusiasm and engagement of students in the learning process, which is crucial for their academic achievements and personal development. However, in the college English curriculum of vocational undergraduate education, many students face the problem of insufficient motivation. Compared to academic English courses, it is more relevant to students' future career development. However, some students may feel that they do not have clear goals or career plans in their career choices, resulting in low interest and motivation in learning this course. Traditional college English courses often focus on learning and mastering language knowledge, but less on skill development related to practical applications. This leads some students to believe that English courses are monotonous and have little practical significance, thereby reducing their learning motivation. In addition, course content and teaching methods may also affect students' motivation. If the course content is too simple or difficult, students may feel bored or unable to keep up. If the

teaching method is single, lacks interest and interactivity, students will also feel bored.

## **4. The Cracking of College English Curriculum in Vocational Undergraduate Education**

### **4.1. Strengthening Discipline Integration**

The importance of strengthening disciplinary integration is increasingly prominent in the field of higher education today. Especially for vocational undergraduate education, subject integration can help students better adapt to the complex and ever-changing workplace environment, enhance their overall quality and competitiveness. Strengthening the educational methods and concepts of subject integration in college English courses has become particularly important. Traditional college English courses usually only focus on the cultivation of language skills and lack cross integration with other disciplines. However, in real life, language and other disciplines are intertwined. For example, in the field of engineering, students need to master English vocabulary and expressions related to their major. Therefore, combining professional knowledge with English learning can help students gain a more comprehensive understanding of their major and improve their professional literacy.

Strengthening the integration of disciplines can help cultivate students' innovative thinking abilities. Traditional English courses often focus on training grammar and writing skills, but neglect the cultivation of students' creativity and critical thinking abilities. By introducing interdisciplinary content and teaching methods, students can think about problems from different perspectives and cultivate the ability to solve practical problems. For example, in business English courses, students can solve practical business problems through case analysis and teamwork, which not only improves their English proficiency, but also cultivates their innovative thinking and teamwork awareness. Strengthening subject integration can also enhance students' professional competitiveness. With the development of globalization, cross-cultural communication has become one of the important skills in the modern workplace. By introducing content such as cross-cultural communication and international business, students can better understand and adapt to work environments in different cultural backgrounds. At the same time, students can also improve their industry literacy by studying professional English courses, adapt to the requirements of the workplace early, and increase employment opportunities.

To strengthen the integration of disciplines in vocational undergraduate education, it is first necessary to reform the existing curriculum. Schools can collaborate with relevant professional departments to design interdisciplinary courses that combine professional knowledge with English learning. Secondly, teachers also need to enhance their ability to integrate disciplines, master interdisciplinary teaching methods and resources, and make the curriculum more targeted and effective. Most importantly, schools should also provide students with more practical opportunities, such as internships and participation in practical projects, so that they can apply the knowledge they have learned in their professional environment through practice.

In short, strengthening the integration of disciplines in vocational undergraduate education is of great significance for improving students' comprehensive quality and competitiveness. By establishing a rich knowledge system, cultivating innovative thinking abilities, and improving professional competitiveness, students can better adapt to the challenges of the modern workplace. Schools and teachers need to work together to reform curriculum and teaching methods, and provide students with more comprehensive subject integration education. Only in this way can we cultivate talents with broad international perspectives that meet the needs of future social development.

### **4.2. Supporting Teacher Development**

As an internationally recognized language, the importance of English is self-evident. As the

undertakers of English education, teachers need to have a solid foundation in English and extensive knowledge of English. Through the study of undergraduate English courses, teachers can systematically improve their English proficiency, master professional English knowledge and teaching methods, and thus better complete English education tasks. Supporting the development of vocational undergraduate education for teachers in university English courses can promote the updating of teachers' educational concepts and educational concepts. With the continuous transformation of educational concepts, traditional educational methods are no longer able to meet the needs of modern education. The study of undergraduate English courses can expose teachers to the latest educational concepts and technologies, enabling them to better meet the needs of students, flexibly apply various educational methods, and improve teaching effectiveness.

## 5. Conclusion

The characteristics and difficulties of college English courses in vocational undergraduate education are inevitable, but we can improve students' English proficiency and application abilities through various teaching contents and methods, strengthening teaching resources, creating a good learning atmosphere, and providing practical opportunities. Only through continuous improvement and innovation can English education better meet the needs of vocational undergraduate education.

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