

# Research on the Information Reform Path of Chorus Education for University Music Majors

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**Abstract:** Chorus education allows students to be both the conductor of the chorus and the participants of the chorus in the teaching process, and to express and understand the works through two different identities. Chorus and Conductor is a compulsory course in Chinese colleges and universities, which is comprehensive and practical, and covers many courses such as basic music theory, solfeggio, score reading, vocal music, piano, harmony, form analysis and conductor. Information-based teaching has brought extraordinary effects to music classes. On the one hand, it is for personal use, on the other hand, it is used to communicate with other teachers. By using information-based teaching methods, the efficiency of preparing lessons and teaching ability are improved. This paper first analyzes the importance of chorus education for music majors, and on this basis, discusses the problems existing in chorus education in local universities. Finally, the paper puts forward the information reform path of chorus education in university music major, in order to help students better combine theory with practice, so as to continuously improve the process of chorus education in university.

**Keywords:** Music Majors; Information; Chorus Education

## 1. Introduction

Today, with the rapid development of science and technology, with the rapid change of information technology level, information technology has been involved in every field of society, and it has been widely infiltrated in teaching, making it more flexible through the technology reflected in the classroom. The wide application of modern information technology in music classroom teaching has changed the traditional teaching mode and brought various brand-new teaching modes <sup>[1]</sup>.

The knowledge of chorus and conductor course has high application value, which is related to the comprehensive quality and practical ability of college music majors. Therefore, in the actual teaching process, teachers must closely combine advanced teaching concepts with students' characteristics and implement corresponding teaching reform measures in a targeted manner. This paper starts with the problems of "teaching" and "learning" in the chorus command course of university music major, and deeply discusses the information reform path of chorus education of university music major.

## 2. The importance of chorus education for music majors

Chorus and conductor course plays an important role in music major in normal universities, which mainly means: chorus and conductor course teaching is conducive to developing students' performance ability, training students' organizational ability and cultivating students' coordination ability; Chorus conductor is a technique to interpret the artistic image of music through body language. Chorus conductor is a work that integrates music theory knowledge and music performance skills. In the collective activities of chorus and conductor, every student or team member should have a sense of collective honor and constantly improve the ability of teamwork <sup>[2-3]</sup>. Therefore, chorus and conductor course is beneficial to cultivate students' cooperative ability in music major in normal universities.

Chorus and Conductor is a compulsory course in China's colleges and universities, which is comprehensive and practical, and covers many courses such as basic music theory, solfeggio, score reading, vocal music, piano, harmony, form analysis and conductor <sup>[4]</sup>. Music textbook is a classroom that integrates sound and images. In the teaching process, the changes in students' visual and auditory styles are more prominent, because it can fully meet students' sensory needs and stimulate students' interest in learning. Information-based teaching has brought extraordinary effects to music classes. On the one hand, it is for personal use, on the other hand, it is used to communicate with other teachers. By

using information-based teaching methods, the efficiency of preparing lessons and teaching ability are improved.

### **3. Problems in chorus education in local universities**

#### ***3.1. The teaching goal is unclear.***

Chorus education has certain requirements for students' personal ability. Students not only need to master the content of their own singing parts, but also need to master the dubbing method of each part skillfully [5-6]. However, the high-intensity training under the traditional teaching mode is easy to make students feel boring, which affects their learning enthusiasm and leads to the teaching effect being difficult to reflect. The whole teaching activity can only train students' pronunciation and intonation, but not from the perspective of students' psychology and future development. Because the teaching goal is not clear, students only learn to "sing" after a long period of study, but they can't "teach", so the value of chorus and conductor course can't be fully exerted.

#### ***3.2. Teaching methods are relatively backward***

Chorus education allows students to be both the conductor of the chorus and the participants in the chorus in the teaching process, and to express and understand the works through two different identities [7]. At present, the traditional teaching method is still a mainstream teaching method in university chorus education. Most teachers do not adopt diversified teaching methods with the times, and few teachers will make use of scientific teaching tools in the information age. This backward teaching method has been difficult to adapt to the teaching characteristics of the current information age.

#### ***3.3. The teaching content is unreasonable***

In China, the actual popularity of chorus conductor is relatively low, and the overall quality of chorus education is not good, which is closely related to the teaching problems of music major in universities in China to some extent. Most of China's university music majors' choral conductor course textbooks are mainly written in the direction of "vocal music major". Therefore, the choral conductor course textbooks for university music majors will be single and shallow, which is not conducive to students' learning the latest choral conductor skills and cultivating their choral conductor ability and performance ability. The specific content of chorus training for students in the voice change period is not completely involved in the teaching materials, which makes the teaching content of chorus command course for college music majors unreasonable and can not meet the real learning needs of students.

### **4. Information reform path of chorus education for music majors**

#### ***4.1. Online and offline information teaching***

Today, with the rapid development of social economy, once almost all courses related to practice can't keep up with the times, it will easily lead to the separation between theory and practice [8]. With the support of information technology, teachers can completely establish online courses of chorus and conductor through the Internet, and students can independently learn the professional theoretical part of chorus and conductor, appreciation of Chinese and foreign chorus works, development of Chinese and foreign chorus art, analysis of chorus works, and so on, so as to preview before class and review after class, paving the way for the smooth singing and rehearsal of classroom works. Online and offline information teaching content as shown in Figure 1:

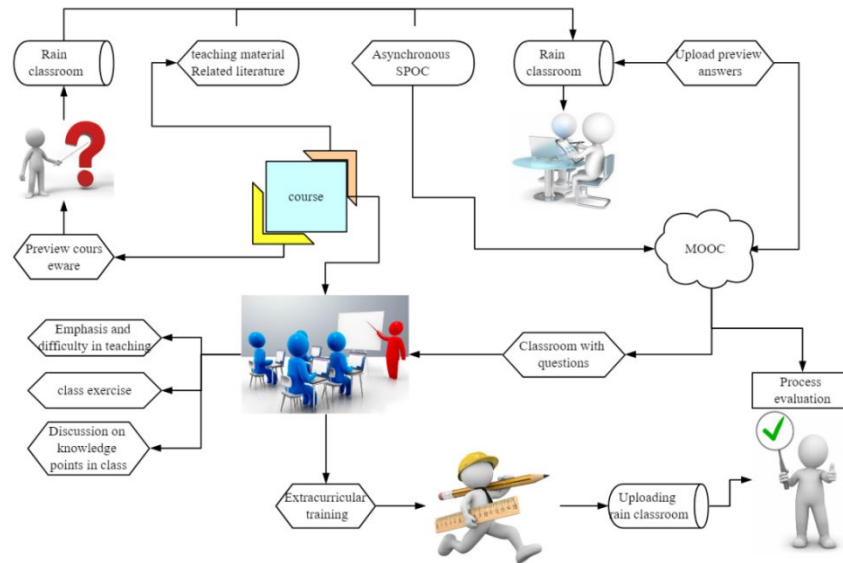


Figure 1: Online and offline information teaching content

In this teaching mode, teachers need to have the ability to process and produce audio and video, including skilled use of various audio and video processing software and even creating new audio and video works by themselves. Students will be grouped with the sound division to practice and familiarize themselves with the works before class, which will deepen students' understanding of the works, speed up teachers' teaching progress in class and leave more time for students to communicate in class.

The teaching level of teachers can be improved through collective discussion of teaching plans and network retrieval of various resources. The use of information-based teaching methods can create a better teaching situation for music classroom teaching, comprehensively enhance the performance ability of music, let students feel the beauty of music, and improve their ability to feel, appreciate and express beauty. Through classroom teaching practice, we can stimulate students' interest, arouse their enthusiasm and improve their sense of participation by choosing effective modern teaching methods and using them reasonably. Only by changing passive learning into active learning can we truly realize the organic integration of information-based teaching and music discipline.

#### 4.2. Multimedia instruction

Using multimedia system for chorus education has the advantages of diversification, integration and interactivity, which can provide students with an audio-visual environment with pictures and pictures, improve teaching efficiency, stimulate students' interest in learning and increase the amount of teaching information<sup>[9]</sup>. This kind of chorus education using multimedia can stimulate students' senses in all directions, feel immersive, greatly enhance students' interest in learning, enhance their memory, and deepen their understanding and mastery of chorus conducting art.

In the traditional classroom, teachers teach, students accept, assimilate and remember. Unconsciously, middle school students lose their self-confidence and courage to actively participate and discover. Through the digital learning platform, students can complete small exercises before class, collect materials, sort out relevant knowledge points and other contents. Teachers can effectively complete class grouping according to the data feedback from students and the principle of co-location between groups and different within groups, so that class grouping is no longer superficial. With the combination of information technology and music classroom, technology can penetrate into all kinds of details, and show music itself to students from different angles and degrees in various deductive forms, such as micro-courseware, music theory resource package, audio resource package and video resource package, which can not only pay attention to individual differences in "learning" but also take into account the constraints in "teaching".

In the design and reform of teaching content, we must closely focus on the teaching objectives, ensure that the brand-new teaching content presents a strong system, and ensure that students can clearly understand the links between various knowledge points in the teaching content. At the same time, it should be typical, which can lay a good foundation for students to apply what they have learned

and expand their knowledge points. In the new era, teachers of chorus and conductor course must have a deep understanding of the value of multimedia teaching mode in the actual teaching process, closely combine it with the teaching content, present the classic chorus teaching works of famous conductors by multimedia, and present theoretical knowledge points to students in an intuitive way through operations such as pausing and playing. In this process, students' learning interest and learning efficiency can be effectively improved.

#### **4.3. Practice teaching**

Art practice plays an important role in chorus education. Artistic practice and theoretical study interact and complement each other. Many theories can only be understood and mastered through artistic practice, and some new insights and experiences will be gained in artistic practice, which will help theoretical study and understanding.

In chorus education, it is necessary for college music teachers to let students apply their command knowledge in chorus rehearsal practice, and deepen their mastery and application of what they have learned in class in the rehearsal of specific music works, so that they can successfully complete such an important process of changing from chorus members to chorus conductor. In the training of basic skills, it is necessary to solve the main problems of students, focusing on breathing, vocalization and pitch angle, and corresponding information software can be used to assist teaching. By repeatedly reading the fragments of different music choruses, this paper summarizes the characters' states and emotions in the program, and applies them to students' own choruses, thus promoting the improvement of the overall quality of music chorus training.

Starting from the practical characteristics of the chorus conducting course itself, music teachers should not only use the above measures to cultivate students' interest in chorus conducting, but also provide students with practical platforms and opportunities systematically and comprehensively to extend their learning experience. For example, teachers take the initiative to participate in some chorus exchange meetings and inter-school competitions, and then put themselves in other's shoes, and organize chorus conducting competitions and group chorus concerts for students to arouse their desire to win or lose, so as to cultivate students' subjective initiative in learning music knowledge. On the one hand, students' learning objectives, attitudes, patience and perseverance need to strengthen education, supervision and guidance, and they need to work together to form a good style of study, so that teachers' reform practice can have the due effect. On the other hand, to further strengthen practical training and create a higher and broader practical platform for students, music art, especially chorus and conductor courses, needs stage training more. From practice, to practice, to form a strong professional ability.

#### **4.4. Training of teachers' information technology ability**

Although the information-based teaching method has many advantages, it can't be separated from teachers' great efforts in preparing lessons. Teachers should conduct regular training, study and discussion, adopt a more reasonable and efficient way to conduct classroom teaching, bring fresh vitality to music education, and improve the teaching level by holding regular chorus information training for music teachers<sup>[10]</sup>.

By using the online teaching platform, music teachers can discuss with other teachers who participate in the training, and arrange their own teaching plans many times, ranging from the overall listening ability to the melody and tone of each note, all of which have achieved fine preset. Create more opportunities for them to participate in the art practice of chorus conductor and some teaching and research activities of teachers, form a backbone force and play their leading role in demonstration. It should be assessed according to the combination of examination results and artistic practice, so as to better guide students to pay attention to artistic practice in the learning process.

### **5. Conclusion**

The wide application of modern information technology in music classroom teaching has changed the traditional teaching mode and brought various brand-new teaching modes. Chorus education has certain requirements for students' personal ability. Students not only need to master the contents of their own singing parts, but also need to master the dubbing methods of each part skillfully. However, the high-intensity training under the traditional teaching mode is easy to make students feel boring, which

affects their learning enthusiasm and leads to the teaching effect being difficult to reflect. With the support of information technology, teachers can establish online chorus and conductor courses through the Internet, and through classroom teaching practice, students' enthusiasm can be mobilized and their awareness of participation can be improved. Only by changing passive learning into active learning can we truly realize the organic integration of information-based teaching and music discipline.

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