

# **On the Teaching Mode of British and American Literature under the Background of Quality Education**

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**Keywords:** Quality Education, British and American Literature, Teaching Mode

**Abstract:** British and American Literature is an Important Course for English Majors. the Teaching Mode of English and American Literature Based on Quality Education is Conducive to the Improvement of Students' Language Knowledge and Humanistic Quality, and Meets the Needs of Society for High-Quality Talents. Starting from the Current Teaching Situation of English and American Literature, This Paper Discusses the Significance of English and American Literature Teaching to College Students' Cultural Quality Education. Then, This Paper Discusses the Teaching Mode of British and American Literature under the Background of Quality Education, Combining Imparting Knowledge, Cultivating Ability and Improving Quality. So as to Promote the Quality Education in English and American Literature Teaching and Let Quality Education Run through the Whole Process of English and American Literature Teaching.

## **1. Introduction**

In a Modern Society Where International Exchanges Are Increasingly Frequent, the Training of English Majors in Colleges and Universities Requires Not Only Solid Basic Language Skills, But Also Good Comprehensive Qualities [1]. However, with the Advent of the Information Age and the Era of Reading Pictures, "Light Reading" Has Gradually Become the Mainstream Reading Mode, and the Status of Literature Courses for Foreign Language Majors in Colleges and Universities Has Also Been Continuously Marginalized by Practical Courses, and the Attraction and Influence of Literature on Students Have Gradually Weakened [2]. the Purpose of Literature Class is to Enable Students to Understand, Appreciate and Read English Original Works, and Then to Further Master the Methods and Knowledge of Basic Literary Criticism and Broaden Students' Horizons [3]. on the Surface, the Study of Foreign Literature Does Little to Improve Examination Results. under This Guidance and Trend, English and American Literature Has Been Neglected Unprecedentedly. English and American Literature Teaching Can Improve Students' Humanistic Quality and Help Them Become Healthy, Complete and Happy People While Improving Their Language Skills. However, the Current Situation of English and American Literature Teaching is Facing Some Problems.

## **2. The Current Situation of British and American Literature Teaching in Chinese Higher Education**

### **2.1 Under the Practical Concept, British and American Literature Has Been Neglected Unprecedentedly**

Due to the strengthening of market demand, the undergraduate education of English major in many universities seems to deviate from the traditional purpose and direction, and the curriculum setting is unreasonable, paying too much attention to practical English teaching. The teaching content was planned and planned in advance, which is not innovative [4]. Moreover, students' subjective initiative cannot be effectively brought into play when studying English and American literature in this mode. The cultivation of humanistic and cultural quality mainly depends on the teaching of English and American literature. However, in the context of a continuously developing market economy, the society is also undergoing drastic changes. In terms of graduate demand,

employers are more favorable to applied talents [5]. Teachers and students only emphasize the mastery of grammar knowledge, the size of vocabulary, the standardization of language use, and the cultivation of language skills such as accurate pronunciation, fluency in spoken English and listening comprehension. After entering the school, students focus on various certificate examinations needed to make a living in the future. Universities have evolved into pre-job training schools. Excessive rationality in personnel training tends to lead to alienation and materialization of people, which is not conducive to the improvement of the overall quality of personnel. Schiller believes that only beauty can endow people with social character. Faced with the long history of literature and the vast number of writers and works, students are sighing at the ocean and have no interest in reading works, let alone improving their humanistic quality. Therefore, the teaching mode of English and American literature still needs further exploration.

## **2.2 The Traditional Teaching Mode of British and American Literature Needs to Be Improved**

Traditionally, English and American literature courses offered by English majors in colleges and universities are either literature history courses, pure literature appreciation courses, or literature history combined with literature selection and reading, regardless of which type ignores the teaching of literary theory [6]. Students' analysis of the characters in literary works and the promotion of their imagination will be limited to some extent, and aesthetic consciousness will gradually be lost in the rigid and rigid mode of teaching. This kind of objective situation makes teachers seem unable to do their best. Teachers can adopt fewer teaching methods. Tests are only limited to scores and do not pay attention to whether students master literary knowledge. There are many rigid teaching concepts in English and American teaching, which form the old routine of the writer's life profile plus the summary of the content of his works, making teaching mechanical and boring, resulting in students' poor reading and aesthetic acceptance of literary works [7]. This inhibits students' subjective initiative and cannot effectively guide students to think deeply and creatively about literary works. Especially in recent years, the expansion of enrollment has increased, showing a serious shortage of educational resources. The shortage of teaching staff, books and materials, and teaching equipment in colleges and universities has greatly affected the quality of teaching. This is very unfavorable to the all-round development of students. Therefore, the traditional teaching mode of English and American literature needs to be improved urgently.

## **3. The Importance of British and American Literature Teaching to College Students' Cultural Quality Education**

### **3.1 Understand Foreign Cultures, Broaden Their Horizons and Enhance the Spirit of Cultural Tolerance**

Cultural knowledge courses, especially literature courses, are ideal positions to cultivate college students' humanistic quality, because literature is the crystallization of a nation's excellent cultural thoughts and the precious spiritual wealth of mankind, which reflects many cultural factors such as a nation's society, politics, economy, living habits, etc. [8]. It is of great significance to cultivate young students' humanistic quality and aesthetic consciousness and broaden their horizons. For example, the literature teacher can make the history of literature, such as the writer's background, important selections and the writer's age, into courseware, so as to vividly show the writer's historical age background in front of the students. In the trend of teaching reform in colleges and universities, the reform in English and American literature teaching has also gradually received attention. When reading English and American literary works, students can not only gradually understand the unique charm of foreign cultures and customs, but also the western civilization condensed in the works. In the process of reading and studying English and American literary works, students can not only have a comprehensive and true understanding of the unique cultural charm and western civilization of the west, but also cultivate a full understanding and knowledge of cultural differences. Similarly, any writer is not an isolated case, but an individual who replicates,

imitates, borrows, combines and blends with other writers and also has an impact on later writers. In fact, the characteristics of literature discipline are even more suitable for adopting thematic teaching mode than language learning. We should fully use the advantages of this teaching mode to promote the reform of literature teaching.

### **3.2 Improve Aesthetic Taste, Perfect Personality and Strengthen Literary and Artistic Accomplishment**

Language is the carrier of literature. Literature is the art of language and is a refined language rich in thoughts and feelings. Great literary works convey profound thoughts and strong emotions in the most expressive language. Through the study of English and American literary works, the full analysis and ponder of the language, and then to study the main ideas reflected in literary works, this is a process of training students to improve their aesthetic taste and appreciation of the language. Constructivist learning theory holds that knowledge is not taught by teachers, but learners use necessary learning materials with the help of learning and other people under a certain situation, that is, social and cultural background. Such as history, culture, religion, values and other aspects, so that students learn to distinguish between right and wrong, good and evil, beauty and ugliness, and let students contact the reality of life, feeling life, and then truly understand the humanistic connotation contained in British and American literary works, to achieve the improvement of moral cultivation and humanistic accomplishment. Literature looks at nature, society and life, and art reproduces human experience and feelings in the natural and social environment. It can be described as the most vivid humanistic teaching material, which not only gives people infinite pleasure and enjoyment of beauty, but also gives people great lessons and enlightenment. By studying English and American literature, students can not only improve their literary and artistic accomplishment, but also broaden their knowledge and vision of life, expand their mental space, thus edifying their emotions and improving their realm of life.

### **3.3 Cultivate Critical Thinking Ability, Enlighten the Mind and Promote the Improvement of Humanistic Quality**

In addition to improving language ability and cultural cognition, literature plays an important role in improving students' appreciation ability and aesthetic cultivation of literary works and cultivating students' healthy and noble moral and aesthetic views. This is mainly because literary works are highly contagious and penetrating, and the rich variety of literary languages can also provide effective learning materials for cultivating students' thinking and innovation ability. Therefore, as excellent education managers and leaders in local colleges and universities, they should have a long-term vision and broad vision, attach importance to the teaching of English and American literature, and formulate teaching outlines, teaching methods and teaching requirements conducive to the development of English and American literature. This process not only requires teachers to break their own "discourse monopoly" and actively create a dialogue between teachers and students in literature reading. Because of the richness of literary language, the diversity of literary styles and the profundity of literary thoughts, literature has become an effective material for cultivating students' thinking ability. The critical method of British and American literature is to apply literary criticism theory to specific literary works for instance analysis. There are many critical theories and methods in British and American literature. A careful study and analysis of these specific literary works will help improve students' theoretical cultivation and critical thinking ability. This thematic literary reading mode provides students with a perspective to cut into literary works, guides students to construct and expand cognitive structures, and realizes deep understanding of literary works.

## **4. The Teaching Mode of British and American Literature under the Background of Quality Education**

### **4.1 The Guiding Ideology of English and American Literature Teaching**

First of all, in view of the concepts formed by students in the context of examination-oriented education, students should be taught the importance of the intrinsic value of literature step by step from shallow to deep, so that they can gradually understand that literature is of great benefit in improving a person's overall quality and the values formed. Teachers can combine the thoughts reflected in literary works with life problems, improve students' literary attainments while learning literary knowledge, and better understand and comprehend life imperceptibly. Through the study of English and American literature, students can learn more about the culture and history of English and American countries, so as to extract the essence, discard the dross, improve themselves, perfect themselves and cultivate the humanistic spirit, which is of great benefit to the whole Chinese nation. Secondly, teachers and professional researchers engaged in teaching and research in this field should take the lead to change their ideas and abandon the old "one-word" view that literature teaching is text analysis, knowledge infusion and teachers. Intertextually comparing other texts of the same author is a comprehensive parameter and internal comparison of a writer's overall creation, thus deepening the understanding of a certain work. Teachers and students should not only cooperate with each other, but also respect each other. Through this diversified, open and flexible teaching process, the benign development of English and American literature classroom teaching environment can be realized.

### **4.2 Update the Teaching Content of English and American Literature**

In view of the lack of literary theories in current literature teaching, when teaching literary works, we should strengthen the introduction of literary common sense, increase the introduction of literary criticism theories, schools and terminology, and update the outdated and outdated viewpoints in teaching materials. According to the arrangement of course teaching. Carry out an overall plan and arrange practical teaching closely linked with the curriculum. Schools should reform the evaluation standard of professional titles and combine scientific research with teaching, so as not to neglect teachers' scientific research ability but also to improve teaching effect. In the process of guiding students to focus on reading the works of classic British and American writers, teachers require students to understand the development history of British and American literature, important literary phenomena in various periods, schools and works of representative writers, so that they can express their understanding of the works in class and write reading reports selectively after class. Secondly, in addition to requiring students to recite some beautiful, fresh, meaningful, short and pithy beautiful texts and to increase students' basic literary attainments, the classroom teaching combines the study of literary works with life problems through thorough analysis and explanation by teachers. When they understand the connotation of these works, they will naturally expand the existing cognitive structure in the later reading process, and the process of expansion will inevitably involve thinking about the historical background, expression and other aspects of the works, thus improving the appreciation level and humanistic quality.

### **4.3 Reform the Teaching Methods of English and American Literature**

Due to the influence of traditional teaching methods, some students' abilities and qualities have not been improved. Therefore, it is necessary to break through the traditional teaching methods and adopt innovative teaching modes to realize extensive communication and interaction between teachers and students and enhance the teaching effect of English and American literature courses. Studying the report gives students the opportunity to show what they have learned and communicate with each other. For problems involving a wide range of issues, several students can be arranged to form groups to jointly solve them. Teachers have a wealth of knowledge in English and American literature, have their own research expertise, form their own unique views, and can use their profound knowledge and wisdom to influence students imperceptibly and stimulate their

enthusiasm in learning English and American literature. British and American literature can also be integrated into the teaching of intensive reading and extensive reading, which highlight the topic of life in the lower grades. Students express their feelings about the topic according to their own life experience, and teachers present different interpretations of the topic in literary works. Classroom discussion and debate is an effective way to change students from passive learning to active learning in English and American literature classes. The outstanding feature of task-based teaching method is to provide conditions for active participation of learners. This method has realized the change from teacher-centered to student-centered. Teachers should also make it clear in depth and not make the thoughts of literary masters become rigid terminologies and concepts, but let their thoughts return to life, return to reality, radiate the vitality of life and spark wisdom.

## 5. Conclusions

British and American literature is an important subject of quality education in colleges and universities. At present, it is urgent to change the current situation of utilitarian teaching and single teaching method, to excavate humanistic thoughts from the selection of teaching contents and to create humanistic atmosphere in teaching. However, under the impact of various factors in the new era, the teaching of literature course has encountered some problems. The outdated and simple writing method of literature teaching materials is an important reason affecting its teaching effect. Innovating the teaching mode of English and American literature curriculum design is conducive to cultivating college students' analytical aesthetic ability, shaping correct values of life, and making them high-quality talents with sound personalities. With the in-depth development of quality education in our country, humanistic quality education is particularly important in the process of all-round development of human beings. As an English major course, British and American literature's interdisciplinary research features provide an important platform for humanistic quality education in colleges and universities.

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