

## Research on the perplexity and reshaping of the role of ideological and political course teachers in vocational colleges

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**Abstract:** The school-running concept of vocational colleges is employment-oriented, so in the education and teaching work of vocational colleges, all work centers on enhancing students' employment ability, and only pays attention to the explicit work which is helpful to students' employment. On the other hand, ideological and political course teachers have potential in students' political guidance, moral shaping, moral cultivation and rule of law education, and can not achieve immediate results, so there is a situation of marginalization, which leads to the confusion of the role of ideological and political course teachers. Before facing the important task of training students of the new times, ideological and political course teachers should be guided by the "Six Requirements" put forward by Xi Jinping to ideological and political course teachers at the symposium of ideological and political theory teachers in the school, and realize the reshaping of their role, so as to become a model practitioner of "two maintenance", an effective disseminator of Marxist theory, an active defender of the party's line, principles and policies, and a shaper of students' success.

The ideological and political work in colleges and universities is related to the fundamental question of what kind of people to train in colleges and universities, how to train people, and for whom to produce professionals. [1] Ideological and political theory courses have an effective impact on college students' ideological concept, value orientation, and spiritual outlook. It is the main channel and main position to shape the soul of young college students. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the ideological and political work in the school has been paid unprecedented attention by the Party and the government. A national ideological and political work meeting was held in December 2016.

In 2017, the Ministry of Education issued the *Implementation Outline of the Project to Improve the Quality of Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities*, and in March 2019, Xi Jinping presided over a forum for teachers of ideological and political theory courses in colleges and universities. In August 2019, the General Office of the CPC Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council issued some opinions on deepening the reform and innovation of ideological and political theory courses in schools in the new era, which solved the problems of what to teach, who to teach and whom to teach. Interviews have been conducted with teachers of ideological and political courses in some vocational colleges in Chongqing since 2016. On the surface, the offering of ideological and political courses in some vocational colleges is based on the documents of the Ministry of Education and the competent departments of higher education, but in fact, they do not have a deep understanding and interpretation of the ideological and political courses in the political guidance, character building, moral cultivation and law of the students.

With regard to the important role of governance and education, it is naturally impossible to really understand the profound connotation of "establishing virtue and cultivating people," and thus only implement superior documents passively or at a discount.

### 1 Perplexity of role of ideological and political course teachers in vocational colleges

#### 1.1 Ideological and political courses continue to be marginalized

When formulating talent training plans, some schools take one-sided emphasis on professional

construction as the guiding ideology, and some even do not investigate, analyze and demonstrate the scientific nature of professional courses in detail, but simply increase professional courses. When the total class hours exceed the upper limit required by the Ministry of Education, ideological and political courses will be compressed to varying degrees. Under the circumstances that the competent departments of education strengthen the supervision of the construction of ideological and political courses, some vocational colleges, especially private colleges, continue to offer similar large classes, or schedule ideological and political courses on weekends or evenings or at unimportant times, in disguise, do not attach importance to ideological and political courses. There is still a phenomenon of “saying it is important, doing it secondarily, and not being busy.” In the face of inspection and supervision by superiors, documents are still implemented, and there is a lack of real implementation in terms of staffing, financial security, and class arrangement.

### **1.1.1 The status of the course does not match the operation of the course**

The ideological and political course plays an important role in the establishment of students' ideals and beliefs, the shaping of moral character, the cultivation of healthy psychology and the cultivation of legal thinking, and is the main channel and main position for students' ideological and political education. However, when setting the ideological and political course, due to the shortage of personnel and resources, the class system is adopted, and the available classrooms are arranged according to the remaining time of the professional courses, according to the capacity of the classroom, combined with the number of natural classes to form a combined class. Completely ignoring the characteristics of the differences in the ideological state of liberal arts and science and departments between students has brought difficulties to the targeted teaching and targeted teaching of ideological and political courses, and the teaching effect will naturally be affected.

### **1.1.2 The orientation of the curriculum does not match its role**

Xi Jinping said at a national forum of teachers of ideological and political theory courses: “ideological and political theory courses are the key courses for implementing the fundamental task of establishing morality and cultivating people.”[2] However, on the one hand, many vocational colleges still think that ideological and political courses are those required by their superiors and only implement the requirements of documents. On the other hand, it is also regarded as a big frame, and all the contents related to students' ideological and political education are installed in it, in order to achieve the effect of “one cost and ten thousand profits”. Because of the abnormal cognition that has been formed all the time, the work of the ideological and political course and the student work front is torn into two skins, each blowing its own trumpet and playing its own tune, which does not play a synergistic effect, which directly and indirectly affects the role of the ideological and political courses. In addition, some schools do not think systematically that student education is a systematic project, which is the result of the joint action of the ten major education systems. Whenever there is any situation, students will question the effect of ideological and political courses and think that the role of ideological and political courses has not been brought into full play. This is a typical attitude that arrangement is not their concern and results are only stressed, which inevitably affects the role of ideological and political courses in colleges and universities.

## **1.2 Ideological and political course teachers continue to be marginalized**

### **1.2.1 Role positioning does not match role status**

The important task of ideological and political course teachers is to “guide students and produce talents through the ideological education of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era”[3]. However, ideological and political courses are marginalized, and so are teachers of natural ideological and political courses. Some leaders think that ideological and political courses are set up to cope with superior inspection and ensure that there are enough courses, but it is up to them to arrange what kind of people to undertake these courses. People whose majors do not meet the professional needs of the college are arranged into the teaching of ideological and political

courses, offsetting the class hours and thinking that anyone can take ideological and political courses, which not only affects the teaching quality of ideological and political courses, but also deviates from the mission entrusted by the CPC Central Committee to ideological and political courses. It also deeply hurts the self-esteem of ideological and political course teachers. As for the funding guarantee of continuing education, training and exchange of ideological and political course teachers, they also rely on documents to passively implement the requirements of their superiors, rather than taking the initiative to consider the substantive development needs of ideological and political course teachers. For example, some training programs are not really suitable for ideological and political course teachers, or there are some projects that are suitable for ideological and political course teachers, but schools do not actively support ideological and political course teachers to train. In arranging holiday training for teachers, the relevant departments of the school made reasonable arrangements for ideological and political course teachers not to find a way to build a platform, but required teachers to contact the training unit themselves, and set an upper limit on the determination of time. Only 1/4 of professional teachers, but in the evaluation of professional titles, they are required to reach the five-year and six-month enterprise industry training experience of the Ministry of Education. This makes ideological and political course teachers obviously feel that they are being treated unfairly by the school.

### **1.2.2 Actual effort does not match the sense of achievement**

Because the theoretical level and thinking level of higher vocational students are relatively weak, and strong theory is one of the major characteristics of ideological and political courses, ideological and political course teachers in vocational colleges in order to undertake the mission of healthy growth of college students, in order to increase the rate of students' head-up and nodding, they have to do everything they can to increase the rate of students' head-up and nodding. Moreover, ideological and political course teachers in vocational colleges generally have a large teaching workload, coupled with more routine work, ideological and political course teachers require high comprehensive quality and need to keep pace with the times, which require ideological and political course teachers to make non-stop efforts. However, shaping talents is a complex and long process, in that the effect is slow and the effect is not obvious in a short period of time. The cultivation of students by ideological and political course teachers can not quickly improve their ideological and political literacy through a few ideological and political classes, and the students' ideological and political situation, moral cultivation and the promotion of the consciousness of the rule of law are not obvious, which has the nature of introversion. The character quality of students can only be judged by certain events. If they are not faced with the choice and trade-off between personal gain and loss, the contest and choice between law and reason, and the consideration and competition between morality and law, it will not be able to evaluate the students. Some of the influence periods of ideological and political courses on students will not show their effect until a few years later. If it has been in this state, it will also lead to psychological self-confidence of ideological and political course teachers, coupled with the school's evaluation of ideological and political course teachers is also the pursuit of short frequency and fast, which will lead to ideological and political course teachers' lack of sense of achievement.

## **2 Reshaping the role of ideological and political course teachers in vocational colleges**

Xi Jinping stressed that "China's higher education shoulders the major task of training socialist builders and successors with all-round development morally, intellectually, physically and aesthetically, and must adhere to the correct political direction." [4] The key to correct ideological and political teaching is to adhere to the correct political direction and always adhere to the value pursuit of ideological and political teaching. Ideological and political course teachers should shoulder the responsibility of being the first tutor of the first lesson for young college students and cultivate new generations of the times who can undertake the great task of national rejuvenation. Xi Jinping stressed: "It is necessary to unremittingly spread Marxist theory and do a good job in Marxist theoretical education, so as to lay a scientific ideological foundation for students' life-long

development.” We should unremittingly cultivate and carry forward core socialist values and guide the broad masses of teachers and students to be firm believers, active disseminators, and model practitioners of core socialist values.”[5] Ideological and political course teachers should be guided by Xi Jinping’s “six requirements” for ideological and political course teachers, practice their internal skills, tell Chinese stories well, stand firm on the podium, and explain clearly, “Why did Marx do it? Why can the Communist Party of China do it? Why is the socialist system good?” become a model practitioner of “Two Maintains”, an effective disseminator of Marxist theory, and an active defender of the party’s line, principles and policies, and hence the shaper of successful students.

## **2.1 Exemplary practitioners**

The value guidance of ideological and political course teachers to young college students is not an empty notion. If the teacher teaches it, it does not mean that the students can accept it. What the students hear does not mean that they really understand. Only by making young college students have emotional identity can they achieve empathy, and only by making them moved can they be moved. Only when teachers put it into practice, can they play an exemplary and guiding role for college students. Therefore, the ideological and political course teachers should be the model followers and active practitioners of the “Two Maintains”, as well as the firm supporters, advocates and speakers of the Party’s line, principles and policies. With regard to the hot issues in the layout of the “Five-in-One”, such as scientific and technological innovation, accurate poverty alleviation, rural revitalization, and ecological and environmental protection. We should improve our political position and use profound knowledge and broad horizons. We should make full use of Marxist standpoints and methods to understand and analyze problems from different angles of scholars, observers and commentators, and explain them in theory clearly and thoroughly for students, to help young college students correctly look at the problems in the reform process, fully realize that the Communists do not forget their original ideals, aspirations, and missions, and lead the people throughout the country to realize the determination and courage of the Chinese Dream in realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Furthermore, they should provide exemplary support for all decisions and arrangements of the Party Central Committee, and be an active practitioner of the implementation of the Party’s guidelines, principles and policies.

## **2.2 Effective communicators**

Colleges and universities train the firm supporters of the Communist Party in power, the builders and successors of the Party’s cause. The course of ideological and political theory in colleges and universities is the main channel and main position of ideological and political education for students. The course of ideological and political theory is the first course for young college students, and the teacher of ideological and political theory is the first division. The process of educating people is also the process of self-education of ideological and political course teachers. To shoulder the responsibility of spreading Marxist theory, the students should only learn solid skill, tell Chinese stories, and use empathy to move others. Ideological and political course teachers should make great efforts to enhance the explanatory and persuasive power of the theory, proceed from the familiar life situation of young college students, excavate their favorite educational elements, and provide more opportunities for observation and understanding in a way that they are willing to accept. They can constantly improve their ability to understand, analyze and solve problems, so as to improve their theoretical knowledge and practical ability at the same time, thus making ideological and political teaching more affectionate and warm, effectively spread the party’s guidelines, principles and policies, and really train individuals of the new times who can undertake the great task of national rejuvenation.

## **2.3 Active defenders**

Diversified value orientation, in the face of “glass man”, “hedgehog”, “balloon man” and other negative energy people, always conforms to the guidance of core socialist values, full of positive energy, with good moral quality, so as to achieve bright virtue, public morality, and strict private

morality. We should make full use of the classroom as the main channel and position, and when faced with distorting historical facts, slander about the party's line, principles and policies, spoofing of heroes and other online public opinion, we should consciously raise our awareness and guide young college students to resolutely defend the historical facts of the Chinese nation, implement the party's line development policy and safeguard the dignity of heroic martyrs; we should continuously strengthen study, master information-based teaching means, shift from classroom "face-to-face" teaching to new media "key-to-key" teaching, use "two micro and one end" to correctly guide students and give full play to the positive function of new media, to prevent making rumors, believing rumors and spread rumors. In the face of all kinds of online public opinion, we can treat it soberly and rationally, and be able to fight against inappropriate or even wrong remarks, and be a defender of justice.

## **2.4 Successful shapers**

The philosopher Jaspers said on education, "the essence of education is that one tree shakes another tree, one cloud pushes another cloud, and one soul awakens another soul." A good education is an education with a soul, a person with a soul. The ideological and political course teachers are doing the project of shaping the students' soul to achieve the goal of "three values and correct mind, faith casting the soul". It is not only necessary to impart students external knowledge, but also to tap their internal potential, stimulate students to carry out self-education, actively understand and transform the world, reflect their personal and social values in society, and achieve the unity of the two so as to be regarded as a real education. First of all, I should play my own social role and correct my state of mind. A good state of mind not only determines a person's quality and level of life, but also determines the ability to obtain happiness. We should try to be equal, fair and just, consciously put individual interests after collective interests and national interests, talk about contribution value in the unit, unity and friendship among colleagues, and dedication to students. We should try to guide and infect students with their own words and deeds, necessarily teach students the ability to learn to live and obtain happiness, cultivate students with sound personality, and lay a solid foundation for their success in social life.

## **3 Conclusion**

If education is to be effective, the teacher must first be a believer. The ideological and political theory course should give full play to its main channel and position of educating people, and the ideological and political course teachers have a great responsibility. There must be a team of ideological and political theory teachers with strong politics, deep feelings, new thinking, broad vision, strict self-discipline and upright personality. Only when this group of people have ideals and beliefs can they teach students about faith; only when this group of people talk about politics can they convey correct political positions and attitudes to students; only when this group of people have deep feelings of family and country will they have an exemplary effect on students; only when this group of people have flexible thinking and broad vision can they be taught to keep their feet on the ground and look up at the stars. Only this group of people have strict self-discipline will they play an exemplary role for students; only this group of people with noble personality will have personality infection to students.

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