

A New Exploration of the Comprehensive Reform of Ideological and Political Theory Courses in Local Ordinary Undergraduate Universities and Colleges

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Abstract. Since the implementation of "05 New Scheme" and "11 Course Construction Standard (provisional)", certain achievements have been made in the ideological and political theory course teaching and reform, but there is still a long way to go to reach the objective set by the Party and government which is aimed to construct ideological and political courses into high quality courses that can stimulate true affection from students and bring lifelong benefits and memory to students. [1] Numerous problems still exist in course construction and reform. This study is aimed to solve the common problems faced in the discipline construction, teaching staff construction, course construction, course teaching, course performance assessment and evaluation system, resource, etc. in a comprehensive, systematic and targeted way through comprehensive reform and. It is centered on students and aimed to satisfy students, and to improve the effectiveness of ideological and political education by finding out the breakthrough points, highlighting the key points and solving the difficult points.

Since the implementation of "05 New Scheme" and "11 Course Construction Standard (provisional)", delightful progresses have been achieved in the ideological and political course, but there are still numerous problems to solve. Therefore, it is the focus of the following construction and reform of ideological and political course to actively promote the construction of ideological and political course and strengthen the comprehensive reform.

The Necessity to Actively Promote the Comprehensive Reform of Ideological and Political Course in Local Universities and Colleges

1. It is a necessity for local ordinary undergraduate universities and colleges to solve the existing problems in ideological and political course. At present, the local ordinary undergraduate colleges and universities are still faced with numerous problems in discipline, teaching, teachers and resources, which results in less effectiveness in ideological and political education, less satisfaction from students and significantly hinders the cultivation of qualified constructs and reliable successors of the socialism.

2. It is a necessity for the transformation of local ordinary undergraduate colleges and universities. According to the Report at 18th Party Congress, it is necessary to accelerate modern vocational education development and higher education internal development. [2] The local ordinary undergraduate colleges and universities should also embrace the new opportunities and challenges brought by this transformation and further promote reform.

3. It is new requirement on talent quality based on social development. The Communiqué of the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee proposed to deepen the comprehensive reform of education, accelerate the construction of modern vocational education system, deepen the integration of production and education and school-enterprise cooperation, and cultivate high-quality workers and skilled personnel. [3] There are new requirements on talent quality brought by social development. So, it is a significant task for the local ordinary undergraduate colleges and universities to figure out what kind of talent should be cultivated and how to do the cultivation. Teachers for ideological and political course should take responsibility to cultivate students with high political quality, strong professional skills and good professional ethics, and promote students' growth and success.

Main Problems in the Reform of Ideological and Political Courses in Local Ordinary Undergraduate Colleges and Universities

1. Problems faced in discipline construction: Weak basis and condition for Marxist theory discipline construction, inaccurate positioning, unclear construction plan, goal and target, no prominent key point, lack of scientific and operational discipline plan and scheme, lack of discipline awareness for ideological and political course teachers, low recognition and status of the discipline, lack of talents in this discipline, low ability of leading personnel in the discipline, weak driving force, uneven abilities of members in the discipline team, poor collaboration, insufficient communication between disciplines, lack of scientific evaluation system for the discipline, lack of instructions and supervisions on the discipline construction, etc.

2. Problems faced in teaching staff construction: lack of strong belief in ideological and political courses by the full time and part time teachers, lack of strong sense of responsibility and mission, uneven professional quality and teaching ability, insufficient quantity of teaching staff, unreasonable professional title, education degree and discipline background and age structure, lack of professional training, updated knowledge, diverse teaching methods and influence on students, weak teaching and scientific research ability, little efforts in high quality teacher team construction, low recognition of the profession career and low professional devotion from young teachers, serious visible and invisible loss, weak driving force for the development of elderly teachers, low teaching and educating ability, etc.

3. Problems faced in course construction: poor implementation of the ideological and political course construction standard, poor course system construction, lack of integration and convergence of course content, inadequate transformation of text book oriented system to teaching oriented system, insufficient development and use of textbook, unreasonable design for the credit hours of theory teaching and practical teaching, little efforts in the construction of platform for teaching resources share, little efforts in the construction of high quality resource sharing course with low quality, insufficient share, poor effectiveness, etc.

4. Problems faced in course teaching: (1)theory teaching: relatively backward teaching concept of the course, over simple teaching mode, over traditional teaching methods, over monotonous teaching process and design, over outdated teaching content, poor class organization, insufficient application of modern network teaching function, low student participation in initiative learning, etc. (2)practical teaching: lack of experienced teachers to instruct practical activities, lack of well-developed practical teaching program standard, insufficient special funds for practical teaching, lack of practical teaching base, disperse resources, low effectiveness, over simplified teaching process, over loose activity organization, over arbitrary practice content, narrow participation coverage, lack of substantiality in practical teaching, etc.

5. Problems faced in course performance evaluation system: evaluation form is over simple with focus on theory knowledge and less attention to application; focus on knowledge mastering but insufficient attention to ability cultivation and real performance.

6. Problems faced in resource and condition: The Party Committees of a part of local ordinary undergraduate universities and colleges have insufficient understanding of ideological and political course and the ideological and political concept, insufficient systematic and policy support, teaching resources and conditions and allocated funds. The atmosphere of education by whole staff has not been established yet.

New Exploration of the Comprehensive Reform of Ideological and Political Courses in Local Ordinary Undergraduate Universities and Colleges

It is necessary to advance the construction and reform of ideological and political courses in local ordinary undergraduate universities and colleges to enhance the attraction, influence and effectiveness of ideological and political courses for the needs of students' growth, success and all-round development.

1. Make a scientific orientation of the course, strengthen the awareness of discipline construction and vigorously promote the new development of Marxist theory discipline. Firstly, accurately define the nature of Marxist theory discipline; make clear the discipline construction ideas, objectives and tasks with the key points of discipline construction highlighted. Secondly, scientifically plan the discipline construction program and implementation rules. Thirdly, make efforts to improve teachers' discipline awareness of ideological and political course, discipline recognition and discipline status. Fourthly, make active efforts to cultivate discipline leading personnel and build a high quality discipline team with their ability and collaboration further enhanced. Fifthly, strengthen the communication between different disciplines, with more attention on the frontier of disciplines and concentration on the direction of disciplines to build up the features and comparative advantages of disciplines. Sixthly, establish a scientific and reasonable assessment system for discipline construction to further strengthen the guidance and supervision on discipline construction. Seventhly, explore and implement the effective construction mode of Marxism theory discipline in local colleges and universities.

2. Endeavor to build a full time and part time teachers team of high political quality and superior professional quality for ideological and political theory course. Firstly, continuously increase the population of full time and part time teachers for ideological and political courses and improve the quality as well. Secondly, improve the professional title, education background, discipline background and age structure. Thirdly, organize more training for teachers to improve their political quality, professional ability, teaching capacity and as well as influence. Fourthly, strive to build a team of high-quality teachers with improved overall quality and ability. Fifthly, constantly improve teachers' abilities in doing scientific research which will nurture teaching in return. Sixthly, improve young teachers' recognition of this profession as well as their professional dedication, promote the professional development of elderly teachers and enhance their teaching and education ability. Seventhly, make an active exploration of the configuration standards and training mechanism for teachers team.

3. Actively push forward the course construction. Firstly, make a scientific and rational design for the theory and practical teaching hours and credits based on the ideological and political course construction standard. Secondly, strengthen the ideological and political course system construction, make constant integration of teaching contents, and attach more importance to the intersection and convergence of five compulsory courses and push forward the transformation of test book oriented system to teaching oriented system. Thirdly, strengthen the research, development and utilization of content of test books. Fourthly, continue to promote the construction of high-quality resources sharing course with improved quality and expanded sharing degree and effect.

4. Deepen the reform of course teaching and improve the teaching efficiency. (1) Make the theory classes of high quality and high efficiency. Firstly, establish a mechanism for the construction of a high-quality and highly efficient theory class from the aspects of system design, team building, evaluation method, guarantee and feedback. Secondly, actively cultivate prestigious teachers and superior lecturers to build a team of high-quality teachers. Thirdly, make feasible improvement in teaching method and vigorously advocate teaching methods which are focused on enlightenment, reference, interaction, discussion, research and experience, etc. Fourthly, actively adopt innovative teaching mode based on modern education technologies (network, multimedia, self-media, all-media, mooc, flipped class, etc.). Fifthly, improve the network teaching platform, integrate high-quality teaching resources, and realize the sharing of high-quality resources classes. Sixthly, advocate cooperative teaching for teachers and cooperative learning for students. (2) Construct a scientific and complete practical teaching system. Firstly, make systematic plan and design for practical teaching, and formulate the standards such as practical teaching program and teaching guidance. Secondly, take practical teaching overall plan as part of course construction. Carry out standard implementation and management. Thirdly, enrich the content of practical teaching and the form of practical teaching. Fourthly, establish the practical teaching monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

The combination of theory and practice, infusion and enlightenment, knowledge input and behavior guidance, verbal instruction and internalization should be realized for the teaching reform to make ideological and political course not only has more ideological and political content but also more vitality and fun with improved teaching pertinence and effectiveness .

5. Establish a scientific and reasonable evaluation system. Firstly, formulate scientific and reasonable reform plans, standards, implementation methods and operation procedures for examination and assessment. Secondly, protocol the evaluation standards and implementation method for ideological and political course teaching effectiveness, and establish effectiveness evaluation mechanism. Thirdly, establish incentive mechanism for ideological and political course teacher evaluation and student learning evaluation.

6. Spend more efforts in the provision of resources and conditions to ensure a strong guarantee for the construction, reform and development of ideological and political course. Firstly, set up the policy and system that are beneficial to ideological and political courses construction. Secondly, strengthen the introduction and cultivation of ideological and political courses teachers, solve the problem of teacher shortage and irrational structure. Thirdly, timely input sufficient funds for ideological and political courses construction and intensify the efforts in the provision of teaching resources and conditions. Fourthly, actively coordinate the propaganda department, student affairs department, academic affairs department, organization department, and each teaching institute to participate in the teaching and reform of ideological and political course to form a joint teaching force for realizing the integration of ideological and political concept in the overall education.

In conclusion, the local ordinary undergraduate universities and colleges should constantly push forward the comprehensive reform of ideological and political courses guided by Marxist theory and based on the new requirements proposed by the Party and government on ideological and political courses to have the discipline built up, teachers cultivated, course constructed, teaching improved, evaluation carried out, effect improved, resources gathered, and qualified talents which are needed by the Party and government cultivated.

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