

# The Dilemma and Approach of Practical Teaching of Ideological and Political Theory Courses in Colleges and Universities in the New Era

Juanjuan Ye

School of Marxism  
Zhejiang University  
Hangzhou, China 310028

**Abstract**—The ideological and political theory course takes the important mission of cultivating new people in the era. Practice as an important way of people's behavior which is an indispensable part of ideological and political education. As an important part of the ideological and political theory course, practical teaching has the practical dilemma of "unbalanced supply and demand", difficulty in integrating the first and second classes, and insufficient local resources development. The key to solve the problem lies on clarifying the status of ideological and political work, restoring the practice track of ideological and political discipline, enriching the practical connotation of practical teaching, and tempering the political accomplishment and ability of ideological and political team.

**Keywords**—new era; ideological and political theory course; practical teaching

## I. INTRODUCTION

In order to thoroughly implement the internship in the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the spirit of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, and further consolidate the guiding position of Marxism in the field of ideology in colleges and universities, the Ministry of Education recently issued "the basic requirements for the teaching of ideological and political theory in the new era." It emphasizes the strict implementation of class hours and credits in teaching affairs, including 2 credits from the existing credits of undergraduate ideological and political courses and 1 credit from the existing credits of junior college ideological and political courses, so as to carry out practical teaching of ideological and political courses. Based on such requirements, it is necessary for teachers to explore the reasons, practical obstacles, and solutions for the development of the second classroom of ideological and political courses, so that the ideological and political classroom can better combine theory with practice and play the role of the main channel.

## II. THE PRACTICAL NEEDS OF PRACTICAL TEACHING IN IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL COURSES IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The practical teaching of the ideological and political theory course is based on theoretical knowledge. It is a process and method to motivate students' active participation and thinking, making their subjective world receives perceptual re-education and optimize their subjective ability by guiding them to participate in various practical activities in and out of class or school purposefully.<sup>1</sup> The development of practical teaching of ideological and political courses in colleges and universities is the product of realistic appeal, which includes many aspects: theoretical requirements of Marxist guiding ideology, realistic requirements of changing the current situation of ideological and political education with "inconsistent knowledge and action", and inherent advantages of practical teaching and policy provisions.

Marx believes that labor is the essence of "the reason why people are human beings". This essence directly or indirectly produces all the social practice materials and all values based on human beings since the birth of human beings. It can be said that labor is the whole and necessary practice form of human beings. The essence of nature should also have practical characteristics. The essence of ideological and political theory course is "human work". The practice of practicing practical teaching is an inevitable requirement for realizing the essence of human beings in the process of thinking and educating people. In addition, Marxist philosophy holds that "all social life is practiced in essence, and all mysterious things that lead theory to mysticism can be reasonably solved in human practice and in understanding this practice." The traditional ideological and political theory course teaching process is mainly the process of receiving information passively for students. Nowadays, the process of adding practical teaching has broadened the channels for students to participate in practice. It is the concrete

<sup>1</sup> Liu Lique. "On the Forms of Practical Teaching in Ideological and Political Theory Courses", *Journal of Ideological and Theoretical Education*, No. 3, 2007.

application of Marxist practical philosophy in the theoretical class of ideological and political education.

Judging from the educational goals of the ideological and political course, the ultimate goal is not to cultivate theoretic theorists but for a solid with theory and well manner. The current ideological and political course mainly undertakes the function of theoretical knowledge teaching. The educated person knows the good, and tells them what they should do through theoretical education. But the subsequent emotional identity and daily practice have not been paid much attention. It is difficult for educators to transfer "what should you do" into "what should I do". The traditional philosophy model of the rationality of the ideological and political course is a classroom teaching and curriculum activity under the premise of theoretical presupposition. It is a one-way presupposition and experience. From the educational goal of practical teaching, educators should learn from the model of heterogeneous practical philosophy. It does not set theoretical premise for practice teaching, but includes more heterogeneous factors in practice. It includes interaction between subjects, context, unintentional results, etc., which allows students to fully participate and experience. Educators should observe the students' true reactions, capture the heterogeneous factors, and conduct practical narratives. At this time, the teacher's language is closer to reality and more compatible with theory and practice. At the same time, students can realize the practice and sublimation of knowledge by means of practical thinking and practice in the practical teaching. It can also help learners to better understand the words "what should you do", and the educated person should transfer from "knowing good" to "doing good", which makes it possible to change the current status of ideological and political education.

The advantages of practicing teaching in ideological and political theory courses have become the inherent requirements of their implementation. First of all, from the perspective of teaching methods, the practical teaching of ideological and political courses is invisible education. It often combines teaching and practice in a quiet and silent way, and bridges the gap between architecture theory and practice, so that students can more intangibly understand knowledge and reduce tiredness in practice. Secondly, practical teaching also has its advantages in the guiding way. Practice teaching has the problem-oriented characteristic, and the orientation of this issue includes two aspects. First of all, practical teaching is often carried out in practice with classroom problems, using the realistic data to answer doubts. This learning model is highly targeted and helpful to thinking, capturing knowledge and solving problems more quickly. Secondly, the three-dimensional reality is more stimulating than the boring theory. Students can often broaden their horizons and discover more new problems through the comparison of theory and reality. This cycle has enhanced the pertinence and interest of learning, and greatly improved the teaching effectiveness of the ideological and political theory course.

In his speech at the Peking University Teacher-Student Symposium, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that the value orientation of the youth determines the value

orientation of the whole society in the future, and the youth is in the period of the formation and establishment of values, and it is very important to cultivate the values in this period.<sup>2</sup> As the main channel for the training of youth values, the ideological and political theory course has been highly valued by the state. It has successively issued the "Opinions on further strengthening and improving college students' social practice from Publicity Department of the of the CPC, Central spiritual civilization construction steering committee office, the ministry of education and Chinese Communist Youth League". "The opinions of the Communist Youth League and the Ministry of Education on strengthen and improve the work of college students' associations". The documents emphasize the importance of practical teaching of ideological and political theory courses. The latest "basic requirements of ideological and political theory teaching in the new era" also sets credits for practical teaching, which makes the development of ideological and political classroom practice teaching in colleges and universities a mandatory requirement.

The development of practical teaching in ideological and political courses in colleges is a realistic need. The problems in reality make people find answers in theory again. Marxist practical philosophy is the theoretical support for practical teaching. At the national level, the rigid rules of practical teaching prove the necessity and urgency of practical teaching, and put forward requirements and provide political guarantee for the development of practical teaching in ideological and political courses.

### III. THE PRACTICAL DILEMMA OF PRACTICAL TEACHING IN IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL COURSES IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Since the implementation of the "05" program of the ideological and political theory course, colleges and universities have made many explorations and attempts on practical teaching, and achieved certain results. The establishment of practical education bases and the development of practical teaching evaluation activities are the phased results of promoting the development of practical teaching. However, based on the inherent difficulty of practical teaching in organizational management, teaching evaluation, and funding requirements, there are still practical problems in current practical teaching.

"The unbalanced supply and demand" is the biggest problem facing the current practice of ideological and political courses. In terms of quantity, first of all, it is reflected in the shortage of teachers in ideological and political courses. The current ideological and political course teaching is mainly based on large classes. The limited energy of teachers is in stark contrast with the huge number of students. It is difficult for teachers to carry out detailed teaching. Teachers often take large classes and go through the teaching process, but do not participate in practical teaching and take it as homework or without practice

<sup>2</sup> Xi Jinping. Young people should consciously practice the core values of socialism — a speech at the Teacher and Student Symposium in Peking University, *People's Daily*, 2014-05-04.

teaching. Secondly, there are also shortcomings in resource allocation. The capital investment of colleges and universities tends to be biased towards science teaching. The funds for the practice teaching of ideological and political theory courses are not guaranteed. There are often embarrassing situations such as insufficient venues and insufficient funds, which affects the effective development of practical teaching. In terms of quality, the imbalance between supply and demand of practical teaching is reflected in the "teaching and learning". As far as the current practical teaching is concerned, there are often characteristics such as the insufficient direction of teaching content, lack of epochal characters, single form, etc. Teachers' teaching content cannot stimulate with students' interest with a low "rise rate". There are two factors. First, the teachers of the ideological and political class pay less attention to the ideological and political classrooms. They do not grasp the balance between teaching and scientific research and despise teaching. Second, the teaching ability of the ideological and political teachers is not uniform. In the self-media era where information is developed, the teaching cases and contents selected by teachers may be already known to the students. That is to say, the information communication of teachers has been replaced by the Internet. What students need is not the presentation of information but the interpretation and analysis of information. It has tested the level of knowledge and ability of teachers.

As a "second classroom" of ideological and political courses, practical teaching is helpful for the teaching of "first class" through effective communication, which is also a current problem. The most difficult problem of the combination of "first class" and "second class" is reflected in the knowledge fusion, especially for the practice of research as the "second class" of the curriculum model and the knowledge integration is particularly prone to deviation. Practical investigation is likely to become a casual tour without course theoretical premise and problem-oriented consciousness. How to grasp the inner relation between the course knowledge and the practical research content; how to make the practical teaching become the deepening and sublimation of ideological and political class; and how to make students reach the emotional cognition on the basis of learning theory and put it into practice is the key to the current integration of the first and second class. Guided by the practical teaching with the theoretical knowledge of the "first class", so that students participate in the understanding of knowledge belongs to the path of homogenous practice philosophy. From the heterogeneous practice philosophy, the counter-feeding effect of practical teaching is also worth pondering. Heterogeneity factors included in practical teaching are sudden and random. How to effectively transform the generated classroom generative resources into feed practical teaching is also a problem to be solved in the integration process of first and second classes.

The exploitation of local resources provides a platform for practical teaching, and how to use it effectively becomes the key point. Due to the historical geography, the local resources of the ideological and political section have different ways of existence in different regions of China, and

the distribution is not uniform. There are many problems in the current use of local resources. The prominent problems in practical teaching are ignoring the value of local resources, no use of local resources, and only rely on classic cases to assist practice teaching. Secondly, the phenomenon of not insist the correct political direction, blindly using local resources, and using the wrong oral history as a practical teaching case often appears. Wild history is often more eye-catching and deeply rooted in the hearts of people, but the wrong wild history is even more harmful. In addition, the principle of seeking truth from facts, exaggerating local resources, over-exaggerating the content of local resources, and not relying on historical facts are also widespread. Finally, it doesn't adhered to the principle of combining theory with practice, and the phenomenon that the content of selected local resources is separated from the content of the course itself is also widespread.

#### IV. THE PRACTICAL APPROACH TO THE PRACTICAL TEACHING OF IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL COURSES IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The practical difficulty of practical teaching is multi-faceted and multi-dimensional. The solution of the problem is not the responsibility of the group of ideological and political teachers. The effective development of practical teaching requires the cooperation of many parties to actively construct ideological and political courses, ideological and political subjects, and ideological and political affairs. The practical and ideological and political education community of "four in one" of work and ideological and political work, incorporating practical characteristics into it, which is an important measure to promote the development of practical teaching.

It's necessary to clarify the status of ideological and political work. In February 2017, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council issued the "Opinions on Strengthening and Improving the Ideological and Political Work of Colleges and Universities in the New Situation", which made unified planning, comprehensive deployment and specific arrangements for strengthening and improving the party's leadership in colleges and universities. It points out that it is necessary to adhere to and improve colleges and universities. Under the leadership of the Party Committee, the principal is responsible for the system. The party committee of the university implements comprehensive leadership of the school work, fulfills the main responsibility of managing the party, managing the school, and effectively exerts the core role of leadership. This is not only a clear definition of the core of ideological and political work in colleges and universities, but also a clear definition of the status of ideological and political work. Cultivating talents is the core mission and mission of colleges and universities, and talented people are the key to educating people as ideological and political work. As the main channel of ideological and political education, ideological and political courses should be paid enough attention to; it should also be supported as an important link of ideological and political education, practical teaching. The exclusive funds for ideological and

political courses will not be misappropriated and the resource guarantee for ideological and political courses will not be lacking if the party committee of colleges and universities has such a high level of understanding. The contradiction between the imbalance of supply and demand in the ideological and political class can be alleviated in this way.

It's also helpful to restore the practical track of discipline construction. As the second-level discipline under the first-level discipline of Marxist theory, the subject of ideological and political education has the connotation and characteristics of the discipline of the first-level discipline of Marxist theory. That is to say, it belongs to the discipline of Marxist theory and is a discipline of Marxism. However, the second-level discipline of ideological and political education is more educational than other secondary disciplines at the same level. This is an important feature to distinguish the ideological and political discipline from other secondary disciplines. The construction of ideological and political disciplines is closely related to its practical teaching. Practical teaching of ideological and political courses is an important channel for ideological and political subjects to exert their educational attributes. The trend of the top-level design of ideological and political discipline determines the trend of practical teaching of ideological and political course. Facing the difficulties of practical teaching in ideological and political courses, the construction of ideological and political disciplines should proceed from its two major attributes. First, it should play the role of the theoretical weapon of the Marxist discipline, and add practical elements in the discipline, subject orientation and subject characteristics. The emphasis on practicality is a prominent feature of Marxist philosophy. Secondly, it is necessary to encourage practical teaching in the role of subject education. Ideological and political discipline education is not only the interpretation of knowledge points, but also includes theoretical identification and theoretical practice. It is necessary to let the theory truly fall through practice. Only the top-level design of the ideological and political discipline can add practical elements to promote practical education and teaching.

It's necessary to enrich the practical connotation of the ideological and political curriculum. College ideological and political courses are the main channels for ideological and political work in colleges and universities. They have always been an important way for teachers to cultivate students' ideals and beliefs, ideological and moral, political literacy and personality temperament. In recent years, the ideological and political courses in colleges and universities across the country have shown a gratifying situation such as "direct orientation, good orientation, changing direction, new atmosphere, and great ambition". At the same time, the effectiveness of the ideological and political lessons is low, and it is still serious and worth thinking about being away from the actual theory of empty talks. Practice is the principle that should be consistent in the process of ideological and political education. Increasing the practice teaching link has always been the key direction of the ideological and political course teaching reform. Only by systematically and pertinently enhancing the practical teaching, can teachers promote the branding and sustainable

construction of practical teaching. So that teachers can truly improve the effectiveness of ideological and political teaching through practical teaching. As far as the specific operation is concerned, the practical enhancement of the curriculum includes two aspects. First, the content of the course should be combined with the actual situation to lay a theoretical foundation for the development of practical teaching, so that the educated can participate in the practice based on clear theoretical knowledge and improve the effectiveness of practical teaching; Secondly, local colleges and universities should fully explore the practical teaching resources in combination with their own regional characteristics and advantages, so that the development of practical teaching becomes possible. For example, Zhejiang is the starting point of the Chinese revolutionary red ship, the forerunner of reform and opening up, and an important germination place for Xi Jinping's thoughts of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. The practical teaching of ideological and political courses in Zhejiang universities can be carried out in special bases such as Jiaxing and Huzhou. Based on the theme of "the Spirit of Red Ship" and "the Two Mountains theory", it leads students to carry out the practical teaching mode combining field teaching and case teaching.

It's necessary to cultivate the political quality and ability of ideological and political work team. The final goal of the reform of the ideological and political curriculum, the development of the ideological and political disciplines, and the innovation of ideological and political work lies in the construction of the ideological and political team. In January 2018, the "Opinions on Comprehensively Deepening the Reform of the Teaching Reform in the New Era" published by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council has elaborated explain the task of implementing the high-quality professional and innovative teachers who satisfied the party and the people as well as the significance of the party's and the country's major strategic goals. Educating people must take self-education first, and the implementation of practical teaching requires teachers improve their self-quality. This includes two aspects. The first part is the improvement of political literacy. The core of ideological and political education is to educate people. It is the core task of ideological and political education to cultivate an ethical person who conforms to the direction of socialist development for the country. Therefore, it is required that the political direction of ideological and political teachers should be consistent with the central government under such a premise. The improvement of teachers' political literacy can solve the irrational use of local resources in the process of practical teaching, making the teaching resources more in line with the direction of socialist development and helping students to strengthen their political stance. In addition, the improvement of teacher literacy is also reflected in the improvement of practical teaching ability. Different from the traditional ideological and political teaching, the practical teaching tests the teacher's organizational ability, guiding ability, innovative ability and knowledge application ability. This is an important premise to enrich the practical teaching model, make the course theory and practical teaching content more



appropriate, and achieve the integration of one or two classes. At the same time, being good at applying classroom generative resources are a higher requirement for teachers' teaching ability. In the process of practical teaching, the randomness of heterogeneous factors tests the teacher's coping ability. At the same time, the teacher is required to reflect on his own presupposition, sum up the practical teaching experience, and lay the foundation for enriching the connotation of the first class. This is the reflection of the second classroom feeding the first classroom.

## V. CONCLUSION

The practical teaching of ideological and political theory courses is an indispensable part of ideological and political education. The emphasis on the practical teaching of ideological and political courses is also the embodiment of the comprehensive and refined work of ideological and political education. The predicament faced in the current teaching process is the education of all people. The main responsibility is unclear, and the results of the conflicting educational links are mutually conflicting. It is the only way to improve the practical teaching of ideological and political theory courses by strengthening the top-level design, clarifying the functions of the various subjects, and rationalizing all aspects of practice.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Xi Jinping. Young people should consciously practice the core values of socialism — a speech at the Teacher and Student Symposium in Peking University, *People's Daily*, 2014-05-04. (in Chinese)
- [2] Xi Jinping emphasized at the National Conference on Ideological and Political Work in Colleges and Universities: Putting ideological and political work through the whole process of education and teaching to create a new situation in the development of higher education in China [N]. *People's Daily*, 2016-12-9, (1). (in Chinese)
- [3] Zhang Leisheng. On the construction of the team of ideological and political theory teachers since the reform and opening up [J]. *Ideological and Theoretical Education*, 2018 (10). (in Chinese)
- [4] Liu Yu. Practicalization of Practice and Practical Narrative in the Perspective of Marxist Practical Philosophy [J]. *Philosophical Research*. 2018(6). (in Chinese)