

# Research on the Path to Teach Ideological and Political Theory Courses on Patriotism Education in Universities During the Fight Against COVID-19 Pandemic

Jun Cao\*

*College of Marxism, Zaozhuang University, Zaozhuang, Shandong Province, China*

*\*Corresponding author. Email: 1002248613@qq.com*

## ABSTRACT

Patriotism is the national heart and soul of the Chinese nation, as well as the most important spiritual wealth and spiritual power of the Chinese nation. The spirit of patriotism demonstrated in the no-gun smoke fight against COVID-19 has become the favorable weapon and spiritual key to support the major strategic achievements in epidemic prevention and control, and has brought a united and powerful force to tide over difficult times to achieve the final victory in the fight for epidemic prevention and control. To well and flexibly use the fight against COVID-19 as vivid ideological and political teaching material, and turn the epidemic crisis into an opportunity for patriotism education, colleges and universities should closely stick to the theme of patriotism, and promote the trinity of College of Marxism, ideological and political theory course teachers, and college and university students, so as to change with events, advance with time, and innovate with the situation to teach the ideological and political theory course on patriotism education in epidemic prevention and control appropriately and deeply, which has important and far-reaching practical meaning for guiding college and university students in the new era to deeply cultivate their home-country feelings, enhance their patriotic feelings and strengthen their “four self-confidence”.

**Keywords:** *Epidemic prevention and control, Patriotism education, Ideological and political theory course.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Ideological and political theory course, as the key course, core course and soul course to fulfill the basic task of moral education in universities, is the main channel and front of patriotism education for college and university students, which is irreplaceable in casting soul and cultivating people. General Secretary Xi Jinping stressed that in the practice teaching of ideological and political theory course, we should uphold the unity of theory and practice, and combination of ideological and political class and social practice. [1] As is known to all, in the epic battle against COVID-19, many inspiring anti-epidemic stories and heroes have emerged, which profoundly demonstrates the Chinese people's home-country feelings of serving the country and taking responsibility for it, and provides abundant cases and materials for universities in teaching ideological and political theory course of patriotism education in a rational way. Therefore, how to plan the

specific implementation path to teach ideological and political theory courses on patriotism education in the fight against COVID-19 from the overall perspective, and comprehensively improve the effectiveness of integrating the patriotic spirit demonstrated in China's fight against COVID-19 into the teaching of ideological and political theory course has been an important issue to be solved in colleges and universities.

## 2. COLLEGE OF MARXISM OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES: TOP-LEVEL DESIGN, AND HIGH-STANDARD ALL-ROUND PLANNING OF PATRIOTISM EDUCATION

College of Marxism undertakes the task of ideological and political theory course teaching in universities, and should always plan with highly political sensitivity and strong sense of political

responsibility to do well in the preparation of various organizations before teaching ideological and political theory courses, so as to promote the quality and efficiency in ideological and political theory course teaching. General Secretary Xi Jinping once stressed that, “to cultivate socialist builders and successors, we must first cultivate our students’ patriotic feelings.” [2] During the special period of epidemic prevention and control, the College of Marxism should transform advantages in ideological and political theory course teaching into a powerful force to support epidemic prevention and cultivate patriotic feelings, strictly implement the principal responsibility, plan ahead of time, make overall arrangements, organize carefully and mobilize actively, focus on the theme of patriotism education, put the spirit of patriotism throughout the ideological and political theory course teaching, and take multiple actions in ensuring the pertinence and effectiveness of online ideological and political theory course teaching on patriotism education under epidemic prevention and control.

### ***2.1. Organize and Implement Special Training***

The outbreak of COVID-19 has shaken the traditional teaching order, as well as posed a great challenge to teachers’ online teaching ability. College of Marxism should actively respond to the Ministry of Education’s call of “suspended classes, ongoing teaching; suspended classes, ongoing learning” during the epidemic, requesting all teachers of ideological and political theory course to seriously participate in all kinds of training on online teaching skills before the new semester begins, so as to ensure that every teacher can skillfully master all kinds of online teaching tools and skills, thus lay a solid technical foundation for online ideological and political theory course teaching on patriotism education during the epidemic. At the same time, as the new semester begins, College of Marxism should guide the teachers of ideological and political theory course to observe and learn the special lesson preparation and teaching resources related to the ideological and political theory course on epidemic prevention and control, so as to effectively improve the ability of ideological and political theory course teachers to teach the ideological and political theory course on patriotism education under the fight for epidemic prevention and control.

### ***2.2. Carry out Online Collective Lesson Preparation***

Collective lesson preparation is a beneficial way and an essential link to promote the teaching quality. College of Marxism should fully use the online platform to organize ideological and political theory course teachers to carry out collective cloud lesson preparation, adopt the research-discussion mode to study the teaching

contents, teaching methods, teaching key and difficult points, and focus on discussing how to multi-dimensionally analyze and interpret the patriotic elements in fighting against COVID-19 pandemic for students from the height of theory, the dimension of history and the breadth of reality, and how to accurately find the junction point of theory and practice to organically integrate the tangible practice of fight against COVID-19 with the intangible education of patriotism, and other issues. The president and director of the teaching and research section of College of Marxism should play a demonstrating, leading, supervising and guiding role to actively share the successful experience in patriotism education, propose the modes and methods of optimizing online teaching, clarify the key points and matters that need to be highlighted, and require ideological and political theory course teachers to use patriotism to gather value consensus, guard the “responsibility field”, and use the theme of “fight against COVID-19” to deeply excavate the educational resources, strengthen patriotism education, so as to guide university students in the new era to consciously integrate “patriotic feeling, ambition of strengthening the country, and action of serving the country” into the journey in pursuit of China’s Dream of great Chinese rejuvenation.

### ***2.3. Duly Plan Study Activities***

Regularly organizing study activities is conducive to deepening the understanding of teachers of ideological and political theory course for the relevant theoretical knowledge, frontier issues and current political hot spots. College of Marxism should recommend General Secretary Xi Jinping’s series of important speeches, major policy decisions and deployments and other current political articles and touching videos on epidemic prevention and control to teachers of the ideological and political theory course for study timely by WeChat group and WeChat public platform and other platforms, and ask teachers of ideological and political theory course to share and communicate with each others on the basis of deep research and understanding for “patriotic feeling, and action of serving the country” contained in it, with the aim of enriching the teaching contents, stimulating patriotic resonance and emotional identity, and providing relevant materials and laying emotional foundation for ideological and political theory course teachers. Besides, College of Marxism should present the advanced practice and micro class videos and other quality teaching sources on online ideological and political theory course teaching in other colleges and universities to ideological and political theory course teachers, so as to help them broaden teaching ideas, optimize teaching design and improve teaching result.

### 3. IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL THEORY COURSE TEACHERS: FOCUSING ON PATRIOTISM, TEACHING PATRIOTISM COURSE WITH HIGH QUALITY AND VARIOUS FORMS

General Secretary Xi Jinping held that, “the to the success in teaching ideological and political theory courses lies in teachers, and in giving play to teachers’ enthusiasm, initiative and creativity.” [1] This important statement not only highlights the great responsibility for teachers of the ideological and political theory courses in the new era, but also points out the advancing direction and provides the basic principle for teaching the ideological and political theory course for the new era. This vivid practice from the nation-wide fight against COVID-19 is the largest open experiential public class of patriotism education and system self-confidence throughout history and provides direct realistic materials and basis educational strength and confidence for teachers of ideological and political theory courses to do well in patriotism education. At this special moment when the whole nation is united to achieve success in epidemic prevention and control, how to appropriately use ideology and politics as “salt” to tell the “taste” of patriotism demonstrated in the fight against COVID-19 is an issue that teachers of ideological and political theory courses should be thought and studied emphatically. Teachers of ideological and political theory course should fully mobilize their own enthusiasm and creativity, and properly teach the profound and unforgettable ideological and political theory course on patriotism education of epidemic prevention and control in the process of continuous learning and innovation, so as to truly achieve the co-frequency resonance between ideological and political status and social status.

#### 3.1. Tell the Patriotic Stories in the Fight against COVID-19 in an All-Round Way

Teachers of ideological and political theory course are supposed to transform stories describing how the people of the whole country help each other and fight against the COVID-19 together into vivid examples and teaching materials for carrying out patriotism education, organically combine the different contents, properties and characteristics of five ideological and political theory courses, and integrate decision-making and deployment of the CPC Central Committee, the effectiveness of joint measures for prevention and control taken by different regions and departments, the heroes, advanced models and touching deeds emerged in epidemic prevention and control, etc. into the process of ideological and political theory course teaching as the teaching cases, so as to tell the stories in China’s fight against COVID-19 with depth, emotion and warmth,

and spread the sound of China’s fight against COVID-19. To be specific, teachers of ideological and political theory course should conscientiously stress the mission and responsibility of CPC members and cadres who led from the front emotionally and rationally, earnestly stress the great love and magnificent feat of the vast number of medical staff who went out on a countermarch expedition and gave up their lives, the People’s Liberation Army’s political character of following orders and being loyal to the people, the lofty spirit of the broad masses of grassroots cadres, public security officers, community workers, scientific researchers and volunteers who have spared no effort and devoted themselves, the deep affection of the vast number of overseas Chinese who donate money and materials and care for the motherland, the Chinese nation’s cultural genes of supporting from all sides if one side is in trouble, ...in particular, should use the touching stories of 84-year-old Zhong Nanshan, academician Zhang Boli, who left his courage in Wuhan, dean Zhang Dingyu, who is suffering from ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), and other heroes fighting the COVID-19, as carriers, and the deeds of “post-90s” and “post-00s” peers around the college and university students who took the initiative to participate in this battle and go to the front line as the real cases to deeply interpret the spirit of patriotism rooted in the Chinese’s blood for thousands of years and strengthen the students’ love ideologically and emotionally for the CPC, the country, the people and socialism.

#### 3.2. Create New Modes to Deeply Cultivate Patriotic Feeling

An national education conference was held in September 10, 2018. General Secretary Xi Jinping stressed that, “we should make great efforts to deeply cultivate patriotic feeling so as to make patriotism take root in students’ hearts.” [3] During the outbreak, with the changed teaching conditions and communication space, to make the ideological and political theory courses on patriotism education achieve remarkable results, teachers of ideological and political theory courses should try to explore online teaching modes that college students love to see and hear, such as the deep mixed online teaching mode under which “China University MOOC + live broadcast using DingTalk + professional WeChat group + whole-process online tutoring + Learning Power” and “Before class, In class, After class, Outside class” are seamlessly connected and complement each other, multi-dimensionally combine different teaching modes of patriotism education in a wide range of ways, and strengthen the guarantee for making the quality of online teaching of patriotism education essentially equivalent to that of the traditional classroom teaching, and in particular, should make full use of patriotism education resources in the learning platforms like China University MOOC, and Learning

Power, adopt the “live broadcast using DingTalk” based teaching mode, and use professional WeChat group and other online communication tools, to be a good designer of online teaching before class, a leader of value building in class, a service provider answering questions after class, and a patriotism practitioner outside class. In addition, teachers of ideological and political theory courses should, on the one hand, in combination with the teaching contents, post questions such as “what are the “magic weapons” for our country to defeat the enemy in the battle of epidemic prevention and control, how the “real gold” of patriotism was reflected in the fiery examination of China’s fight against COVID-19, and how to understand the home-country feelings of contemporary youth from this epic fight against COVID-19” in WeChat group or MOOC to guide the students to discuss, and deepen the students’ understanding for the great power of Chinese spirit and institutional advantages revealed in the nationwide fight against COVID-19, thus strengthening their patriotic belief and system self-confidence, and on the other hand, present the in-depth wonderful articles and documentary videos on epidemic prevention and control released by People.cn, Xinhua News Agency and other platforms to students in time, so that students can read and watch at any time to truly feel the China’s strength, speed, spirit and responsibility shown in epidemic prevention and control, and choose their own topics and write their feelings after reading or watching. Besides, ideological and political theory course teachers may adopt the modes like encouraging students to observe a moment of silence on Tomb-sweeping Day to mourn the martyrs and compatriots who died during the COVID-19 outbreak to instantly carry out patriotism education, national spirit education, gratefulness education and life education, so as to transform the touching practices in epidemic prevention and control into teaching contents of ideological and political theory courses, imperceptibly cultivate the students’ home-country feelings, sense of responsibility and dedication, and condense the strong positive energy of working together in times of trouble.

### ***3.3. Practice What You Preach to Interpret Patriotic Responsibility***

At the Teachers' ideological and Political Theory Course Symposium, General Secretary Xi Jinping put forward “six must” new requirements for teachers of ideological and political theory courses, and stressed that ideological and political theory course teachers must have deep feelings, maintain home-country feelings, having the country and nation in mind.[1] Patriotism education, not a slogan-like and formalized empty preaching, but concrete and visualized spiritual touch, requires teachers to make teaching go together with reason and emotion, as well as with action and practice. In the context of epidemic prevention and

control, all teachers of ideological and political theory courses are required to consciously set an example for learning and for being a person, externalize their deep home-country feelings and benevolence into concrete actions, always adhere to student-centered perspective, actively learn various online teaching skills, strive to master diversified teaching methods, actively participate in every training and study, prepare every class carefully, patiently answer every puzzle of students, always care about the healthy growth of students’ body and mind, interpret patriotism with practical actions based on the work post, and strive to be a firm promoter and loyal practitioner of patriotism. Meanwhile, teachers of ideological and political theory courses should set an example first and act proactively, consciously undertake the tasks assigned by the universities, colleges and communities, actively participate in the struggle of epidemic prevention and control, educate and infect the students through their own deeds, and make patriotism firmly rooted in the hearts of university students for the new era by words and deeds.

### **4. UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: GOING TOGETHER ON THE WAY TO ANTI-EPIDEMIC, PRACTICING PATRIOTISM THROUGH MULTIPLE CHANNELS AND FROM A WIDE RANGE OF ANGLES**

General Secretary Xi Jinping has stressed that “China Youth in the new era should show their patriotism with their whole life’s sincere devotion and tenacious struggle to have the great banner of patriotism always fly high in their hearts”, [4] which provides ideological and action guide for the youth in the new era to cultivate and practice patriotism. The starting step and objective for the teaching of ideological and political theory courses should be the guidance to students for “the action of serving the country” on the basis of cultivating patriotic feelings and forging the ambition of strengthening the country, so as to turn patriotism truly into a firm belief, spiritual power and conscious action for university students in the new era. Appealed and guided by the ideological and political theory courses on patriotism education, college and university students should internalize the spirit of patriotism in mind and externalize it in action in various forms, and should practice patriotism with practical actions in the fight of epidemic prevention and control, so as to stick to their dedication and show their responsibility.

#### ***4.1. College and University Students Should Undertake the Mission, Protect Their Own Health and That of Their Families, and Be a Good Guardian***

In the critical process of prevention and control of epidemic for the ordinary public, “home quarantine” is the greatest support for epidemic prevention and control. College and university students should know that protecting their own health and that of their families is contribution to the fight against COVID-19 and the greatest comfort to the front-line medical staff. Therefore, they should always pay attention to their own physical conditions and that of their families, strive to do a good job in protecting themselves and their families, truly ensure “less going out, wearing masks when going out, frequent hand washing at home, and more ventilation”, go to the fever clinic of local designated medical institutions immediately once fever, cough, chest tightness and other abnormal clinical symptoms occur. At the same time, college and university students should conscientiously fulfill their social responsibilities, participate in community epidemic prevention and control volunteer service activities within their ability under the premise of ensuring their personal safety, scientifically publicize and popularize epidemic prevention knowledge, do well in temperature monitoring and information screening of community people, truly integrate the individual into the collective, and let youth shine in the fight against COVID-19.

#### ***4.2. Guide the College and University Students to Study at Home, Cultivate Moral Character, and Be Good Practitioners***

College and university students should strengthen self-discipline and self-study, be diligent in self-discipline, be strict in self-cultivation, and strive to ensure “delayed return to school, ongoing school work; self-improvement and growth” and become talented and mature in the severe test by fight against COVID-19. College and university students, on the one hand, should take the initiative to transform the patriotic spirit inspired by the epidemic prevention and control into the conscious action of serving the country by learning, study hard and take online classes at home according to requirements of schools and teachers, improve their professional competence, enhance their abilities, and strive to grow into national pillars capable of shouldering heavy responsibilities, so as to build up their strength to stand up to challenges in the future when our country needs them, and on the other hand, in the social class of epidemic prevention and control, should actively keep thinking and understanding in their study and practice, and train moral character, truly experience the home-country feelings and responsibilities of post-90s and post-00s new force in

the fight against COVID-19, and consciously establish the noble pursuit of serving the people and contributing to the society. At the same time, college and university students should take the lead in abiding by the law and discipline, actively cooperate in the social epidemic prevention and control management, abide by the relevant regulations on return to school issued by schools, and resolutely do not return to school in advance without approval, and support the epidemic prevention and control work with their own practical actions.

#### ***4.3. Guide College and University Students to Strengthen Confidence and Unite Love, and to Be a Good Propagandist***

College and university students should strive to be “propagandists” of epidemic prevention and control, try to create a strong united, patriotic and enterprising atmosphere in the fight against COVID-19, enhance people’s confidence and determination to defeat the epidemic, actively publicize the important spirit from the CPC Central Committee about the epidemic prevention and control work and the typical deeds occurring at the front line of anti-epidemic through WeChat Moments, QQ Zone, Microblog and other network tools, vigorously promote the spirit of anti-epidemic, spread the positive energy of anti-epidemic, guide relatives and friends to scientifically learn the epidemic situation and its trend with their own knowledge on the fight against COVID-19, and learn to rationally treat all kinds of problems occurring during the outbreak from dialectical view, ensuring “no starting, no belief in and no spreading of rumors” and letting positive energy always fill the cyberspace. At the same time, we should guide the college and university students to feel the absolute advantage of the centralization and unification of CPC’s leadership and the concentration on major events of the Chinese system, as well as the great power of the Chinese nation’s patriotism, so as to enhance their political and emotional identity of loving the CPC and the country, and unite the power of love for the ultimate victory in the fight against COVID-19 and even the great Chinese rejuvenation.

### **5. CONCLUSION**

To sum up , colleges are supposed to systematically promote combination of Marxism academy, teachers of Ideological and political course and college students in same direction and accordance, to accomplish ideological and political course of patriotism better, give full play to the mainstream role of Ideological and political theory course, focus on typically patriotic examples during the fight against covid-19 epidemic to conduct students to develop and fulfill patriotism, further supply powerful intellectual impetus for ultimate

victory in fighting against the epidemic and realization of Chinese dream of national great revitalization.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Xi Jinping hosted the Teachers' Ideological and Political Theory Course Symposium and Stressed: Casting Soul and Cultivating People with the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for the New Era, Implementing the CPC's Educational Policies, and Carrying out the Basic Task of Moral Value's Establishment and People's Cultivation [N]. People's Daily, Mar. 19, 2019.
- [2] Centennial Nankai: Keeping in Mind the Entrustment, Establish Moral Values and Cultivate People [N]. Tianjin Daily, Jan. 21, 2019.
- [3] Xi Jinping held at the National Education Conference: that we should uphold the Development Path to Socialist Education with Chinese Characteristics and Cultivate Socialism Builders and Successors Who Do Well in Morality, Intelligence, Physique, Aesthetics and Labor, [N]. People's Daily, Sep. 11, 2018.
- [4] A Speech by Xi Jinping at Commemorative Meeting for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for May 4<sup>th</sup> Movement [M]. Beijing: People's Publishing House, 2019.