

# Research on Teaching Practice of Integrating Photoshop Course into User Interface Design

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**ABSTRACT.** *With the continuous development of science and technology in China, there are many design software in the design field. But the most commonly used software for designers is Photoshop, because it has its own unique advantages. In this thesis, it conducts detailed elaboration on the application and influence of User interface design in Photoshop teaching course for scholars to study and discuss.*

**KEYWORDS:** *user interface design, photoshop course teaching, application and influence*

## 1. Introduction

User interface design is a popular trend that has emerged in recent years. In many well-known domestic software companies, such as Baidu and Tencent, UI design departments have been set up. At the same time, many software companies specializing in UI design can be seen everywhere in China, which shows that UI design has gradually affected people's lives. This article theoretically explains the application and influence of UI design in Photoshop, which is mainly reflected in the following aspects.

## 2. Changes in the focus of teaching content

With the application of UI design in Photoshop course teaching, the content of Photoshop course teaching has undergone substantial changes.

### 2.1 From skill learning to aesthetic learning

In fact, it can be said without exaggeration that for any designer, in addition to being proficient in how to use basic image processing software, he must also be good at the art painting. Because the things we process with Photoshop are pictures, which will be used on covers, magazines and other various occasions after being processed. The picture effects processed by students with art skills and those without art skills are completely different. As a result, it reflects the importance of UI design in learning Photoshop. No matter how good processing software is, it can't do without a good "negative film".

### 2.2 Teaching content covers many aspects of life

UI design is called the new media in the contemporary China by many people, because it is an interdisciplinary comprehensive content covering all aspects of life. With the application of UI design in Photoshop teaching, the teaching content of Photoshop has been expanded, and the content processed by Photoshop has also increased. The content here mainly refers to the major interfaces of UI design, including text interface, web interface, game interface, and software interface. A series of changes in the focus of teaching content have changed Photoshop teaching from purely learning software to learn many practical content in life, thereby improving the practical application ability of Photoshop software teaching and creating superior conditions for students to better learn software.

### **3. Students' interest in learning the course and ability to learn actively**

Interest is the best teacher when learning. If students have a strong interest in a course, then their desire for knowledge will be stimulated to the greatest extent, so they will carry out autonomous learning, which is different from the effect of passive learning, such as the effect of forced-feeding method of teaching. The introduction of UI design in Photoshop teaching has substantially broadened the teaching content of Photoshop. For teachers, classroom teaching is not only about teaching software processing knowledge, but from a deeper level, incorporating a lot of actual content in life to UI design. The artistry of such courses will be fully demonstrated, and students' interest in learning will be greatly improved. For example, in Photoshop teaching, when talking about how to use the layer style function, if we can well intersperse the content of the UI design, it can make the course teaching more vivid. If the teacher simply talks about the style library in Photoshop, it can be summarized in one sentence. It is a style effect, select a suitable style in the library and click add, then it's completed. In this way, the style library not only occupies memory but also provides limited styles. In actual applications, it is recommended to make custom styles. The introduction of UI design content in Photoshop teaching not only allows students to know that the layer style should be set by themselves in practice, but also how to set the style. I believe that students will be more proficient when designing some content independently in the future.

### **4. Impact on teaching and course quality**

With the application of UI interface in Photoshop teaching, the teaching and course quality of Photoshop has undergone a series of changes, mainly reflected in the teaching should be carried out in stages. Based on my years of teaching experience, I believe that the teaching in the current stage should be divided into the following three stages:

#### ***4.1 Introductory stage***

In the introductory stage, the first thing we should teach students is how to use of Photoshop software. This teaching process should involve how to use various tools and how to use the command menu in Photoshop, including: layers, channels, paths, filters, etc. In the introductory stage, students are only required to master the specific software usage methods, that is, to understand various functions and be able to use it simply. We do not teach students the knowledge related to aesthetics, otherwise it will increase the burden of students in learning invisibly.

#### ***4.2 Improvement stage***

After the simple teaching to students at the introductory stage, a common problem is that many students know how to use the basic functions of the software, but when asked by the teacher to create a work, they do not know where to start. At this time, it is necessary to ask students to modify the simple case diagram through using the knowledge of UI design. Finally, the teacher shows the final design renderings and asks the students to compare it with their own design drawings, so that the students could realize where they could make improvement. When this simple imitative learning achieves a certain effect, students will know which tools are needed for the design, what needs to be done first, and what needs to be done later, so as to make a substantial improvement.

#### ***4.3 Innovation stage***

According to materialist dialectics, after the accumulation of quantity reaches a certain level, there will be a qualitative leap. Similarly, in the design, when the accumulation of practice reaches a certain quantity, the student's learning effect will achieve a qualitative sublimation, which is mainly reflected in the student's independent innovation process. Any design worker must have his own unique thinking in order to design meaningful works. Blind imitation will make students lose the most basic ability to survive when they start their career. Therefore, being able to innovate is the highest level in learning Photoshop.

## 5. Connection with employment needs in the market

The impact of UI design on Photoshop courses is mainly reflected in the employment needs of students. According to the UI design, the corresponding teaching reform of the Photoshop course is carried out. This makes the teaching of the course more practical and targeted, which meets the needs of professional positions. For students, they have a very big advantage compared with competitors in the same industry. Because they not only have the ability to use software, but also can produce a variety of delightful works according to the actual needs of customers, so as to meet the needs of customers continuously. At the same time, their own value has been continuously improved as well.

## 6. Conclusion

Applying UI design to Photoshop teaching is a teaching reform with far-reaching significance. In addition to continuously improving the quality of classroom teaching, it also makes the design students have a deeper understanding and application ability of design. Therefore, this kind of teaching method can be called a win-win teaching method, which is worth being promoted in actual teaching.

Combined with many years of my own practical teaching experience, the application and influence of UI design in Photoshop course teaching have been carefully explored in this paper, a detailed analysis of the changes in the focus of teaching content has been conducted. The teaching content is mainly changed from skill learning to aesthetic learning, and the teaching content covers many aspects of life. Besides, it is pointed out in this article that this has greatly improved students' interest in learning the course and their active learning ability. It discusses in detail the impact on teaching and course quality, which can be divided into three stages: the introductory stage, the improvement stage and the innovation stage. Finally, it is pointed out that the reform can play a positive role in the employment of students. Due to the singleness and limitations of my personal knowledge and thinking, I have not been able to cover everything, but I hope that this article can arouse the attention and thinking of many scholars on this issue.

## References

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