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# Integration of Music Education and Business Professional Education-Based on a Comparative Analysis between U.S. Colleges and Chinese Colleges

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**Abstract.** Music education, as an indispensable part of art education, plays an important role in promoting the overall improvement of students' quality. In USA, the music education has gradually evolved to a mature system. In recent years, many Chinese comprehensive universities and science colleges have opened specialties related to art, such as art, music and so on. Under the influence of art education, students majoring in business and economics can improve their aesthetic ability of art, while students majoring in art can expand their knowledge of business, science and culture under the influence of professional education. This paper talks about the importance of the integration of college music education and business professional education as well as the implementation ways. It pays attention to learn the experience of music education in USA higher education.

#### Introduction

Since entering the new era of the 21st century, the educational concepts in Chinese people's mind have gradually changed, teaching in many colleges and universities has been innovative and reformed, many comprehensive universities and business colleges have resumed the road of art education, and gradually carried out large-scale reform of the teaching structure.

In U.S., music education in the colleges and universities is very popular, not to train musicians, but to cultivate the sentiments of students. The college music education and business professional education have been on the road of mutual integration. It has promoted effectively the improvement of the comprehensive quality of the students, and American colleges have much great experience from this aspect.

### The Significance of the Integration of Music Education and Business Professional Education in Universities

Quality education is a vital part of professional education in universities especially in Colleges of business and economics. Promoting the comprehensive quality of college students through promoting the integration of arts and business majors can make the comprehensive improvement on the overall quality of the students. In this area, American universities have gone through over 100 years of development, and most of them have formed the effective and mature system melting the music education and professional education.

For students who receive art education, music education and professional education should be strengthened. The integration of music education and professional education has the following functions:

Firstly, it is conducive to the development of students' artistic potential. As music possesses super spatial imagination and artistic creation ability, it can improve students' interpersonal communication ability, and students are in favor of music learning process. It develops their own artistic potential so as to improve their overall quality.



Secondly, it helps to cultivate students' logical thinking ability and aesthetic ability. In music education, teachers let students practice music knowledge such as singing, musical instruments, so as to develop the brain, better train students' logical thinking ability and creative ability. In the process of appreciation on the music, students can effectively improve their aesthetic perception of music.

Thirdly, it is conducive to edifying students' thoughts and sentiments. Under the influence of professional education, students majoring in arts can pass multiple collar courses. The study of domain professional knowledge accumulates more business, scientific and cultural knowledge, thus expanding the scope of knowledge, laying a solid foundation for music creation.

## The Approach to Promote the Integration of Music Education and Business Professional Education in Universities

#### **Innovate the Teaching Ideas**

At present, the integration of music education and professional education is not emphasized in the teaching system of Chinese colleges and universities. Music education often attaches importance to the training of knowledge and skills. The teaching concept is backward and it really needs to be upgraded further in China. There is a lack of innovative and reform ideas in the goal of talent training. The understanding of the current situation of talent demand in the era of knowledge-based economy is not thorough enough. Therefore, the integration of university music education and business professional education must start with innovating teaching ideas.

First of all, Chinese colleges and universities should fully realize the important role of music art education in the process of realizing the goal of quality education. In the quality education of human beings, music ability plays an important role in promoting the progress of all aspects of students' quality.

Secondly, the colleges of business and economics shall strengthen students' personal career planning education, integrate personal future career planning education in music education, and help students analyze the current social situation of talent demand, so that students can make full career planning and preparation for the real business world and the future society. At the same time, a feasible talent training program is formulated for college students' music education, focusing on the cultivation of students' ideological quality, moral cultivation, and aesthetic perception and so on.

#### **Optimize the Discipline System**

With the deepening of the concept of quality education in major universities especially in the colleges of business and economics, achievements in music education have been surprising, such as the increase in the proportion of college music courses and the gradual growth of campus music and art groups.

The art service organizations and art centers in Colleges and universities have been established and improved year by year. These measures to strengthen music education in Colleges and universities have enriched campus culture effectively, and continuously met the needs of students' extracurricular spiritual and cultural life. However, many colleges and universities have not constructed a set of matching subject system to optimize the plan in the process of the integration of music education and business professional education, resulting in unsatisfactory implementation effect of university music education. The construction of the discipline system of music education in Colleges and Universities mainly starts from the following three aspects:

Firstly, reset the proportion of class hours. Currently, the general knowledge courses in Colleges and Universities account for 30% of the total class hours, while the specialized compulsory courses and professional skills courses account for 60.3% of the total class hours, while the art courses only account for 9.7% of the total class hours. Therefore, colleges and universities should reset the class hour ratio and increase the class hours of art and music.

Secondly, the universities have to build diversified music courses especially for the colleges of business and economics. Traditional music teaching often focuses on knowledge and skills, which



is backward. Therefore, colleges and universities should construct diversified music curriculum projects according to students' interests, and add dancing, art, drama, painting and so on, so that students can have more diversified curriculum choices to meet the students' diversified artistic pursuit.

Thirdly, the colleges of business and economics have to emphasize the function of music education in shaping and cultivating people, because the students of these schools will eventually communicate with the society and work with a significant number of people in the business teams and units. The graduates from the business professional education definitely have more opportunities to use their aesthetic ability based on art and music education.

#### **Reform the Content of Teaching Materials**

At present, the music education in university has not formed a unified compilation and suitable music teaching materials for the teachers and the students. This situation is not optimistic at all, as the latest music and cultural elements in the current music, as well as the latest music achievements cannot be imparted to the students in most of colleges. To the colleges of business and economics, the students just choose the music classes as their selective courses, so the situation is even worse. The students who are not in the art and music professional colleges completely get nothing new from their music classes. Therefore, colleges and universities should strengthen the reform and innovation of music textbooks. The textbooks should not only conform to the ultimate goal of quality education, but also conform to students' personality characteristics and cognitive level. They should not only connect with professional knowledge, but also embody the characteristics of innovation.

#### **Summary**

Music, as the most appealing artistic expression, is the most typical manifestation of human spiritual civilization. It meets the needs of people's spiritual and cultural life with its rich connotation and unique artistic charm. Music education in American colleges and universities has been in the forefront of the world, training a large number of people with high humanistic quality and artistic appreciation, while a good combination of professional education, forming a whole and effective system. In this point, Chinese universities can strengthen their research on the combination of music education and professional education and absorb advanced experience from the U.S colleges.

In the college professional education system especially in the colleges of business and economics, melting music education is a measure to promote the comprehensive quality of the students. However, there are still many shortcomings in the process of integration of college music education and business professional education, such as backward teaching concepts, the lack of a supporting system of integrated teaching disciplines and so on. Therefore, the universities including their colleges of business and economics should fully realize the importance of the integration of music education and business professional education, so as to create a high-quality compound talents training model.

With China's rapid economic development, people's living standards, the product of the spirit of consumer demand is also rising. It means that the art and music business will have a very bright future. According to the Annual Report of Chinese Music Industry of 2017, China's music industry was RMB 360 billion and its growth rate is estimated as 7.2% in 2018, which is much higher than the GDP growth in China. The development of Chinese music business really needs a huge number of talents who understand both business and music, which means the integration of music education and business professional education, will play an important role in all Chinese universities and it will influence the life styles and thoughts of all people in the nearest future.



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