

# **Research on the Ways to Improve the System and Mechanism of the Construction of Postgraduate Study Style**

## **Based on Study Style Construction of Capital University of Economics and Business**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Graduate education is an important part of higher education, and the construction of postgraduate style of study is a major problem related to the development of the University and the success of students. This paper, through field study, makes an objective analysis of the current situation of postgraduate study style in China. The problems we face now are the lack of motivation to actively participate in academic activities and scientific research, perfunctory work and the missing of exploration spirit. Therefore, this paper puts forward the measures to improve the system and mechanism of the construction of postgraduate study style.

**Keywords:** *postgraduate, construction of study style, system and mechanism, tutors*

### **1. THE CONNOTATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY STYLE**

The style of study refers to the academic style. And the construction of the study style for postgraduates refers to the formation of a new mechanism through innovation and reform to promote students to form a correct ideological thinking that is conducive to their own growth and development. The right study style could also guide their own academic research behavior and form a good academic style of the school.

The main participants in the construction of graduate study style are university administrators, teachers and tutors, graduate students. Whether the university's management team or teachers, they have a same goal: educating graduate students and make them grow up. Certainly, graduate students should be the main body of the construction of study style. Without their active and extensive participation, the construction of study style in Colleges and universities will lack a real sense of work carrier and losing the specific indicators and directions. At the same time, in the process of developing the style of study, graduate students can have an interaction with the external environment as well.

### **2. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY STYLE**

The construction of study style is the internal requirement of graduate students themselves, for it has a profound impact on guiding students to establish a correct insight into talent and values. It is conducive to graduate students to learn professional knowledge and skills, improve their academic research, cultivate hard-working and rigorous academic style. The construction of study style will improve the comprehensive abilities of graduate students and stimulate the growth of graduate students fast and better.

The construction of style of study is the energy and origin of university development. Strengthening the construction of study style is an importance of university reform and development, a basic guarantee of improving the quality of talent training, and a basic embodiment of the level and quality of university operation. Under the background of the continuous expansion of graduate school scale and the increasing employment pressure of graduates, we should adhere to the excellent style of study and provide a favourable environment and broad platform for the graduate students to exercise their abilities and promote their comprehensive quality. Universities will also realize their responsibilities and missions while keep sustainable development in the process.

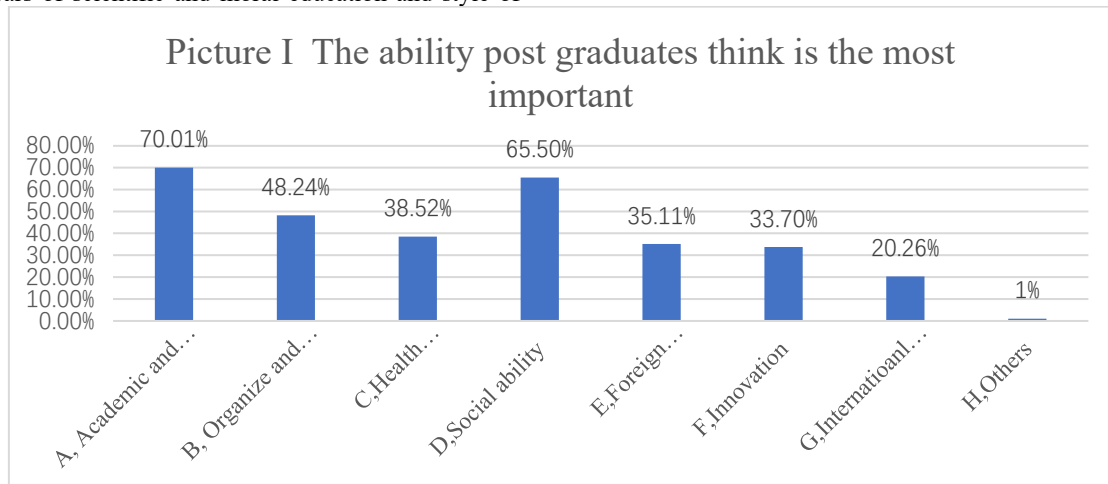
The construction of study style is an important guarantee for an innovative country. Innovative countries need innovative talents, so we must pay attention to training front-line creative talents and young scientific and technological people. As the highest stage of academic education, the

quality of postgraduate education determines the quality of national talents. Meanwhile the academic style of postgraduate education determines the ability of national scientific research and innovation. Only by building a good style of study can we provide innovative talents who can develop our country.

### 3. AN ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT STUDY STYLE OF CHINESE GRADUATE STUDENTS

After years of scientific and moral education and style of

study education, most of the current graduate students can understand the importance and necessity of the construction of style of study, but they lack self-motivation. According to a survey of graduate students in a key university in Beijing<sup>1</sup>, 70.01% of the students think that the most important ability should be academic research ability, while 34.3% of the students suffer from lack of motivation. This shows that most of graduate students can recognize the necessity of the construction of study style, but many of them cannot overcome their own inertia. It is difficult for them to study hard, actively participate in academic activities and carry out scientific research by self-motivation. The specific performance is as follows:



First, there are lax classroom discipline and low study efficiency in class. And because of the increase of employment pressure caused by the expansion of college enrollment, more undergraduates choose to continue their studies to improve their academic qualifications and escape to face their employment pressure. According to a survey of our university, the most concerned information of graduate students is employment policy, accounting for 61.48%, which is far higher than the scientific frontier information (accounting for only 13.14%); the most important problem facing graduate students is the tension situation of employment, accounting for 69.81%. The purpose of postgraduate education has become more and more diverse from pure academic education, and the learning atmosphere of graduate students in school has become more and more complex. It is not uncommon for graduate students to perfunctorily study courses, skip classes and play with mobile phones and sleep in class. Some graduate students still have the psychology of "course is useless, certificate is supreme", so they take the use of class time to review vocational examination. Some postgraduates only take a sudden review before the semester exam; what they want is passing the exam and obtaining a degree.

According to another survey of our university, the most activities participated in during the postgraduate period are lectures and special reports, with an attending rate of 95.79%, while the most interested activities are social practice, accounting for 63.19%. Only 55.77% of them are

interested in the lectures and special reports, which is far lower than the attending rate. This shows that for academic activities such as lectures and reports organized by the school, most of graduate students are passive attendees. They can rarely listen carefully and acquire knowledge; they learn only to meet graduation conditions and requirements. What's more, the postgraduate students lack the initiative to organize academic activities, so they lose a chance to exchange academic thinking with others.

Graduate students' research often depends on their tutors. They are unwilling to take the initiative to do self-study. They often be limited by the tasks assigned by the tutors and the basic requirements of graduation. According to a survey of our university, 49.05% of the students think that the most important factor to improve themselves is the tutor's education and guidance. However, the limited resources of tutors and the low ratio of teachers and students in Colleges and universities lead to the lack of guidance for students. Many graduate students are engaged in scientific research with a speculative attitude, which make fabricating and falsifying data, plagiarizing papers and other incidents are common.

### 4. THE WAY TO IMPROVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF STUDY STYLE

Improving the management system and operation mechanism of the construction of study style is the basic

<sup>1</sup> A total of 997 valid questionnaires were collected from all graduate students in Capital University of Economics and Business. Among the investigated population, there are 395 Professional Postgraduates, accounting for 39.62%, and 602 Academic postgraduates, accounting for 60.38%.

guarantee for Colleges and universities' education. Relying on scientific and perfect system and mechanism, we should also stimulate external learning motivation; and our management should be rule-based and evidence-based. Meanwhile, the scientific and perfect system and mechanism must be comprehensive. On the one hand, it can punish the negative and wrong learning behaviours and plays a restrictive role. On the other hand, it can also reward the positive and correct learning behaviors and plays an incentive role.

#### **4.1 Improve the construction mechanism of study style and realize the whole staff education**

For a long time, colleges and universities have been relying on counselors to carry out ideological and political education for students. The style of study is a part of the school spirit. It needs teachers to infiltrate the construction of the style of study from the curriculum education; cadres to carry out necessary management, supervision and guidance; logistics personnel to improve the service level and provide convenience. Different from undergraduate students, graduate students have loose class organization and closer relationship with teachers. However, according to our data, the communication between graduate students and their tutors is not optimistic. On average, 18.25% of graduate students do not communicate with their tutors every month, 44.83% of them do not communicate with their tutors for 1-2 times, 25.38% of them do not communicate with their tutors for 3-4 times, and 11.53% of them do not communicate with their tutors for 5 or more times. Most of the graduate students (accounting for 55.49%) who communicate with their tutors very little think that the main reason is that their tutors are too busy. To carry out the construction of the style of study of postgraduates, we should take advantage of the characteristics of postgraduates, emphasize that the tutor is the first responsible person for the cultivation of postgraduates, and demand the tutor to guide the students in terms of ideological quality, learning methods, academic ethics, etc. In addition, the so-called "teaching by precept and example", the tutor should pay more attention to the establishment of personal excellent teaching style and learning style. Colleges and universities need to put forward requirements on the tutor's ethics and learning style from the system, so as to promote the formation of good learning style. Only 5.79% of the graduate students who have participated in the tutor project think that the tutor's project has nothing to do with their own research direction. 80.26%, 70.79% and 40.79% of the graduate students, respectively, think that the gains of participating in the tutor project are that they can learn professional knowledge and strengthen professional skills, broaden their horizons, and get great chances of employment. Tutors can improve their academic ability and scientific research level, and lead graduate students to carry out research projects. To a certain extent, it has a positive

role in easing the pressure of graduate employment and building a good style of study for graduate students.

In the actual situation that graduate students lack initiative without tutor's help, it is necessary to carry out tutor training by emphasizing the requirements of tutor's guidance, tutor's own morality and style in tutor selection and tutor assessment. We should pay more attention to and give full play to the role of tutors' words and deeds to ensure the construction of graduate students' style of study. For example, we should make a guidance book, like *the regulations on the work of graduate guidance* which emphasize that the tutor is the first responsible person for the cultivation of graduate students. They are responsible for the ideological and political education, the leading-edge guidance of disciplines, the guidance of scientific research methods, the instruction of academic norms, and the promotion of professional abilities of graduate students. The assessment of tutors should be strengthened, and the revocable system of tutor with moral corruption and academic misconduct should exist.

#### **4.2 Improve the construction system of study style and strengthen the guidance of norms**

The main body of the construction of the style of study is postgraduates. It needs to provide guarantee, strict supervision and active guidance for postgraduates when it comes to the system of the cultivation.

We should improve the graduate student aid system, solve the graduate students' financial worries during the study. We will implement the National Financial Aid System for postgraduate students, establish a Poverty Graduate Student Assistance System, and provide graduate students with part-time job such as teaching assistant, research assistant, management assistant, work study assistant and counselor.

Then, we should establish the supervision system of postgraduate study style by formulating the document system, strengthening the supervision and academic assessment of postgraduate training process. We should set up the academic bottom line by seriously dealing with the graduate students who violate the correct regulations.

We should improve the system of awarding postgraduates by revising the system of scholarships and awards; and we should clearly stipulate that postgraduates who violate academic ethics by forbidding them to participate in the awards evaluation. Then we can encourage postgraduates to pay attention to learning and scientific research, and guide postgraduates to carry out innovative activities by the above system and mechanism.

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