

Research on Improving the Curriculum Ideology and Politics Ability of Professional Course Teachers in Universities

Xiao-Yong Liu, Xiao-Li Ren, Xiao-Ping Ren, Chao-Ya Sui, Wan-Jie Dong

Chongqing Chemical Industry Vocational College, Chongqing 401228, China

Abstract Teachers are "engineers of the human soul", shouldering the sacred mission of teaching and educating people, and the great responsibility of cultivating builders and successors of socialism with Chinese characteristics. In the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, university teachers bear more important educational responsibilities than ever before. Focusing on the fundamental task of cultivating morality and talents, the construction of ideological and political education in university courses has emerged, and it is imperative to improve the ideological and political abilities of teachers in courses. The ideological and political education in university courses is a curriculum teaching reform that integrates ideological and political theory with the teaching of various professional courses, in order to cultivate talents who are both moral and talented and capable of shouldering the responsibilities of the times in the national rejuvenation. To comprehensively promote the construction of ideological and political education in the curriculum, teachers are the key. This article explores the issue of improving the ideological and political abilities of professional course teachers in universities.

Keywords Universities; Professional course teachers; Curriculum Ideology and Politics; Ability improvement

Cite This Article Liu X.Y., Ren X.L., etc. Research on Improving the Curriculum Ideology and Politics Ability of Professional Course Teachers in Universities. *Education Theory: Teaching and Learning*. 2024,3(2):21-27. <https://doi.org/10.55571/ettl.2024055>

Copyright © 2024 by The Authors. Published by Four Dimensions Publishing Group INC. This work is open access and distributed under Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).



Received: March 26, 2024 / Accepted: April 8 2024 / Published: April 26, 2024

Introduction

Realizing the coordination and unity of explicit education and implicit education, and exploring the ideological and political education resources contained in other courses and teaching methods are the abilities that university professional course teachers should possess. Curriculum ideological and political education is a social practice activity that takes the curriculum as the carrier, fully explores the inherent moral education factors and resources of various courses, and develops and applies them in accordance with the laws of curriculum education and teaching [1]. In 2020, the Ministry of Education issued the "Guidelines for the Construction of Ideological and Political Education in Higher Education Curriculum" (hereinafter referred to as the "Guidelines"), which pointed out the need to comprehensively promote the construction of ideological and political education in higher education curriculum. The Outline emphasizes that teachers are the key to comprehensively promoting the construction of ideological and political education in the curriculum. We need to promote teachers to further strengthen their awareness of education, identify educational perspectives, and enhance their educational abilities, ensuring the implementation and effectiveness of ideological and political education in the curriculum. This article conducts research on the improvement of ideological and political abilities of professional course teachers in universities.

The connection and difference between "curriculum ideology and politics" and "ideological and political courses"

"Preaching, imparting knowledge, and dispelling doubts" answers the basic content of professional ethics that integrates teaching and education for teachers. The Party and the state have always attached great importance to the ideological and political education of students in the issues of what to cultivate, how to cultivate them, and for whom to cultivate them. They have emphasized strengthening the education of young students on scientific worldviews, outlooks on life, and values, inheriting and innovating excellent traditional Chinese culture, promoting national spirit and the spirit of the times, and cultivating builders and successors of socialism with Chinese characteristics to achieve the strategic goal of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In the practice of continuously strengthening ideological and political education for college students and effectively enhancing the pertinence and effectiveness of ideological and political theory courses in higher education institutions, relevant universities are exploring solutions to the "island" dilemma of ideological and political education for college students, especially in the exploration of the "two skins" phenomenon between ideological and political theory courses and other professional courses, proposing the innovative teaching concept and teaching method of "curriculum ideology and politics". "Curriculum ideology and politics" is the fundamental task of education, which regards "cultivating morality and nurturing talents" as the fundamental task. It constructs a "three comprehensive education" pattern, which includes all staff education, full process education, and all-round education. It integrates the theoretical knowledge and value concepts of ideological and political education into various professional courses in education and teaching, making ideological and political theory courses go hand in hand with various courses, organically integrating them, and improving students' worldview. A comprehensive educational philosophy and approach that has a subtle influence on one's outlook on life and values.

Curriculum ideology and politics is closely related to ideological and political courses, with

similarities and differences. Firstly, the two are interrelated and cannot be completely separated. Ideological and political courses are the foundation of curriculum ideology and politics, and curriculum ideology and politics are an extension of ideological and political courses. Only by studying the basic theories of ideological and political theory courses can college students deepen their understanding of curriculum ideology and politics and further strengthen their ideals and beliefs in the course of ideological and political education. If there is no prior study of ideological and political theory courses, the curriculum ideology and politics is like water without a source and a tree without roots. On the contrary, without curriculum ideology and politics, the effectiveness of ideological and political theory courses will inevitably be affected. Curriculum ideology and politics, as well as ideological and political education, are working together to improve the political and moral qualities of college students, and to address issues related to their worldview, outlook on life, values, and ideals and beliefs. Secondly, there are differences in their main functions and they cannot replace each other. The ideological and political theory courses in universities are the main channel and battlefield for systematically providing Marxist theoretical education and ideological and political education to college students, and are an important guarantee for adhering to the socialist direction of education. Practice has proven that ideological and political theory courses play an irreplaceable role in cultivating morality and talent. Curriculum ideology and politics is a teaching process that enhances political awareness, ethical concepts, and ideological value guidance for college students in the process of mastering necessary professional theories, knowledge, and skills in professional course teaching. It is not simply a professional course teaching, nor is it a teaching process that transforms professional courses into ideological and political theory courses. It is an organic integration and seamless connection of conscious teaching that "teaches and educates" and "teaches to do things and be a good person". Once again, there is a difference between explicit and implicit teaching methods. The former is named "Ideological and Political Theory Course", and its explicit ideological and political education function is clear at a glance, while the latter's ideological and political education function is hidden in the exploration and utilization of ideological and political education resources. To enhance the pertinence and effectiveness of ideological and political education, implement the fundamental task of cultivating morality and talents, and cultivate qualified talents with both morality and talent, both curriculum ideology and politics must take into account each other and walk in the same direction. The role of ideological and political theory courses as the main channel and battlefield for Marxist theory education and ideological and political education for college students cannot be weakened, nor can they ignore the full staff and full process education for college students. The ideological and political role of comprehensive education courses, including ideological and political theory courses and curriculum ideology and politics, are interrelated, interactive, and have differences from each other. In the practice of cultivating virtue and nurturing talents, the two cannot be absent or misplaced.

The problems faced by improving the curriculum Ideology and politics abilities of professional course teachers in universities

The reform of curriculum ideology and politics in the curriculum is a new requirement put forward by the Party and the country for professional course teachers in universities in the new era. However, in the actual implementation process of curriculum ideology and politics in the curriculum, some professional course teachers have shortcomings in exploring ideological and political elements, which

to some extent delays the process of curriculum ideology and politics in universities, leading to difficulties in the enthusiasm and initiative of some professional course teachers to promote curriculum ideology and politics in the curriculum, which is not conducive to the overall improvement of educational effectiveness.

The collaborative mechanism is not sound. Curriculum is the carrier of education, and education is the sacred mission of teachers. The purpose of curriculum ideology and politics construction is to guide practice, emphasizing that teachers should fully explore the ideological and political elements in various courses under the guidance of the concept of moral education, and integrate them into curriculum teaching, so as to promote the alignment between curriculum ideology and politics and achieve collaborative education. However, in the actual process, due to the imperfect system and mechanism, some professional course teachers often "simply graft ideological and political elements" and "mechanically apply them" in their professional fields, which seriously affects the process of curriculum ideology and politics construction in universities. In order to better implement the fundamental task of cultivating virtue and nurturing talents, professional course teachers should "guard a certain channel and cultivate a responsible field", comprehensively create a clean and upright political ecology and educational environment. In the actual process of collaborative education between professional course teachers and ideological and political courses in universities, they should be good teachers with "four qualities", become "four guides", and achieve "six requirements". This is the core essence and key link in cultivating new talents who can shoulder the great responsibility of national rejuvenation.

Lack of ability to explore ideological and political elements. Classroom teaching is the main channel for curriculum ideology and politics construction, and targeted exploration of ideological and political elements contained in professional courses is an important task in promoting curriculum ideology and politics construction. Therefore, professional course teachers should not only attach importance to imparting knowledge systems, but also guide students in their values, deeply explore the ideological and political elements contained in professional courses, and promote the mutual benefit between ideological and political education and professional education. However, currently, some professional course teachers do not attach enough importance to the construction of curriculum ideology and politics in the curriculum, lack self-learning, and insufficient energy investment, and have insufficient ability to explore the ideological and political elements contained in professional courses. We are running socialist education, and we must always regard adhering to the socialist direction of education as a political principle, as a logical starting point for thinking and planning educational work, and cultivate socialist builders and successors [2]. This requires professional course teachers to impart knowledge to students while maintaining a rigorous scientific attitude, exploring potential ideological and political elements from professional course content, materials, or specific teaching activities, and becoming the unity of "economic teachers" and "human teachers".

The evaluation and incentive mechanism is not perfect. The report of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China pointed out that "education is the great plan of the country and the Party. The fundamental issue of education is what kind of people to cultivate, how to cultivate them, and for whom to cultivate them. The root of education lies in moral character." This requires professional course teachers to fully utilize the main channels of the classroom, closely combine the professional characteristics of students with future employment trends, make good use of red resources, and use socialist core values to shape the soul and educate people, Strengthen the goal orientation and value orientation of higher education, and effectively enhance the ideological and action consciousness of

integrating ideological and political elements into professional courses. However, in the process of curriculum ideology and politics construction, some universities have failed to include the effectiveness of curriculum ideology and politics construction as a "hard indicator" in year-end performance evaluation and establish a specialized ideological and political evaluation system, which has to some extent delayed the process of curriculum ideology and politics construction.

Path to improving the curriculum ideology and politics abilities of professional course teachers in universities

The report of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China pointed out that "education, science and technology, and talent are the fundamental and strategic support for the comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized country.". Universities bear important responsibilities in implementing the strategy of building a strong country with talents in the new era, and the improvement of the educational ability of professional course teachers is directly related to the overall development of curriculum ideology and politics construction. Therefore, enhancing the ideological and political education abilities of professional course teachers is of great practical significance for building a comprehensive and all-round education system for all staff.

Strengthen the awareness of cultivating morality and talents, and innovate the mechanism for building a team of curriculum ideology and politics teachers in the curriculum. The key to talent cultivation lies in teachers. Teachers are the foundation and source of education, responsible for ensuring the healthy growth of every child and providing satisfactory education for the people. To this end, universities should strengthen the top-level design of curriculum ideology and politics construction, establish a special leadership group for curriculum ideology and politics construction, coordinate teacher ethics and teaching management, build a brand team for curriculum ideology and politics construction centered on education, and focus on building a high-quality team of curriculum ideological and political teachers. Secondly, we must actively occupy new media platforms such as the internet and mobile phones for ideological and political education. In implementing the fundamental task of cultivating moral character in universities, we should actively build a collaborative education mechanism between professional course teachers and ideological and political course teachers, achieve the guidance and drive of ideological and political course teachers over professional course teachers, and promote the stable and far-reaching implementation of high-quality education projects. We should focus on strengthening the construction of teacher ethics and conduct, focusing on the environment of ideological and political education in universities, knowledge transmission and value guidance, skill education and practical ability, etc., and promote a curriculum ideological and political education system that integrates education and moral education, education of books and abilities, with a focus on teaching by example. At the same time, universities should pay attention to regularly holding exchange meetings between ideological and political course teachers and professional course teachers on the construction of curriculum ideology and politics in courses, so that teachers can share the reform concepts and methods of ideological and political education in courses through "renowned teacher studios", "teaching salons", etc., effectively promoting the alignment of ideological and political education and courses, and creating a unique educational model in the new era.

Deeply explore the ideological and political elements in professional courses, and promote the co construction and sharing of educational and teaching resources. Universities are the main battlefield for

talent cultivation, shouldering the sacred mission of "cultivating talents for the Party and the country". We must prioritize answering the fundamental questions of "what kind of people to cultivate, how to cultivate them, and for whom to cultivate them", and make promoting the healthy growth of students the main goal, in order to achieve a "moistening and silent" educational effect. Therefore, in the process of teaching design, attention should be paid to the distinction and correlation between the strengths and weaknesses of various disciplines, majors, and ideological and political elements, especially by combining professional characteristics, directions, and skills, analyzing and elaborating in a targeted manner, and infiltrating the ideological and political elements hidden behind professional knowledge into the entire process of classroom teaching. Each course contains rich elements of ideological and political education. It is necessary to comprehensively create a good atmosphere of curriculum education and practical education, and encourage professional course teachers to transform from bystanders of ideological and political education to demonstrators of ideological and political education, from imparters of knowledge to guides of learning, demonstrating the value orientation of being a cultural person. Good ideological and political work should be like salt, but we cannot just eat salt. The best way is to dissolve salt into various foods and naturally absorb it. To this end, universities should actively create a distinctive educational card for the ideological and political construction of professional course teachers, shape a good image of teachers, enhance campus cultural taste, adhere to the unity of teaching and education, theory and practice, knowledge and skills, actively build a "big ideological and political" education system, innovate the collaborative education mechanism of professional course education, ideological and political course education, and practical activity education, and accelerate the construction of Chinese discourse and narrative systems, Tell the story of China well, spread the voice of China well, showcase a trustworthy, lovely, and respectable image of China, and create a new highland for ideological and political education.

Give full play to the subjective initiative of teachers and construct a scientific and standardized evaluation and incentive mechanism for curriculum ideology and politics construction. To construct a scientific mechanism for evaluating curriculum ideology and politics in courses, it is necessary to adhere to a problem oriented approach, abandon outdated thinking patterns, take the effectiveness of curriculum ideology and politics in courses as a benchmark, consolidate the fundamental task of moral education, and better inspire professional course teachers to fulfill the educational mission of higher education. Universities should adhere to the correct political direction of education and strengthen political guidance. Universities are an important place for the country to cultivate socialist builders and successors with comprehensive development in morality, intelligence, physical fitness, aesthetics, and labor. They are also a talent highland for implementing the strategy of building a strong education country. We should strive to create a distinctive education model with "theoretical height, ideological depth, value temperature, emotional strength, and educational effectiveness", and focus on cultivating top-notch innovative talents to gather talents from all over the world for use. Secondly, we must adhere to the concept of equal evaluation between "curriculum ideology and politics" and "ideological and political courses", and completely change the previous practice of only focusing on individual evaluation of teachers. Adhere to the "three combinations", namely the combination of professional course education and mental health education, the combination of theoretical teaching and practical teaching of ideological and political courses, and the combination of professional course education and employment and entrepreneurship education, to promote the resonance between professional courses and ideological and political courses and fully stimulate the innovation and creative vitality of college

students. We need to establish a special fund for the construction of curriculum ideology and politics, which will be used to support the development of demonstration courses, teaching research, training and exchange, etc. We will tilt towards ideological and political education teachers in job allowances, professional title evaluations, excellence evaluations, and performance evaluations, providing strong support for the construction of curriculum ideology and politics.

Conclusion

The construction of curriculum ideology and politics is a systematic project that needs to fully leverage the role of teachers as the main body, especially professional course teachers who must take the lead in setting an example and taking the initiative to undergo a spiritual baptism from the depths of their thoughts and souls. The teaching staff is an important force in implementing the fundamental task of cultivating morality and talents. We should actively explore the construction of a "big ideological and political" education pattern, demonstrate the soft power of university culture, and build a new system of university cultural education. This will provide a satisfactory answer sheet for the comprehensive construction of a socialist modernized country, promoting high-quality development of higher education, and assisting in the implementation of the strategy of building a strong education country.

Acknowledgement

Chongqing Chemical Industry Vocational College of Teaching Reform Research Project(Project Number: JG202301).

References

- [1] Lu Lige, Wu Kaili. Triple Logic of Exploring Ideological and Political Education Resources in Curriculum Ideological and Political Education. *Research on Ideological Education*, 2020, (5)
- [2] Yu Hongjian, Liu Lulin. Deeply Digging into Ideological and Political Elements in Curriculum to Improve the Effectiveness of Education. *China Education Daily*, August 15, 2022 (3)