### Strategies for Improving English Teachers' Teaching Abilities in Higher Vocational Colleges under the Background of Ideological-Political Education

### Xiaoli Hu

Jiangsu Maritime Institute, Nanjing, Jiangsu, 211170, China

Abstract: Under the background of ideological-political education, teaching abilities of English teachers in higher vocational colleges are of vital importance. This paper first explores composition of teaching abilities of higher vocational English teachers in the context of ideological-political education, then puts forward six strategies for improving their teaching abilities: establish the awareness of higher vocational English teachers in educating talents, enhance ability of higher vocational English teachers to educate people, make full use of classroom teaching to improve the effectiveness of "ideological-political education", improve their teaching design ability of "ideological-political education", reform their ability to innovate teaching methods, and promote the construction of institutional mechanisms for "ideological-political education" for educating people.

**Keywords:** ideological-political education; higher vocational colleges; English teachers; teaching abilities; strategies

#### 1. Introduction

The fundamental mission of higher education is to establish morality and cultivate people. General secretary Xi Jinping stressed at the National Conference on Ideological and Political work that we should persist in taking moral education as the central link, and integrate ideological-political work throughout the whole process of education and teaching to achieve all-round education and strive to create a new prospect for the development of higher education in China.

The composition of teachers' teaching abilities in higher vocational colleges has obvious professional and practical characteristics. The nature and task of higher vocational education affect and determine the composition of teachers' teaching ability to a certain extent. Teachers of public basic courses are an important force in ideological-political teaching team in colleges and universities. They shoulder important responsibilities of organically combining theoretical knowledge of public courses with ideological-political elements and moral education resources, to carry out ideological-political education for students silently, which puts forward higher requirements for the teaching abilities of public basic course teachers.

# 2. The composition of teaching ability of higher vocational English teachers in the context of ideological-political education

#### 2.1 Politically oriented ability

The "Higher Vocational Education Specialist English Curriculum Standards" (2021 edition) clearly points out that morality education is the fundamental task of China's higher education, and the goal of the Higher Vocational Education Specialist English Course is to fully implement the party's education policy and cultivate and practice the core socialist values. Therefore, political orientation ability is the primary ability of higher vocational English teachers. This ability is mainly embodied in political literacy, that is, teachers are required to maintain a high degree of consistency with the Party Central Committee in matters related to political principles, political positions and political directions, and should have excellent qualities in political discipline, political discernment, political guidance, noble teacher morality, a strong sense of responsibility and a sense of mission<sup>[1]</sup>.

#### 2.2 Ability to integrate moral education resources

Under the concept of ideological-political education reform, teachers are required to dig deep into value elements and value functions of educating people in curriculum teaching materials, sort out and integrate moral education resources, and strive to achieve organic integration of moral education and intellectual education. This ability is not a simple inductive summary, and it is not a "cramming" rigid "implantation" of moral education elements in the curriculum, but is based on student-centered and concerned about students' inherent moral education needs. Specifically, the ability to integrate moral education resources is the ability of teachers to analyze the ideological status, value judgments and moral needs behind students through the discovery and capture of students' interests, excitement, interests, confusion and enthusiasm points in the classroom, so as to combine curriculum moral education resources, screen appropriate moral education elements, adopt flexible teaching methods, create appropriate moral education opportunities, and achieve the educational effect of "moisturizing and silent".

#### 2.3 Ability to design instructional materials

Teaching design ability refers to the ability to organize and refine the knowledge of the course content to achieve the teaching objectives, specifically the sum of a series of design activities including teaching goal design, teaching content design, teaching method design, and teaching support system, which is the concrete embodiment of teachers' comprehensive ability. The high quality of classroom teaching is closely related to the level of instructional design of teachers<sup>[2]</sup>.

How to "quietly" integrate the ideological elements of the curriculum into various curriculum design, teaching materials, classroom teaching and classroom evaluation needs to test whether the teacher has mastered the strong teaching design ability.

#### 2.4 Ability to use information technology

With the rapid development of Internet technology, deep integration of information technology and teaching has become an inevitable trend in the reform of higher vocational teaching, and has also become a basic requirement that teachers should have. Studies have shown that most teachers have initially possessed the basic ability of information teaching, but the proportion of teachers with high application level is low, especially the ability of teachers to innovate teaching models with the help of information technology, as well as the ability of information teaching and research, and there is still a lot of room for improvement. On the whole, at present, there is still a big gap between the information teaching ability of college teachers and the goal of deep integration of information technology and curriculum teaching. The application ability of information technology mainly includes two aspects, one is the ability to process information, that is, the use of modern information technology to screen, retrieve, process and integrate all kinds of information; The second is the ability to apply information technology, that is, the ability to design, develop, implement and innovate modern information teaching resources.

# 3. Strategies for improving the teaching ability of higher vocational English teachers in the context of ideological-political education

Colleges and universities are places to train qualified talents for the construction of China's modernization cause. The red and professional socialist college students trained by colleges and universities need to have the correct political direction and excellent political quality, which requires higher vocational English teachers to have corresponding qualities. However, in the process of implementing the construction of "ideological-political education", the uneven teaching staff has led to uneven results in the effectiveness of different teachers in carrying out ideological and political education education the key to implementing the teaching concept of "ideological-political education" lies in the teachers, and the effect of the construction of the "ideological-political education" depends on the level of teachers' ability to think about politics, they need to have a solid "ability to preach" (that is, the ability to carry out ideological-political education), and they need to devote themselves to the process of teaching and educating people wholeheartedly, so that students can "internalize the content of the ideological-political element" and "externalize it in practice", so as to better improve the teaching effect and the effect of educating people in the ideological and political science class.

#### 3.1 Establish the awareness of higher vocational English teachers in educating talents

In the process of ideological-political construction of the curriculum, some teachers lack the awareness of educating people. Because of the lack of enthusiasm and conscious awareness of educating people, the effect of combining the ideological-political education in curriculum with the ideological and political courses is not good. In order to promote the effect of educating people and promote the collaborative education of ideological-political education in curriculum and the ideological and political curriculum, it is necessary to enhance the awareness of the teaching team in educating people.

The Book of Rites and the University says, "The purpose of the university is to promote moral integrity, to learn and apply it to life, so that people can reach the highest level of perfection." The purpose of socialist education in our country is to train socialist builders and successors. Therefore, it is necessary to comprehensively improve the awareness and ability of the teaching team to educate people. Teachers' ideological and political consciousness means that teachers should realize that in the process of teaching, they are not only the traditional teachers who "preach, receive karma, and solve puzzles", but also undertake glorious and arduous ideological and political education tasks. To integrate "Ideological-political education" with higher vocational English teaching, it is necessary to improve the awareness and ability of English teachers to "think about politics in the curriculum" in order to guide students to make continuous efforts to realize the Chinese dream<sup>[4]</sup>. Guide and encourage teachers to carry out the research and practice of "thinking about politics in the curriculum", organize teachers to combine the actual situation of the higher vocational English curriculum, integrate ideological and political education into the teaching objectives of the curriculum, dig deep into the educational elements contained in this course in the teaching process, enrich the teaching resources of "curriculum thinking about politics", and cover the "curriculum thinking" to all semesters of higher vocational English. Teachers can flexibly use a variety of teaching methods inside and outside the classroom to achieve the effective combination of higher vocational English teaching and "curriculum thinking".

#### 3.2 Enhance the ability of higher vocational English teachers to educate people

Higher vocational English teachers strengthen their own quality construction, improve their own ideological quality, do a good job in teaching and educating people, and enhance their sense of responsibility for educating people. Vocational English teachers should read more books in their spare time and dabble in various types of bibliographies to expand the breadth and depth of their knowledge and enhance their temperament and talents. At the same time, higher vocational English teachers should also expand their hobbies, sports, musical instruments, singing, dancing, etc., enhance their own inner and outer temperament, and teach college students with a positive and upward spiritual outlook, which will increase the common topic with students, improve students' enthusiasm for class, and impart ideological knowledge and value-oriented to higher vocational English teachers.

Higher vocational English teachers need to combine teaching and educating people, strengthen their own moral accomplishment, improve their own quality, and better consolidate and promote the construction of the teaching concept of "thinking about politics in the curriculum". Teachers in colleges and universities should firmly believe in Marxism, have a correct political direction, firm ideals and convictions, establish a sense of ideology and politics consistent with the mainstream ideology of socialism, and always follow the CPC. General Secretary Xi Jinping once pointed out that if we, the Chinese nation, want to develop better, we must have common ideals and beliefs. Higher vocational English teachers shoulder the mission of building up morality for the socialist modernization construction, and pay attention to strengthening the political quality and ideals and beliefs of higher vocational English teachers, which is the premise for college students to carry out ideological and political education<sup>[5]</sup>. This has a bearing on whether future successors understand and recognize the history and ruling power of the Communist Party of China, whether they care about current political and current affairs of the country and have feelings for the homeland, and whether they can shoulder the heavy historical responsibility of national prosperity and national rejuvenation.

## 3.3 Higher vocational English teachers should make full use of classroom teaching to improve the effectiveness of "ideological-political education"

Classroom teaching is the main way for students to receive ideological and political education, and teachers of the curriculum of ideological and political courses should take the classroom as the starting

point to ensure the quality of classroom teaching and improve the effect of educating people. At present, there are phenomena in classroom teaching such as students' low interest, sleeping in class, playing mobile phones and playing games. The main reasons are: first, students think that the courses offered by colleges and universities have little effect on finding jobs in the future, and they just want to mix a diploma; second, students have poor self-control and are attracted by mobile phones; third, the teacher's lecture style is boring, and it cannot arouse students' interest. To solve these problems, the first is to improve teaching methods. In view of the problems existing in classroom teaching, the right "medicine" is prescribed. Interest is the best teacher and stimulates students' interest in learning. According to the nature and characteristics of different courses, teachers should analyze the functions of the courses and cultivate abilities. Teachers should guide students to establish a correct concept of learning and correct their motivation for learning. Teachers should transform the traditional teaching mode to stimulate students' initiative and make students active participants in the classroom and change students' passive learning methods and stimulate students' endogenous motivation for learning. In view of the weak self-control of students, addicted to mobile phone networks, teachers should patiently state the interests and risks, and correctly guide students.

# 3.4 Higher vocational English teachers should improve their teaching design ability of "ideological-political education"

Teaching materials are the summary and reflection of teaching content and teaching materials. In the process of teaching, teachers should dig deep into the elements related to ideological and political education in teaching materials, and cultivate students' broad horizons and cultivate their sentiments on the basis of improving language skills. "New Horizons English Course for Higher Vocational Education" (Ideological and Political Edition) covers all aspects of society, economy, science and technology, and life, with rich humanistic information, detailed and detailed data, and keeping up with the pulse of the times. On the basis of the actual teaching of English in higher vocational schools, teachers should cultivate students' humanistic literacy and comprehensive quality through the learning materials and teaching activity design in the course of curriculum teaching, so that students can establish correct values in the process of understanding the world, understanding society and discovering themselves, enhance cultural understanding, and improve cross-cultural communication skills, so as to achieve the organic unity of instrumentality and humanity.

#### 3.5 Higher vocational English teachers should reform their ability to innovate teaching methods

Marx emphasized: "As long as theory convinces people, it can grasp the masses; And as long as the theory is thorough, it can convince people. The so-called thoroughness is to grasp the root of things. "The work of ideological and political education should advance with the times, be transformed according to events, and be new according to the situation. Both ideological-political education in curriculum and the ideological and political curriculum are faced with challenges such as the evolution of Western hostile forces, changes in the teaching environment, and the personalization of educational objects. In response to these challenges, it is necessary to brave the difficulties, climb the peak, and improve innovative teaching methods in a timely manner. School education has focused on theoretical learning and neglected practical teaching for a long time. In education and teaching, it is necessary to closely link with the actual needs of students and the ideal aspirations of students. When teaching ideological and political theory, it can be linked to the story of revolution and the course of socialist modernization, and simple theoretical teaching will inevitably give people the impression of "false and empty," and combined with real life is conducive to enhancing the affinity of ideological and political education. The combination of the first and second classrooms can cultivate students' humanistic qualities, national spirit and patriotic feelings by leading them to visit museums and martyrs' cemeteries. Students are encouraged to participate in volunteer activities, social practice activities, internships, and experience the superiority of socialism in their own practice. A combination of online and offline teaching. Teaching methods should also keep pace with the development of the times, and use online teaching methods reasonably and appropriately. Compared with offline, online teaching has the advantages of immediacy, not limited by time and space, with convenient and fast dissemination of information, and vivid image. Teachers should combine traditional education and teaching methods with modern methods, create a multimedia teaching platform teaching mode that college students like to hear, and create an information-based teaching environment.

# 3.6 Promote the construction of institutional mechanisms for "ideological-political education" for educating people

To promote the co-directional cooperation between the ideological-political education in curriculum and the ideological and political courses, the reform of the ideological and political education in the new period must have institutional mechanisms as a guarantee. Institutional mechanisms should be built to realize the co-directional cooperation between the ideological-political education in curriculum and the ideological and political courses.

Promoting the ideological-political education is not only a matter for teachers, but also requires the efforts of all departments and personnel of colleges and universities. Colleges and universities should build a party committee to take the lead, party and government leaders, trade union departments, and the Communist Youth League to grasp and manage it together, and all teachers and students to coordinate and cooperate with the overall ideological and political pattern. Colleges and universities have set up leading departments, organizational bodies, and training institutions for coordinating and educating people in ideological and political work, so as to promote the cooperation of various departments and the cooperation and exchange between personnel. Colleges and universities should attach importance to ideological education work, establish a communication and cooperation mechanism, invite some ideological and political academic experts to give lectures and symposiums, and create an atmosphere of joint efforts to educate people. Besides, they should establish and improve the organizational leadership system, improve organizational coordination capabilities, break down academic barriers between various departments and disciplines, and promote collaborative education.

Teachers are the main body of education, and it is necessary to stimulate teachers' enthusiasm for educating people. Teachers' mission and responsibility should be inspired. Teaching and educating talents is the responsibility of every teacher, and in order to break the island effect of ideological and political education, it is necessary to stimulate teachers' awareness of educating people and shouldering their responsibilities. Colleges and universities should strengthen publicity, break through teachers' ideological misunderstandings, and help teachers establish a sense of educating people. Morality education are the goal of higher education, and teachers must not only solve puzzles, but also preach. The establishment of curriculum political training institutions to guide teachers to correctly understand the connotation of curriculum political thinking, and carrying out curriculum political thinking will not occupy the learning time of professional courses, but will make course learning more warm and emotional. Colleges and universities should promote communication between various teachers' disciplines and enhance the sense of identity of curriculum thinking. The education department should increase capital investment and set up special funds for the ideological and political construction of the curriculum.

#### 4. Conclusion

"Ideological-political education" is a new topic facing higher vocational English courses in the new era, and it is also the historical mission that they must shoulder. In today's international community with cultural imbalance and cultural hegemony, higher vocational English teaching is to help students truly and thoroughly understand China's current social, political and economic problems, help students tell Chinese stories well in English, and let the West understand China's attitudes and views. The teaching of higher vocational English must be guided by Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, integrate ideological and political education into the teaching, build a teaching model of "ideological-political education" in higher vocational English, and improve the hierarchical and hierarchical teaching design. The construction of the ideological and political pattern of higher vocational English courses can reshape the connotation of higher vocational English teaching, so that higher vocational English teaching is not only to achieve the needs of language teaching, but also to serve the needs of the country and the talent training needs of schools.

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