

Exploration on the Implementation Path of “Course-based Ideological and Political Education” in College English

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Abstract—The organic combination between ideological and political education and college English teaching is of great necessity in current college ideological and political education, also an urgent need for English teaching reform. Aiming at the necessity of implementing “Course-based Ideological and Political Education” in college English, the author put forward the implementation paths, which includes strengthening teachers’ awareness of “Course-based Ideological and Political Education” and cultural quality, innovating teaching content and mode, improving textbook writing, and optimizing course setting. By means of these measures, the target of realizing the organic combination between ideological and political education and college English teaching, knowledge imparting and value guidance. In addition, they can provide a reference for the implementation of “Course-based Ideological and Political Education” in college English.

Keywords—college English; “Course-based Ideological and Political Education”; ideological and political education

I. THE CONNOTATION OF “COURSE-BASED IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION”

In the 2016 national conference on college ideological and political work, President Xi Jinping stressed that the ideological and political work should be integrated with the whole teaching so as to realize the cultivation in a whole process and an all-round way. Class teaching, the main channel, should be well used. All other courses should take their own responsibility to keep pace with ideological and political courses and form the coordinated effect. [1] Under the new circumstance, ideological and political education is not just the task of tutors and teachers, but about every class in college education. “Course-based Ideological and Political Education”, as a new teaching concept has aroused the common sense in the field of college education. It doesn’t mean one class or some classes, not certain activity. It connects ideological and political education with various parts of course teaching, knowledge imparting with value guidance, explicit and implicit ideological and political education. The coordinated method has helped cultivated talents in an all-round way and a whole process in class teaching.

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF “COURSE-BASED IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION” IN COLLEGE ENGLISH

A. It is the requirement of college ideological and political education.

The young student is the object of college ideological and political education. Its smooth implementation is helpful to students’ overall development and social harmony and stability. Traditional college ideological and political education mainly relied on the related course and party activities. The abstract knowledge and monotonous method failed to inspire students’ learning interest. The “Course-based Ideological and Political Education” in college English adopts new method and English teaching mode, which can greatly accelerate the system reform of ideological and political education course, and make it more popular and available. It is a need to innovate college ideological and political education work. [2]

B. College English course is an important platform for ideological and political education.

College English, a compulsory basic course, is established for freshmen and sophomore students. Compared with all other courses, it takes the most hours, and it is featuring intensive teaching within a small class and prominent significance. So it can be regarded as the significant platform for implicit ideological and political education. College English has a wide range of audiences and it is greatly concerned among the public. The implementation of “Course-based Ideological and Political Education” in the whole process of English teaching can better combine teaching content, innovate teaching method and mode, and dig the related resources in English materials. Students can be gradually affected in the long-term and consistent learning on ideological and political course. [3]

C. “Course-based Ideological and Political Education” is the urgent need for college English teaching reform.

College English refers to learning language, broadening students’ knowledge scopes, knowing about western culture, and giving students’ quality education. As for students, they can strengthen their comprehensive ability of using language, know more about western politics, economy, culture, region, education, technology, customs, behaviors and manners, and unconsciously compare eastern and western culture, system,

value, morality and faith. Traditional English teaching pays attention to learning western cultural background, English language knowledge and expressive ability. Students can just express western culture in English but fail to introduce Chinese excellent culture in English. Students' ideological awareness and patriotism cannot correspond with the content in ideological and political course. Therefore, the integration of "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" with college English teaching can spread traditional Chinese culture, penetrate socialist core value, and guide college students to keep cultural confidence in comparing eastern and western culture, which is the urgent need of college English teaching reform.

III. THE IMPLEMENTATION PATHS AND MEASURES

A. Enhancing teachers' awareness of "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" and cultural quality

The key to realizing the "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" is the teacher. As for teachers, realizing the "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" is a new opportunity and challenge, which requires English teachers to have related awareness, knowledge and higher Chinese cultural quality. At first, English teachers should establish the concept of "Course-based Ideological and Political Education", get to know its significant meaning, clarify the task they afford, consciously guide students to understand and advocate socialism with Chinese characteristics, and inspire their patriotism. Secondly, English teachers should improve their abilities, strengthen the learning on basic theories with Chinese characteristics under the new era, thoroughly understand the spirit of the 19th National Congress of the CPC, enhance their own comprehensive and personal quality, and make themselves be able to promote Chinese excellent culture. In addition, teachers are supposed to penetrate socialist core values into the teaching, train students' cultural confidence and ability to express Chinese culture in English, and help students form good morality by teaching their personal examples. [4]

B. Innovating teaching content and dig out the resources of ideological and political education

English is a language discipline, which can involve various subject fields and provide possibilities for college English to dig out ideological and political resources. Teachers should innovate teaching content and inspire students' learning interest by combining the textbook and students' real learning condition. The English textbook has abundant content, referring to nature and science, social science, literal science, politics, culture, system, economy and other aspects in social life, which can provide lots of materials for communicating culture and penetrating ideology. Among various language materials, teachers should carefully dig out the teaching content that can contribute to enhancing students' language ability and ideological quality. Their organic combination is of great necessity. Current college English teaching syllabus has ignored the output of Chinese culture and training of college students' cultural confidence. There are few vocabularies about Chinese culture or social hot spot in those they are required to master. And those perfect articles they should recite can hardly

manifest the classic of Chinese culture. Therefore, the penetration of Chinese culture, as well as the ability training of expressing Chinese culture in English, should be highlighted in formulating teaching syllabus and plan. In terms of the cross-culture content, students should be guided to treat problems dialectically, establish correct values, firmly hold the leadership of the Party, and practice socialist core values. Such an unconscious method can penetrate ideological and political education into teaching content and realize the "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" in college English.

C. Improving the textbook compilation and optimize the structure of textbooks

The textbook is vital to the course, so it necessary to strengthen its construction, improve its compilation and optimize its structure so as to realize the target of "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" in college English. Currently, our college English textbooks are mainly oriented with British and American cultures, and it involves various topics. In order to make students learn native English, these articles are mainly written by native speakers or selected from foreign media and magazine, hardly referring to Chinese culture and national condition. The severe imbalance of textbook structure will increase the effect of western ideology on students, which is bad for establishing and training students' socialist core values. They may blindly admire western values, concepts, behaviors, manners, cultures and customs. As a result, they fail to recognize Chinese culture and fluently express Chinese culture in English. All of these are harmful to the output of Chinese culture, the communication of Chinese culture in the whole world, as well as the communication between Chinese and western culture. In addition, such a single method to learn British and American culture is not good for train students' cross-culture communicative ability. Therefore, it is a must to reform textbook content, optimize textbook structure, change the situation of being oriented with British and American culture, and add specialized content with Chinese characteristics, such as traditional Chinese festivals, customs and habits, classics, or hot spots reflecting Chinese social development like the spirit of the 19th National Congress, the Chinese Dream, and the Belt and Road Initiative. [6] The textbook content should manifest the features of Chinese culture and Chinese social development. English course is supposed to involve various aspects, fully expressed in listening, speaking, reading, writing and translating.

D. Innovating teaching modes and methods, and optimize classroom teaching

Classroom teaching is the main place for ideological and political education. Teachers should innovate teaching methods, optimize classroom teaching, and rationally use the main channel of classroom teaching. Firstly, English teachers are supposed to find the breaking point for English language teaching and ideological and political education, create an emotional atmosphere and mobilize the emotional factors. Secondly, realistic problems can be introduced to classroom teaching. Teachers can start from the social hot spots, set the question list based on socialist core values and four cultural confidences, and then organize textbook content, add ideological and educational materials and coordinate language

teaching and cultural thought guidance according to these questions. [7] Thirdly, innovate teaching modes and methods. Traditional cramming teaching modes and methods should be changed into enlightenment and discussion. Students have opportunities to communicate or discuss with each other verbally or in writing. Specifically, the method of knowledge competition, speech and debate, expression and report, case analysis, hot videos and classic TV playing can be adopted to enrich teaching activities and activate the atmosphere. Or the flipping classroom can be used to mobilize students' enthusiasm and realize the organic integration between ideological and political education and English teaching. Besides, teachers can collect the reports of foreign media on China's major events, which can be regarded as the classroom cases for students to discuss and analyze, and form a correct standpoint when it comes to western media. Such method can not only promote students to master hot words, strengthen their ability of listening and speaking, increase their understanding with Chinese politics and culture, and make them more patriotic.

E. Improving the course setting and strengthen cultural edification

In terms of course setting, besides compulsory English courses, colleges can offer students some optional English courses to broaden students' knowledge scope, and strengthen ideological learning and cultural edification. For example, the introduction to Chinese culture in English class can help students learn Chinese history, philosophy, region, custom, politics and economy, strengthen their ability to express Chinese culture in English, and make them more patriotic and proud of our country. In addition, the Internet can be used to provide English MOOC or public optional class of Super Star English. It can be connected with traditional classroom teaching to strengthen students' cultural edification.

F. Training students' professional dedication based on school and major characteristics

The "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" in college English teaching should connect with school and major characteristics to train students' professional dedication. For instance, Beijing University of Agriculture is oriented with agriculture, so teachers are supposed to add the content of agricultural technology and culture. By this way, students can strengthen their understanding with the position of agriculture and fostering agriculture by technology, promote the communication of agricultural culture, and train farmers' dedication to agriculture, countryside and farmers.

G. Strengthening the construction of teaching team and establish the platform for teaching and researching

In order to comprehensively enhance English teachers' ability of ideological and political theories, colleges should provide teachers with wide platforms for teaching and research, and establish teaching teams for all English teachers and ideological and political teachers. At first, traditional teaching and research is only limited in subjects. It is necessary to invite ideological and political teachers to participate in establishing interdisciplinary teaching and research team. Such collective

teaching discussion can realize jointly discussing course teaching syllabus, plans, objectives, and methods, digging out the related elements in English teaching resources, exploring the overlapping points, and forming the coordinated teaching and research team.[3] Secondly, English teachers are supposed to participate in the teaching lectures held by the department of ideology and politics so as to enrich their own relevant knowledge, know about the social hot spots and important news, accumulate teaching resources of "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" in English, and enhance their own comprehensive quality to better represent it in college English teaching.

IV. CONCLUSION

College English courses refer to basic courses training students' comprehensive ability to apply English, quality education courses improving students' overall qualities, broadening students' knowledge scope, and helping them spread Chinese culture. They afford the task of training students' patriotism, promoting socialist core values and strengthening students' cultural confidence. College English course is a significant platform for college ideological and political work. The "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" in college English is a must for college ideological and political work under the new circumstance and the urgent need for college English teaching reform. In order to achieve the function of "Course-based Ideological and Political Education" in college English, teachers should strengthen their awareness and cultural quality, dig out ideological and political education resources, improve textbook compilation, optimize textbook structure and classroom teaching, and innovate teaching content, modes and methods. In addition, they should improve course setting, strengthen cultural edification, train students' dedication based on major features, enhance the construction of the teaching team, and establish teaching and research platform. All these measures can help realize the organic integration of ideological and political education and college English teaching, knowledge imparting and value guidance.

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