Exploring and Practicing Smart Teaching Mode by Integrating Innovation and Empowering Data for College English

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Abstract: In view of the new requirements of education and teaching reform under the background of information technology, this paper, based on the characteristics of talent cultivation of Anhui University of Science and Technology, carries out practical exploration and makes intelligent innovation keep pace with the times as well as fosters students’ virtue through education. This paper aims to build a student-centered, innovative and intelligent teaching model of integrated innovation and data empowerment under the guidance of the value of Three All-around Education. Based on the textbook of New Horizon College English, advantages of the school’s information technology and application of the Learning Platform have been given full play. Practice has proved that we should promote the construction of college English ideological and political digital wisdom curriculum, so as to form a good ecological teaching chain, and achieve remarkable talent training results.

Keywords: Smart teaching; College English; Innovation; Ideological and political education; Production- oriented

1. Introduction

Since 2015, the state has constantly put forward new requirements for higher education, and the Ministry of Education (2015) has defined the attitude of promoting the application of online courses. Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education (2018) No. 8 has pointed Creating Golden Courses and Eliminating Water Courses and put forward to Guidelines for Ideological and Political Construction of University Courses in 2020. At the end of 2019, the epidemic situation posed new challenges to the traditional offline teaching model and became an important driver of the popularization of online teaching model.

The College English Curriculum Teaching Requirements issued by the Ministry of Education of China points out that the new teaching mode should be supported by modern information technology, especially network technology. Moral education is the goal of education, and empowering Curriculum Ideological and Political is the basic method and important way to achieve this goal. The latest edition of College English Teaching Guide (2020) clearly states that College English teaching should serve the training of talents. Teaching methods and means should be based on information technology. A diverse teaching and learning environment should be created and college English teaching should be integrated into the curriculum ideological and political teaching system, so that it can play an important role in the implementation of the fundamental task of fostering students’ virtue through education in colleges and universities.

2020 is a year of rapid promotion of ideas such as high-quality courses with the characteristics of high-level as well as innovative and challenging, ideological and political education, smart teaching and POA. At the same time, the new path of teaching resources construction and the new mode of talent cultivation under the new literal arts concept has been explored. In 2021, the Outline of the Fourteenth Five-Year Plan proposed to deepen education reform and give full play to the advantages of online education. It also proposed to improve the lifelong learning system and build a learning society so as to promote university open education resources. At the World MOOC and Online Education conference in December 2022, Wu Yan, Director of the Department of Higher Education, made a report entitled Leading the high-quality development of higher education with digital transformation, and proposed that
Chinas’ online education has changed rapidly in the past ten years, and China will actively seek change and launch a smart education platform. He pointed out reform and development of higher foreign language education—new missions, greater mindset, new arts and humanities disciplines as well as macro foreign languages [1].

With the promotion of the construction of New Liberal Arts in China’s higher education, smart teaching model, as a new mode and new concept of teaching, breaks through the time-space boundary of traditional classroom, changes the traditional teaching process, and is widely used in teaching at home and abroad. In practice, teaching should focus on the reconstruction of teaching content and at the same time comprehensively promote the renewal of teachers’ teaching ideas and teaching paths. College English teachers practically implement the ideological and political curriculum and smart classroom into the whole process of college English teaching by exploring new ways, accepting new ideas, establishing new reconstructing teaching content, etc.

2. Teaching Innovation

2.1. Student-centered and Production-oriented Teaching Concept

The production-oriented approach, or POA, was created by the team of the China Foreign Language and Education Research Center of Beijing Foreign Studies University, aiming to overcome the drawbacks of separation of learning and use in foreign language teaching in China.

In view of the pain point that the student-centered atmosphere is difficult to create and the activity is not high, the student-centered teaching concept drives students to explore knowledge. Guided by the production-oriented approach and the principle of interactive language teaching, and in accordance with the standards of Golden Class and high-quality courses with the characteristics of high-level as well as innovative and challenging, we should carry out mixed teaching. The teaching concept of intelligent innovation which focuses on student-centered, learning-promoting and learning-guiding aims to the guidance of students’ ability value. According to the law of linguistics, by inputting a large number of high-quality languages, students can output language skills after integrating and internalizing knowledge and cultivate various abilities [2].

Students should be guided by knowledge input, imparted English knowledge according to the theme, and obtained Chinese cultural stories in English, which is the prerequisite for the smooth Flipped Classroom. Guided by students’ ability output, teachers consolidate students’ foundation as well as solve difficulties and key points, which are the keys to improve the effectiveness of MOOC learning and independent training.

The teaching activities are designed according to the POA guidance shown in Figure 1, with clear objectives and prominent key and difficult points to improve the teaching quality. Teachers use the learning and teaching platform to carry out interactive teaching, increase the challenge of learning tasks, cultivate high-level thinking, and implement the student-centered teaching concept.

Guided by the internalization and application of knowledge, we will promote the expansion and improvement of students’ abilities through time-limited speech, writing, translation, situational drama.
performance and other training programs.

2.2. Innovation of Teaching Contents under the Guidance of Ideological and Political Education

In view of the pain point of the lack of cutting-edge teaching content and the frustration of educational space, the optimization and reconstruction of teaching content is the focus. How to carry out the ideological and political construction of courses through the selection of materials in college English teaching needs to be solved urgently. The construction of college English intelligent innovation teaching content adheres to the three principles of taking student development as the center, college English ability training as the guide, and the characteristics of Anhui University of Science and Technology as the basis, and excavates and supplements the existing teaching material content through analysis, screening and supplement. In terms of content delivery, college English resources are abundant, and teachers should integrate resources for each unit. Each chapter has the design of ideological and political points. Each unit of ideological and political points should be integrated into the theme of the unit, foreign language, and reality to achieve the knowledge point of sublimation of English[3].

Teachers expand teaching content and ideological and political content through students’ sharing, discussion and independent exploration. The reconstructed content can be translated so as to put into students’ eyes and heart. The added teaching content can be obtained from the official account, TED, Bilibili, or China Daily, CCTV, People’s Network, and Xinhua Network. From tradition to the present is the coordinate of course content mining. Pay attention to cutting-edge, relevance, diversity and timeliness. For example, in terms of timeliness, on the topic of network, we will update the co-construction network of the 2022 World Internet Conference, and jointly create a digital future to build a network community of shared future. The original bilingual content in the report of the 19th CPC National Congress is now discussed in the bilingual content sharing of the 20th CPC National Congress. Teachers can also use We-chat to share a TED speech video and text with students in real time every day. In the process of innovation, teachers should give full play to their main role in curriculum innovation teaching and improve their teaching competence.

In view of the lack of cutting-edge and educational space in the teaching content, teachers should think about how to refine the course content and build the ideological and political education information resource library. Teachers should systematically sort out and analyze the moral education penetration points in the content of teaching materials, and then do a targeted curriculum design. According to the principles of moderation, appropriateness and natural infiltration, teachers should timely integrate moral education elements such as family feelings, social responsibilities, moral norms, awareness of the rule of law, historical culture, thinking quality, scientific spirit and so on. The teacher will guide the value through the course teaching to achieve the imperceptible and silent effect of educating people.

In the teaching process, teachers mainly use the Chinese spirit and Chinese story as the case of ideological and political affairs to appropriately push the content of traditional Chinese culture related to the task theme. The dominant and recessive ideological and political education should be organically unified to educate students. Combining the characteristics of students, teachers use task-based teaching tasks to stimulate students’ national pride, strengthen cultural self-confidence, cultivate and disseminate Chinese cultural awareness and improve students’ cultural literacy.

Through activities such as telling red stories, drawing manuscripts, and beautifying PPT, students’ intellectual education, physical education, labor education, aesthetic education and moral education are organically combined to practice the simultaneous development of five education. The main purpose of college English course is to improve the English language ability of college students. However, in teaching, we can choose bilingual short stories and essays that promote truth, kindness, faithfulness and love. We can combine students’ professional content to cultivate students’ sense of social responsibility and scientific ethics in their professional fields[4].

2.3. Teaching Method Innovation of Reconstructing Digital Technology Application

Aiming at the pain point of students’ lack of interest, digital innovation is carried out with the help of the network platform. The digital smart classroom is an era of educational information that focuses on online and offline diversified teaching, hybrid classroom and student-centered activities. According to the characteristics of students growing up in the network era and their own learning characteristics, teachers’ teaching concepts and habits should be changed accordingly. According to the university foreign language teaching platform Unipus and the one level and three ends service platform of Superstar Group, teachers can use the Love English mobile terminal, the vocabulary APP and the other word App
to detect, and can also set up We-chat, QQ and other communication platforms to realize the effective combination of classroom teaching and self-learning. The interactive, open and mobile new paradigm has been developed to meet students’ personalized learning in a multi-modal environment. More immersive learning experience is provided to improve the learning effect of deep integration of college English information technology.

In classroom teaching, teachers should make full use of the interactive functions of the intelligent teaching system in the classroom, such as questions and answers, discussions, tests, voting, group cooperation, etc., as well as the functions of the intelligent classroom, such as questionnaires, group activities, in-class exercises, examinations, etc. Teachers design online and offline linkage to break the traditional classroom pattern of teaching activities. At the same time, teachers should design a variety of group tasks and combination forms to achieve full participation and multi-dimensional interaction between teachers and students, in student groups, and between teachers and students and resources and equipment.

In college English courses, the whole process of pre-class, in-class and after-class teaching is restructured to realize the closed-loop design of teaching under the intelligent environment. Each link is deeply integrated with information technology. The two-way activities of teachers and students run through the whole process, focusing on student development, realizing the online and offline integration, and the mutual penetration and integration of teaching and learning, so as to promote the efficiency and smoothness of the entire teaching process.

2.4. Reform of Teaching Evaluation

Learning evaluation contains the whole process of three subjects, four dimensions and multiple methods[5].

The comprehensive evaluation system is used for the whole process evaluation in intelligent teaching. Three-element evaluation subject is realized through the platform of teacher, student and learning communication system. The four-dimensional evaluation perspective of basic knowledge, skill mastery, information literacy and language ability has been achieved. Smart teaching implements basic evaluation, process evaluation, feedback evaluation and value-added evaluation around the three stages of pre-class, in-class and post-class. The combination of formative evaluation and summative evaluation, online evaluation and offline evaluation, timely evaluation and delayed evaluation has fully played the incentive and promotion role of evaluation.

3. Smart Teaching Mode

According to the pain point of students’ lack of language learning environment, the intelligent teaching model should create a learning environment, enhance students’ interest, improve their practical ability as well as solve the pain point of limited educational space. In the era of information superhighway, teachers should catch the fast train of online teaching platform to achieve the education space of online and offline integration.

In class, teachers and students use the Learning Smart Connect platform to build a large teaching screen and mobile APP teaching environment to implement interaction and obtain resources. After class, teachers and students can use mobile phone APP to connect or use their account to log in to the Learning Smart Learning Cloud Platform on the computer. Teachers create courses and teaching activities through the space of the platform, upload teaching resources, conduct course management, etc., and students can obtain tasks, check resources, interact, conduct personalized learning, etc.

The mixed teaching mode under intelligent innovation is online and offline. In the smart teaching of college English, we mainly focus on learning through online teaching platform, and make extracurricular expansion with the help of APP and We-chat official account such as QQ, correction website, Baicizhan, etc. In practice, students are encouraged to participate in various English competitions to promote English learning. The topic of the 2022 FLTRP Cup Speech Contest is about Chinese Wisdom.

Teachers should expand teaching space from the following four aspects. First of all, teachers can expand the time and space of learning with the help of professional resource platforms (MOOC, provincial teaching resource database, online open courses, etc.); Secondly, with the help of the teaching practice platform, such as the local red tourist attractions, the teacher allows students to go to the live practice of relevant English ideological and political oral skills; Third, teachers can diagnose and improve
in time with the help of real-time data feedback of the Learning Communication platform; Finally, teachers use the red resource platform, such as the Learning Power APP and the Learning Communication platform to expand the way to learn the traditional red culture.

With the help of micro-class and intelligent teaching tools, information technology and college English teaching have been deeply integrated, and a new classroom ecology has been constructed. The teaching time and space has been expanded to realize the seamless connection between online and offline in the mixed teaching, highlighting the characteristics of the era of three-dimensional information intelligent innovation classroom. Good teaching methods, active classroom atmosphere and advanced teaching concepts build a perfect curriculum framework and path.

With the help of intelligent teaching tools, information technology and college English teaching are deeply integrated, and the practice of flipped intelligent classroom is constructed and promoted. The research and practice of intelligent and innovative teaching mode of college English can be extended to the teaching of foreign language courses in our university and other similar universities, to play a role of demonstration and promotion, and to drive the pursuit of change to meet the requirements of the times[6].

4. Conclusions and Suggestions

4.1. Conclusions

Intelligence empowers people to strengthen their skills, and information means promote innovation. Smart class aims to expand ideological and political learning space to construct an English ideological and political class. The new model constructed in teaching practice has innovated new methods, improved teaching efficiency and enhanced classroom interaction. At the same time, timely evaluation and feedback of the new model stimulate learning interest to achieve equal emphasis on English learning and application so as to further achieve the transformation from learning to using[7].

The ideological and political guidance and wisdom empowerment urge the reform and innovation of college English classroom to attach importance to the warmth, height and depth of knowledge points. The concept of wisdom uses innovative methods on the platform of wisdom to reform teaching content, teaching methods and evaluation to achieve excellent results. The emergence of an idea promotes the practice of teaching, and its application is gradually promoted. The learner-centered design will organically combine the smart classroom with the ideological and political classroom in the future classroom activities to form a good teaching ecology.

4.2. Suggestions

College English curriculum combines teaching objectives and takes value guidance as the core. It embodies and highlights the characteristics of smart church teaching by creating situational tasks, implementing group collaboration, integrating online and offline, and achieving multiple evaluations.

4.2.1. Task-driven Teaching

Task-driven and output-oriented are followed. Teacher can assign tasks before class, and then sets questions in class. Teaching method can be changed into inducement and students’ creative thinking and critical thinking can be boosted in this learning environment. Students should be created space to explore independently, acquire knowledge and develop ability in the process of students’ full participation.

4.2.2. Problem-based Cooperative Learning

In class, the application of classroom activities has been innovated, such as thematic discussion, group activities, and in-class exercises, which make students busy and actively participate, and become the norm.

After class, students use the learning platform to conduct chapter content and test. Students learn independently and complete relevant tests. Then the teacher checks the completion of the students’ task points to know the students’ mastery. Teachers can make teaching design according to the evaluation results, fully reflecting the teaching concept of student-centered.

4.2.3. Multi-evaluation Teaching

Through innovative classroom activities, the process evaluation is carried out on the Learning Communication platform in a timely manner. Thematic discussions, group activities, and in-class testing
of English words integrated with ideological and political points are conducted in the way of timely evaluation and dynamic evaluation.

4.2.4. Ideological and Political Invisible Infiltration Teaching

With the help of smart classroom, we will deeply explore the ideological and political resources contained in college English courses. Let students have access to the latest and cutting-edge learning materials, and have a deeper understanding of the ideas conveyed by language points and culture, so that they will be more impressed. In the teaching process, the pattern of teacher-student English knowledge-ideological and political elements are organically incorporated into the network of smart classroom. Through the synergy of Superstar Learning Network Platform, students obtain language knowledge and understand the development of domestic and foreign cultures so as to stimulate patriotic enthusiasm. Through the Learning Network Platform, teachers can thoroughly and exquisitely teach students the contents of ideological and political education to moisten values silently.

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