

# *Exploration of Optimization Paths for Blended Teaching of College English in the Context of "Internet+"*

Shengliang Wang

*Philippine Christian University, 1648 Taft Avenue Corner Pedro Gil St., Malate, Manila, the Philippines*

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**Abstract:** In the wave of digital transformation, blended teaching in college English has emerged as an effective teaching strategy. It not only caters to the diverse learning needs of students but also provides them with a richer and multidimensional learning experience. This approach not only broadens students' learning avenues but also grants them more autonomy in their learning space. In the future, this teaching model can further integrate advanced technologies like artificial intelligence and big data analysis to offer students more personalized learning recommendations and paths.

## **1. Introduction**

Faced with the dual challenges of globalization, educational models must evolve to adapt to new learning environments. Blended teaching in an online environment provides students with abundant resources and opportunities for self-directed learning, while real-world interactions in the offline setting ensure the practical application of knowledge. This approach emphasizes student agency, enabling them to be more autonomous in their learning. Through online self-directed learning and offline practical applications, students learn to independently seek resources and solutions when encountering problems, fostering their capacity for independent thinking and problem-solving. This not only facilitates knowledge accumulation but also opens a gateway for them to explore the future.

## **2. The Association between "Internet+" and Blended Teaching of College English**

The relationship between "Internet+" and blended teaching of college English is profound and ever-increasing. This technology enriches the content and enhances interactivity in blended teaching, while also allowing intelligent adjustments based on students' learning behavior to meet individualized needs. Leveraging "Internet+," educational resources have seen unprecedented sharing and dissemination. Online platforms can update and integrate global educational resources in real-time, breaking geographical and temporal constraints. This widespread resource sharing also promotes educational equity, ensuring that students from various regions and backgrounds have access to high-quality educational resources. With an internet connection, students can access learning platforms, obtain necessary materials, and interact with teachers and peers. This high degree of flexibility and convenience further enhances students' learning efficiency and motivation.[1]

### **3. The Significance of Blended Teaching of College English in the Context of "Internet+"**

#### **3.1. Expanding the Coverage of High-Quality Resources**

In the era of "Internet+," the boundaries of educational resources are being redefined. The widespread use of the internet offers endless possibilities for the field of education, acting as a bridge to high-quality learning resources, ensuring that students can access the finest English teaching materials from anywhere. International news reports enable students to stay up to date with global developments, nurturing their international perspectives and cross-cultural communication skills.[2] Original English literary works guide students through the cultural and historical context of the English language, enhancing their linguistic and cultural literacy. All these resources, previously confined to physical libraries, institutions, or academic research, are now widely disseminated and shared on the internet. This trend not only means that students can access more information, but it provides them with a more open, diverse, and self-directed learning environment. In this environment, students can actively seek, select, and utilize various resources to tailor their own learning paths, enriching their learning experiences and fostering independent thinking and self-directed learning abilities.[3]

#### **3.2. Enhancing Student Learning Motivation**

Blended teaching, with its unique structure, injects new vitality into contemporary college English education. This model truly achieves personalization and universality in education, customizing learning paths for each student. The online environment provides an abundance of learning resources, liberating students from reliance on textbooks and classroom content. They can freely explore, select, and delve deeper into areas of personal interest, closely connecting with real English language contexts. In the classroom environment, interactions and collaboration among students and between students and teachers become the core of learning. Because blended teaching emphasizes student agency, students experience the right to make autonomous choices and decisions in their learning process, enhancing their enthusiasm and motivation for learning. Simultaneously, this model provides a safe space for students to boldly experiment, express their viewpoints, and even question and challenge existing knowledge systems. Teachers in blended teaching serve as guides and facilitators in the learning process, focusing on developing students' critical thinking, analytical skills, and communication abilities, providing students with a broader, more diverse, and open platform, inspiring their passion for learning and promoting comprehensive development.[4]

#### **3.3. Strengthening Students' Digital Literacy**

Contemporary society requires every citizen to possess a certain level of digital skills, enabling them to interact fluently with the digital world, access, process, and communicate information. Blended teaching of college English, in its structure and practice, incorporates not only traditional language teaching methods but also modern technology, providing students with a comprehensive learning experience. Through online learning platforms, students can access a variety of digital learning materials, such as interactive videos, simulated dialogues, and online testing, which not only support their English learning but also allow them to experience and master the application of digital technology. Blended teaching encourages students to engage in self-directed learning using digital tools. Online information retrieval, data analysis, and information integration become a part of students' daily learning, fostering their independent learning skills and honing their critical thinking and information discernment abilities.[5] Additionally, by engaging in online communication and collaboration with English learners worldwide, students can improve not only their language skills

but also their communication and collaboration abilities in a digital environment. This comprehensive skill development undoubtedly provides students with a valuable competitive advantage in future society and the workforce.

## **4. Optimization Strategies for Blended Teaching of College English in the Context of "Internet+"**

### **4.1. Strengthen Content Integration to Ensure Teaching Continuity**

With the advancement of information technology, students can easily access vast amounts of information and knowledge, presenting new opportunities for college English teaching. To ensure teaching continuity and effectiveness, educators must carefully design and plan instructional content to provide students with a clear and systematic learning path. In the blended teaching model, online and offline teaching activities should form a unified whole rather than isolated parts. This means that whether students are in the classroom or learning on online platforms, they should experience a continuous and consistent learning process. Educators should ensure that online teaching resources complement and support offline teaching activities, creating a collaborative learning environment. Considering the diversity of students, content integration should focus not only on the coherence of knowledge but also on the integration of knowledge with practical applications. This ensures that students not only grasp theoretical knowledge but can also apply what they have learned in real-life situations. To achieve this goal, educators can incorporate real-world cases and design authentic and challenging learning tasks to deepen students' understanding through practice. Content integration should also stay current, reflecting the latest developments in today's society and culture. This not only ensures the timeliness of teaching but also stimulates students' interest and curiosity, making them more actively engage in learning.[6]

### **4.2. Provide Personalized Learning Recommendations**

As each student possesses a unique learning background, abilities, and preferences, educators are seeking new ways to meet students' individualized learning needs and help them achieve the best learning outcomes. When using digital tools for teaching, educators have the opportunity to gather vast amounts of data on students' learning behaviors and outcomes. Through careful analysis and interpretation of this data, educators can gain deeper insights into students. For instance, when educators are teaching a topic like "A Good Heart to Lean On" in class, by analyzing students' interactions and participation on online platforms, they may identify that some students are struggling with a specific concept in the article. For these students, educators can provide additional resources or exercises to help them better understand and master the concept. At the same time, for students who have already mastered the concept, educators can recommend more advanced reading materials or advanced tasks to further challenge and enhance their skills. Personalized learning recommendations also help students find learning resources that align with their interests and goals. For example, for students particularly interested in English and American culture, educators can recommend in-depth exploration of the cultural backgrounds and social environments described in the course material. This way, students not only gain language knowledge but also gain a deeper understanding of the related culture and history.

### **4.3. Encourage Student Participation in Online Discussions**

Online discussions create a unique learning space for students, allowing them to communicate and share across geographical, time zone, and cultural differences. This not only deepens their

understanding of specific topics but also provides an opportunity to interact with peers from around the world, cultivating their cross-cultural communication skills and global perspectives. For example, when teaching the theme "Never, ever give up," educators can invite students to share their own real stories or stories they know about persistence and overcoming challenges. Online communication platforms can make such sharing more diverse and rich. One student may share a story about the perseverance and resilience portrayed in the "Three Moves of Mrs. Fan" to emphasize the role of persistence and determination in learning, while another student may share the story of Thomas Edison's countless failures before finally inventing the light bulb, highlighting the importance of not giving up and continuous effort. Such online exchanges not only increase students' understanding of the topic but also expose them to different expressions and interpretations of the same theme from various cultures and countries. This mode of communication encourages open-mindedness, listening, and respecting others' viewpoints, fostering students' communication and critical thinking abilities. With technological advancements, online communication and discussions are becoming more prevalent, providing students with an opportunity to engage in communication and learning within a safe, open environment. This not only cultivates students' knowledge and skills but also helps them develop a more open and inclusive attitude toward the world.

#### **4.4. Regularly Update Blended Teaching Materials**

In this age of rapidly evolving knowledge and technology, educators must ensure that the teaching resources used keep pace with the times, reflecting the latest research findings and societal development trends. For example, in the context of "The Way to Success," in today's innovation-driven era, the path to success has undergone significant changes, with factors such as innovative thinking, interdisciplinary collaboration, and digital skills increasingly viewed as core components of success. Therefore, when educators review and update teaching materials, they may incorporate more content related to entrepreneurship, technological innovation, globalization, and other relevant topics to ensure students can better understand and adapt to a changing world. Modern students' learning habits and preferences are also evolving. They are increasingly accustomed to using digital tools and platforms for learning and have higher expectations for the format and quality of teaching content. Therefore, updating teaching materials is not just about changing the content; it also involves considering how to leverage the latest educational technologies and methods, such as virtual reality, augmented reality, artificial intelligence, to provide students with a more dynamic and interactive learning experience.

### **5. Optimization Path for Blended Teaching of College English in the Context of "Internet+"**

#### **5.1. Introduce Advanced Educational Technology Tools**

The introduction of advanced educational technology tools is highly effective in the modern English teaching environment. In the theme "Beat your fear," the use of cutting-edge educational technology can provide students with a more immersive and engaging learning experience. Imagine educators utilizing virtual reality technology to immerse students in a simulated environment, such as a crowded meeting room or a large public event, during the exploration of this theme. In this environment, students must interact with simulated characters in English, overcome their fears, and successfully complete tasks like speaking at a meeting or delivering a speech in public. This immersive learning experience not only helps students authentically experience the process of confronting their fears but also enables them to apply their English knowledge and skills in real-world scenarios. Artificial intelligence technology can also support teaching in this theme. Through intelligent educational software, every action and choice made by students can be accurately captured

and analyzed. Based on this data, educators can provide each student with more personalized learning recommendations and feedback, ensuring they receive maximum support and assistance during the learning process. Augmented reality technology can be used to create a learning environment that combines the real world with virtual elements. While learning, students can use augmented reality technology to see their simulated performance in different scenarios, providing them with a learning experience that combines the real and the virtual. This enhances students' understanding and mastery of English knowledge while boosting their confidence and practical application skills.

## **5.2. Encourage Students to Join Blended English Learning Communities**

Encouraging students to join blended English learning communities holds significant value for deepening and expanding teaching content. When studying the theme "When work is a pleasure," the power of communities can be harnessed to promote the understanding and discussion of the relationship between work and passion. Through English blended learning communities, students have the opportunity to connect with individuals from different work cultures and perspectives worldwide. They can share their experiences with international peers and explore how work enthusiasm drives career development. For example, a learner from Europe may share their work experiences in the field of art, explaining how a passion for art and continuous learning has made work enjoyable and fulfilling. In contrast, a learner from Asia might share challenges faced in the high-tech industry and how innovation and research have made their work more meaningful. Through community interaction and collaboration, students can gain practical advice and strategies on how to find and maintain work enthusiasm. They can engage in discussions about how to find joy in their daily work, tackle work challenges, and grow through continuous learning. By providing a broader range of perspectives, blended teaching can help students develop respect and appreciation for diversity. After experiencing and understanding the diversity of the world, students will cherish and respect the uniqueness of every culture and individual, fostering an open and inclusive mindset.

## **5.3. Offer a Wider Learning Perspective**

As international interactions deepen, communication and collaboration cross borders, covering various cultures and backgrounds. In such a context, mastering only one language and cultural knowledge is far from sufficient. Students need to be able to view issues from multiple angles, understand and appreciate the beauty and uniqueness of different cultures. Blended teaching, by combining online and offline teaching modes, provides an ideal platform for educators to incorporate more international content and perspectives. For example, through online courses, students can explore local customs and cultures from around the world, gaining insights into the history and culture of different countries. This approach not only helps students acquire knowledge about other countries but also allows them to experience the charm and depth of different cultures. Analyzing international news in-depth is also an effective way to broaden students' horizons. Faced with daily news reports, students should learn to consider issues from multiple angles, understand the cultural and social contexts behind them, and develop their own viewpoints and opinions. By offering a wider range of learning perspectives, blended teaching can help students build respect and appreciation for diversity. After experiencing and understanding the diversity of the world, students will cherish and respect the uniqueness of every culture and individual, fostering an open and inclusive mindset.

## **5.4. Introduce More Interactive Learning**

To adapt to modern students' learning habits and needs, educators are exploring various innovative teaching methods, with interactive learning being one of the most promising and valuable approaches.

This mode of learning not only promotes students' active participation and critical thinking but also helps them better grasp and apply the knowledge and skills they acquire. A core idea of interactive learning is that learning is not just a process of receiving and digesting information but a process of engagement and creation. When students engage in learning through methods like simulated dialogues, project collaboration, or role-playing, they not only gain knowledge but also develop their critical thinking, communication, collaboration skills, and problem-solving abilities. For instance, in simulated dialogues, students can practice authentic communication scenarios, such as business negotiations, cultural exchanges, or daily conversations, in a safe and supportive environment. In the process, they can enhance their speaking and listening skills while experiencing the challenges and pleasures of communicating with people from different cultural backgrounds. Through project collaboration and role-playing, students can delve deeper into the application and value of English knowledge. They can work collaboratively with other students to investigate a theme or problem, thus developing their teamwork and project management skills.

## 6. Conclusion

In the era of "Internet+," blended teaching is increasingly becoming a core strategy for college English education. In this context, college English education can more precisely meet the practical needs of students, helping them better adapt to the diverse challenges of society and the workplace. Students can access high-quality learning resources anytime and anywhere, while educators can use these tools to better organize and manage teaching activities, ensuring the quality and effectiveness of education. As educational technology continues to develop and improve, blended teaching will provide 21st-century students with a richer learning experience, empowering them to thrive in a globalized era.

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