

# Dialect Investigation and Postgraduate Dialectology Course Teaching

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**Abstract.** This paper takes Northwest Minzu University postgraduate teaching dialect as the research object. According to the actual situation in the teaching process, starting from the actual situation of teaching and puts forward some suggestions on the postgraduate dialectology teaching. It is believed that in the course of postgraduate dialectology, the method of dialect field work should be combined, rather than the simple teaching of pure theory. In the course of teaching, it should focus on investigating practice, improving students' practice and independent research ability.

## Introduction

The course of dialectology is a course for postgraduate students of linguistics major in the Northwest Minzu University. Most colleges and universities offer dialectology courses, but the basic knowledge of students' linguistics is different. Due to the different student base of undergraduates, undergraduate students have a good linguistic basis for Chinese majors. Other professional students have a weak foundation of linguistics. In particular, students with a background in science and engineering should be aimed at the actual situation to rational allocation of teaching content.

Dialectal courses are different from traditional linguistics, so the study of dialect is also of interdisciplinary nature. Through the study of interdisciplinary thinking through language study, new ideas and methods of language research are put forward. In this paper, through teaching experience, combine the students' subject direction and the actual situation of knowledge structure [1]. On the basis of previous studies, based on the advantages of ethnic language resources, the emphasis is placed on dialect investigation. Through the interdisciplinary research methods and ideas of linguistics, and puts forward some suggestions for the reform of the curriculum system of Chinese dialectology course teaching [2].

## The Importance of Fieldwork in Dialectology Courses

With the continuous updating of teaching and research methods, Chinese dialectology is urgently needed to develop into interdisciplinary development. The communication and integration between different language-related subjects are of great significance to the development of linguistics research. The combination of linguistics and other disciplines has promoted the establishment of new disciplines, combined with dialect knowledge and dialect investigation methods in dialectology courses, which has a great effect on students' knowledge of linguistics, and also helps to develop students' Linguistics of learning interest.

In the teaching of postgraduate dialectology, it should be closely combined with scientific research. In the process of project research, students can analyze the ability of students to learn interdisciplinary knowledge in the process of dialectology learning through interdisciplinary research ideas and methods. It mainly includes the study of experimental phonetics, speech physiology and language cognition. Both dialectology learning courses and investigate dialect researchers cannot leave the fieldwork, in classroom learning theory knowledge, through the practice of the field, the more help to the cultivation of the students' practical ability. In particular, the postgraduate dialectology courses should be arranged in practice in addition to the classroom

teaching, so as to cultivate students' practical ability in fieldwork [3].

Fieldwork in dialect study, through field investigation to obtain first-hand information, especially on the dialect of initials, finals and tones system have great effect, is also the most effective way to obtain dialect phonetic overall appearance.

### **Pay Attention to the Practice of Dialect Investigation Method**

In the process of cultivating postgraduate students, it should pay attention to the cultivation of research methods and research ideas while accepting knowledge. Especially in the course of dialectology learning, knowledge mainly focuses on Chinese dialects, and the usual teaching methods can only be dominated by the theory of dialect and the theory of dialect investigation. Combining theory courses of study and practice, in dialectology interdisciplinary theory teaching, and even can use the teaching method as the framework of other linguistic theories, can better in the later research and practice of organic combination.

The early dialect fieldwork mainly recorded dialect pronunciation through international phonetic transcription and recording equipment. With the development of computer technology and phonetics, there are more phonetic devices used in dialect surveys. For example, professional voice signal acquisition equipment can be used in the fieldwork of dialect.

Through fieldwork practice, students not only have an understanding of the voice, but also enable students to master the skills of listening and recording speech, and are skilled in the use of speech survey instrument and equipment. The practice of dialect survey mainly adopts fieldwork method. This method can be face-to-face with the investigated object, and it is very helpful for recording the actual appearance of the voice. In the early stage of dialect investigation, it is important to determine the pronunciation partners and make the pronunciation table of the signal collection, and to understand the language background of the pronunciation partners. We will also learn about the history, customs, immigrant background and living habits of the investigated sites through field investigation. To collect the relevant works of local linguistics, such as local Chronicles and materials related to dialects and other languages.

### **Improvement of Teaching Method of Dialectology Courses**

At present, most of the teaching materials in the course of postgraduate dialectology study are explanations of the theoretical knowledge of dialect research. But lack of investigation time in the learning process, it is easy for students to wear school weariness. The proper integration of survey practice in the course of dialectology will enhance students' interest in learning, and the dialectology knowledge can be better grasp and understanding.

At the same time, we can introduce the theory of new technology and research results in phonetics, such as the theory of speech application, computational linguistics, speech recognition and synthesis, and make up for the insufficiency of dialectology research course [4].

In the teaching of postgraduate dialectology, it should be closely integrated with scientific research. So that students in the project research process, through interdisciplinary research ideas and methods to analyze students in the dialect study process of interdisciplinary knowledge of the ability to accept, including experimental phonetics, speech physiology and language awareness and other aspects of research.

At the same time, in close connection with reality, we introduce some new theories and research results in phonetics, such as computational linguistics, speech recognition and synthesis, and other theories of speech applications. This method can make up for the lack of the application of the research results of dialectology. In the process of postgraduate training, while accepting knowledge, we should pay attention to the cultivation of research methods and research ideas. In dialectology interdisciplinary theory teaching, and even can use the teaching method as the framework of other linguistic theories, can better in the later research and practice of organic combination [5].

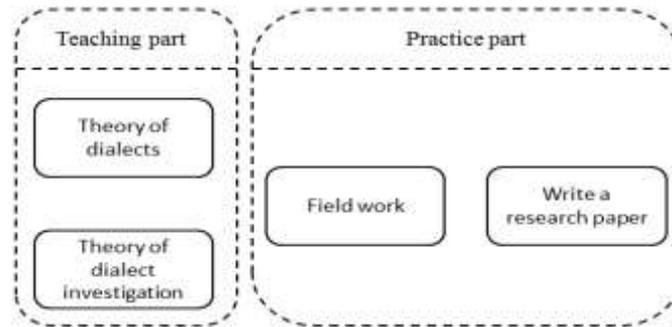


Figure 1. Dialectology course teaching and practice part

As shown in Fig. 1, the whole course teaching is divided into the teaching part and the practice part. The teaching part is mainly to teach the theoretical knowledge, and to supplement the students' research theory of dialectology and the methodology of investigation. The practice part mainly is the fieldwork and the research paper's writing, the field investigation is the core of the practice part.

The fieldwork procedure mainly includes several aspects: 1) before the dialect investigation, the investigation plan is determined according to the main investigation purpose. 2) collect local cultural, historical and customs materials, including collection of local chronicles. 3) on the basis of preliminary preparation, contact the pronunciation partner, and select and confirm according to the actual situation. 4) investigate dialect according to the outline and pronunciation list, including traditional listening, recording, and the collection of voice signals. 5) collate and sum up the investigation materials, further identify the sound recording materials, and segment the speech signals for later speech acoustic analysis. After finishing the materials, write academic papers according to the investigation materials.

### Summary and Prospect

The reform of the postgraduate dialectology courses is a long-term work. For students of linguistics and applied linguistics, students' professional theoretical knowledge is very important, but they cannot neglect the cultivation of students' practical ability. Graduate education should not only focus on students' learning ability, but also should cultivate students' practice and independent research ability, such as requiring students to accurately describe the recording of voice, vocabulary, grammar phenomenon, but also can carry on the induction, analysis, and study.

So that students can through independent research methods, induction and study of the language of the phonology, in a total of descriptive analysis at the same time, but also to conduct a periodical research and analysis. In the traditional dialect investigation and research, at the same time, learn from the interdisciplinary language research method, in dialectology courses to broaden the relevant research ideas. It is also necessary to supplement the content of the linguistics course, reform the course system and improve the teaching effectiveness.

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