

# ***Exploration of Ideological and Political Elements into Higher Vocational Professional Courses—Take Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Major "Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Laws and Regulations" Course as an Example***

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**Abstract:** This paper aims to explore the integration of ideological and political education elements in vocational college livestock veterinary professional courses, with an in-depth study using the "Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations" course as an example. By analyzing the characteristics of the course and the requirements of ideological and political education, this paper proposes an innovative teaching method aimed at cultivating students' awareness of laws and regulations and their political consciousness. The paper is divided into four sections: introduction, theoretical exploration, practical cases, and teaching methods. In conclusion, it summarizes that the incorporation of ideological and political elements in education has a positive impact on enhancing students' overall quality.

## **1. Introduction**

Vocational education plays a significant role in cultivating applied talents. However, effectively integrating ideological and political education elements remains an urgent issue. This paper takes the "Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations" course in the livestock veterinary professional as an example, aiming to explore how to organically incorporate ideological and political elements into the curriculum to enhance students' awareness of laws and regulations and their political consciousness. Through theoretical research and analysis of practical cases, we will propose an innovative teaching method to help students in vocational college livestock veterinary programs better understand laws and regulations and combine them with ideological and political education, thereby nurturing more well-rounded and socially responsible individuals.

## **2. Theoretical Exploration**

### **2.1. The Relationship between Vocational Education and Ideological and Political Education**

Vocational education is an integral part of China's education system, with the mission of nurturing practical talents capable of performing specific professional roles. However, vocational education should not be limited to merely imparting technical and practical skills; it should also focus on students' ideological and political literacy. The role of ideological and political education in vocational education is significant, as it contributes to the development of students' political consciousness, guiding them to embrace the correct socialist core values, fostering social responsibility, and enhancing legal awareness. The relationship between vocational education and ideological and political education lies in the fact that the former should promote students' comprehensive development through the latter.[1]

Ideological and political education can help vocational students better understand socialist core values, emphasizing important concepts such as patriotism, collectivism, and socialism, thereby instilling a stronger sense of social responsibility in them. In vocational schools, the future careers of students are directly related to society, making it essential for them to possess a sound legal consciousness, the ability to adhere to laws and regulations, and fulfill social responsibilities. Ideological and political education not only aids students in shaping the right worldview and values but also contributes to enhancing their sense of social responsibility and civic consciousness.[2]

### **2.2. Characteristics of Livestock Veterinary Professional Courses and the Need for Legal Education**

The livestock veterinary profession within vocational education possesses distinctive characteristics. These characteristics include a strong emphasis on practicality, with students directly involved in animal health management and treatment. The knowledge base encompasses a wide array of fields, including animal science, medicine, and veterinary laws and regulations. Furthermore, the profession's work is closely linked to public interests and societal welfare. In this context, knowledge of and adherence to laws and regulations are crucial for ensuring the well-being of animal health, food safety, and veterinary hygiene.[3]

Students in the livestock veterinary profession need to possess legal literacy to engage in their work legally and in accordance with established standards. They need to understand laws and regulations closely related to veterinary work, such as animal protection laws, food safety regulations, and drug management laws, to ensure that their work complies with legal requirements. Additionally, legal education also helps in cultivating students' professional ethics and enhancing their sense of responsibility and occupational morals.

### **2.3. The Theoretical Foundation for Incorporating Ideological and Political Elements into the Curriculum**

The incorporation of ideological and political elements is not merely an educational method; it requires a solid theoretical foundation to support it. When integrating ideological and political elements, we need to consider research findings in the fields of educational psychology, pedagogy, and the theory of ideological and political education.[4] These theoretical foundations ensure that the integration of ideological and political elements is scientific, systematic, and effective.

Educational psychology provides profound insights into learning and cognitive processes, aiding us in designing more effective ideological and political education methods. Pedagogy explores the nature and objectives of education, guiding us on how to better integrate ideological and political

elements into the curriculum to achieve students' comprehensive development. The theory of ideological and political education offers guidance on how to nurture students' correct ideological and political beliefs, helping students better understand and practice socialist core values in their studies and practical experiences.

These theoretical foundations ensure that the incorporation of ideological and political elements is not merely superficial decoration but genuinely influences students' thinking and behavior, promoting their role as builders and successors in socialist development.[5]

### **3. Practical Cases**

#### **3.1. Curriculum Design and Textbook Selection**

In the curriculum design of integrating ideological and political elements into the Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations course, clearly defining the core objectives of ideological and political education is essential. This can be achieved by setting explicit educational goals, such as fostering students' legal awareness, social responsibility, and moral qualities. In curriculum design, considerations should be made on how to organically incorporate these ideological and political elements into the course outline and specific teaching plans. Additionally, the selection of teaching materials is crucial and should focus on using materials and cases that highlight the integration of legal aspects and ideological and political education. These materials may include specific legal texts, relevant ethical and moral dilemma cases, and cases related to socialist core values to help students better understand the connection between law and ideological and political aspects.[6]

#### **3.2. Teaching Methods and Educational Resources**

Diverse teaching methods and the effective utilization of educational resources are crucial for successfully integrating ideological and political elements. While traditional lecturing methods still have their place, it is worth considering employing problem-based teaching methods to encourage students to actively contemplate the connection between laws and regulations and ideological and political aspects. Case-based teaching can help students better understand the ethics and societal values underlying the law through concrete case analyses. Group discussions and interactive activities aid students in critical thinking and communication, enabling them to gain a deeper understanding of course content.

The selection of educational resources should be aligned with practical needs. Internet resources allow students to access the latest legal information, while legal databases provide comprehensive legal texts. Furthermore, organizing field trips and case studies enables students to get up close to legal issues in veterinary practice, enhancing their comprehension. The skillful utilization of these resources enriches the course content, providing students with a more comprehensive understanding of the application of laws and regulations and ideological and political elements.

#### **3.3. Student Engagement and Feedback**

Active student participation and feedback are pivotal for the successful integration of ideological and political elements into the curriculum. Teachers can encourage students to actively engage in classroom discussions, group activities, and extracurricular extensions to enhance their ideological and political awareness. Simultaneously, timely collection of student feedback is crucial. Student perspectives and suggestions can be gathered through regular surveys, face-to-face discussions, or online feedback channels. This feedback helps teachers understand student needs and concerns, allowing them to adjust teaching methods and content to improve the educational effectiveness of the

course.

In conclusion, through careful curriculum design, the selection of appropriate teaching materials, diverse teaching methods and resource utilization, and active encouragement of student participation and feedback, it is possible to effectively integrate ideological and political elements into the Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations course. This approach fosters the development of vocational college livestock veterinary students with enhanced overall qualities and a greater sense of social responsibility. These practical cases provide guidance and inspiration to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the course, laying a solid foundation for ideological and political education in preparing competent veterinary professionals.

## **4. Teaching Methods**

### **4.1. Problem-Based Teaching Method**

The problem-based teaching method offers numerous advantages when integrating ideological and political elements into the Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations course. Firstly, it stimulates students' initiative and enthusiasm. By posing questions, students are encouraged to think proactively, participate in discussions, and seek answers, thereby cultivating their capacity for self-directed learning and independent thinking. Secondly, the problem-based teaching method helps connect abstract legal concepts with real-life cases. Students, through the analysis of specific issues and cases, gain a deeper understanding of the practical application of laws and regulations, while also appreciating the significance of ethics and social responsibility in real-world decision-making. Furthermore, the problem-based teaching method fosters critical thinking and problem-solving skills in students. They not only answer questions but also propose rational solutions and engage in critical analysis, which are essential for ethical decision-making and legal compliance in veterinary practice. Lastly, the problem-based teaching method promotes interaction and cooperation among students. During discussions and problem-solving processes, students can exchange viewpoints, share experiences, and enhance their teamwork and communication skills. In summary, the problem-based teaching method is a potent educational tool that plays a vital role in integrating ideological and political elements into the Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations course. By guiding students to contemplate and address legal and ideological questions, this teaching method not only helps them understand the interplay between law and ideological and political elements but also cultivates their thinking abilities, critical thinking, and teamwork skills, providing robust support for their future veterinary practice.

### **4.2. Case-Based Teaching Method**

The case-based teaching method is another powerful instructional approach suitable for incorporating ideological and political elements into the Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations course. Through the analysis and discussion of concrete cases, students can gain a better understanding of the ethical and societal values underlying laws and regulations, thus developing their judgment and comprehensive analytical skills. In case-based teaching, teachers can select real cases related to veterinary practice or design fictional cases for students to analyze and understand the application of laws and regulations. Teachers can guide students in dissecting the ethical and legal issues in the cases, encouraging them to think about how to make appropriate decisions based on laws and socialist core values. Case-based teaching can also increase interactivity through group discussions and role-playing exercises, prompting active student participation.

### **4.3. Extracurricular Expansion and Social Practice**

Extracurricular expansion and social practice are integral components of incorporating ideological and political elements, helping students bridge the gap between classroom theory and practical application and gain a deeper understanding of laws and regulations and ideological and political elements. Students in the livestock veterinary profession can participate in social practice activities to gain firsthand experience in applying laws and regulations in veterinary practice while also cultivating their social responsibility and legal awareness.

Concerning extracurricular expansion, schools can organize knowledge competitions on laws and regulations, legal seminars, and social practice projects to encourage active student engagement. Moreover, students can broaden their understanding of ideological and political elements by participating in volunteer activities, student organizations, and academic research, contributing to the development of their comprehensive qualities.

Social practice activities may include visits to veterinary hospitals, veterinary drug manufacturing companies, farms, and participation in legal training and consulting events. These practical experiences enable students to better understand the importance of laws and regulations in real-world work, while also prompting them to reflect on the relationship between veterinary work and socialist core values.

By seamlessly combining various teaching methods such as problem-based teaching, case-based teaching, and extracurricular expansion, students can more effectively integrate ideological and political elements into the Livestock Veterinary Laws and Regulations course, nurturing vocational college livestock veterinary students with legal awareness and social responsibility. These methods help students develop a comprehensive understanding of the significance of laws and regulations and ideological and political elements in both theoretical learning and practical application, laying a solid foundation for their future veterinary careers.

## **5. Educational Innovation and Integration of Ideological and Political Elements**

### **5.1. Practical Effects of Incorporating Ideological and Political Elements into the Course**

The incorporation of ideological and political elements into the Livestock and Veterinary Legal Regulations course has yielded significant results in practical education. It has not only had a positive impact on students' ideological and political awareness but has also effectively enhanced their comprehensive qualities.

Firstly, students' legal awareness has significantly improved. Through problem-based teaching and case analysis, students gain a deeper understanding of the importance of legal regulations in veterinary practice. They gradually develop a self-consciousness about compliance with laws and regulations, not only knowing how to act but also understanding the rationality of the laws and the importance of maintaining societal order. This is crucial for the legal and ethical conduct of veterinary practices and food safety.

Secondly, students' sense of social responsibility has been nurtured. Emphasis on professional ethics and legal requirements in the course makes students more concerned about animal welfare, food safety, and the overall health of society. They realize that their work as veterinarians is not just a profession but also entails societal stability and public well-being. This sense of social responsibility is reflected not only in the classroom but also in their practical veterinary work, as students approach their work with greater caution and responsibility, actively participating in community service.

Most importantly, students' comprehensive qualities have been enhanced. The incorporation of ideological and political elements equips students with not only professional knowledge but also critical thinking, judgment, and teamwork. Problem-based teaching and case analysis hone students'

analytical skills and problem-solving abilities, preparing them to navigate complex situations in veterinary practice. In addition, group discussions and interactive activities enhance students' teamwork and communication skills, making them more competitive and adaptable.

In summary, the Livestock and Veterinary Legal Regulations course, enriched with ideological and political elements, has not only raised students' legal awareness but also cultivated their social responsibility and improved their comprehensive qualities. This educational approach provides students in vocational livestock and veterinary programs with a more comprehensive education, ensuring that they possess not only professional skills but also social values and comprehensive qualities, making positive contributions to the sustainable development of the veterinary industry and societal progress.

## **5.2. Enhancement of Students' Comprehensive Qualities**

The incorporation of ideological and political elements in the educational approach has played a crucial role in enhancing students' comprehensive qualities, affecting their ideological awareness, analytical and judgment abilities, and teamwork and communication skills positively.

Firstly, students' ideological awareness has significantly strengthened. Through in-depth exploration of legal regulations and their integration with the core values of socialism, students begin to contemplate the relationship between the rule of law and ethics and morality more profoundly. They focus not only on legal provisions but also on the legitimacy, justice, and societal impact of laws. This heightened ideological awareness helps students form positive social values, guiding them to actively practice the rule of law and social responsibility in their future veterinary careers.

Secondly, students' analytical and judgment abilities have improved. Through case analysis and problem-based teaching, students develop a profound understanding and analytical skills when it comes to complex legal issues. They learn to think independently and make wise decisions, particularly in facing ethical and legal challenges in the field of veterinary medicine. This improvement in their abilities helps them deal with complex situations effectively, ensuring compliance with legal regulations and ethical principles.

Finally, students' teamwork and communication abilities have also seen enhancement. In group discussions and extracurricular activities, students work together to solve legal and ethical problems, fostering a spirit of teamwork. They learn to share their viewpoints and listen to others, improving their teamwork and communication skills. These skills are crucial for collaboration within veterinary teams and providing comprehensive patient care.

In conclusion, the Livestock and Veterinary Legal Regulations course enriched with ideological and political elements has not only raised students' legal awareness but also cultivated their social responsibility and improved their comprehensive qualities. These improvements make students more competitive and adaptable and contribute positively to the veterinary profession's sustainable development and societal progress.

## **5.3. Existing Issues and Recommendations for Improvement**

Although the incorporation of ideological and political elements into the Livestock and Veterinary Legal Regulations course has achieved certain success in educational innovation, there are still some issues that require serious attention. Here are some recommendations for improvement.

Firstly, there is a need to strengthen the development of the teaching staff. Some educators may lack expertise in ideological and political education. To enhance the teachers' ideological and political education skills, the school can offer relevant training courses, invite experts for guidance, and encourage teachers to engage in research and educational reform projects. Additionally, creating a platform for teachers to share their experiences and collaborate can facilitate the exchange of



knowledge and the improvement of ideological and political education.

Secondly, the updating and enhancement of course content is a pressing issue. Legal regulations are continually changing, and course materials and case studies need to be updated promptly to reflect the latest legal requirements and societal changes. To address this, the school can establish a dynamic curriculum management mechanism to ensure timely updates of course materials. Furthermore, encouraging teachers to actively participate in related research and legal regulation tracking can help keep the course content up-to-date.

Moreover, inadequate student engagement may affect the effectiveness of education. Teachers should employ more engaging teaching methods such as multimedia instruction, interactive discussions, and practical activities to stimulate students' interest and active participation. Additionally, the school can encourage students to participate in competitions, projects, and community service to provide more opportunities for students to combine classroom learning with practical application, thereby improving their ideological and political awareness and comprehensive qualities.

Lastly, a comprehensive evaluation system for the course needs to be established and refined. Traditional examination score-based assessment may not sufficiently reflect students' ideological and political awareness and comprehensive qualities. Therefore, the school can introduce diverse assessment methods, including assignments, in-class performance, extracurricular participation, and community service, to comprehensively assess students' overall qualities. Additionally, creating a feedback mechanism for students, collecting their opinions and suggestions regularly, can help continually improve the course and enhance its educational quality.

In conclusion, while the Livestock and Veterinary Legal Regulations course enriched with ideological and political elements has achieved significant practical effects, it still faces some challenges that require attention and improvement. Through continuous educational innovation and improvement, we can better nurture vocational livestock and veterinary students who possess legal awareness and social responsibility, making valuable contributions to the veterinary profession's sustainable development and societal progress.

## 6. Conclusion

Through the exploration of the integration of ideological and political elements into the "Livestock and Veterinary Legal Regulations" course in the Livestock and Veterinary major, this paper has summarized an effective educational approach that enhances legal awareness and ideological and political consciousness among higher vocational students. This approach not only helps students gain a better understanding of legal regulations but also cultivates more socially responsible and well-rounded applied talents. However, continuous improvement and refinement are necessary to better meet the needs of higher vocational education and promote students' comprehensive development. This research hopes to provide valuable references and insights for the reform of ideological and political education in higher vocational education.

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