

# Research on the Value and Path of Integrating Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture into College English Courses

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**Abstract:** *As the pace of China's socialist modernization gradually accelerates, China attaches more and more importance to cultural confidence. The integration of Chinese excellent traditional culture into English courses in colleges not only helps guide students to establish good cultural views and ideal beliefs, but also helps improve the level of intercultural communication among college students. In order to promote the close integration of Chinese excellent traditional culture and English courses, it is necessary to adjust the teaching contents and introduce as many elements of Chinese excellent traditional culture as possible, as well as to optimize the teaching methods of the courses and use new teaching modes to enhance the in-depth development of the teaching reform of English courses.*

**Keywords:** *Chinese Excellent Traditional Culture, Colleges and Universities, English Courses, Value, Path*

## 1. Introduction

In September 2018, Chinese President Xi Jinping pointed out in the National Education Conference that "Practicing socialist core values is the basic embodiment of establishing moral education."<sup>[1]</sup> After that, in June 2020, the education department carried out a video conference to comprehensively promote the ideological and political construction of colleges and universities, which clearly said that all the higher education institutions should seriously implement the Requirements and Suggestions on Ideological and Political Construction of College Curriculum. The conference put forward that we should correctly and deeply understand the value and purpose of strengthening ideological and political education in higher education institutions, fully explore the educating role of teachers of professional courses in colleges, promote the ideal effect of ideological and political construction, so as to ensure that ideological and political courses and professional ones can go in the same direction, implement the fundamental task of morality and cultivating people, and realize the "three comprehensive" education of people. As is known to all that language is a very important part of cultural development, and culture can spread and develop only on language. English teaching in colleges and universities covers many ideologies, which have a great influence on the formation of college students' thoughts<sup>[2]</sup>. From the current situation of English teaching in colleges, the purpose of the courses is mainly based on English knowledge imparting, focusing on improving students' comprehensive English level, but paying less attention to the integration of ideology and politics and Chinese excellent traditional culture into teaching, which makes it difficult to give full play to the role of English courses in promoting excellent traditional culture and ideological and political education. In colleges and universities, English courses cover a wide range of knowledge and must take up the great mission of establishing moral education for people<sup>[3]</sup>. The teaching of college English courses should make an in-depth study of the core values of socialism, combine the spread of excellent Chinese traditional culture with the cultivation of students' language ability, to guide students to form good ideological and moral qualities as well as political culture level, and to cultivate more excellent talents for the development of socialist modernization.

## 2. The value of integrating Chinese excellent traditional culture into college English courses

- (1) Helping to guide students to establish good cultural outlook and ideal beliefs

Chinese culture plays an important part in the world civilization, and it has a long history as well as splendid civilization. Every Chinese should be familiar with Chinese culture and be proud of it. Chinese culture is the source and root of Chinese spirit. As college students, the successors of the Chinese spirit and the builders of socialism with Chinese characteristics, they bear the responsibility of

spreading Chinese culture. In this critical period of developing Chinese socialism, attaching great importance to the excellent traditional culture education of college students can gradually guide students to establish firm national and cultural self-confidence<sup>[4]</sup>. The youth group is the new force for the development of the socialist cause, and the college student group is an important pillar for the realization of the great Chinese dream. Ensuring the formation of good cultural outlook and value concept among college students is, on the one hand, a necessary quality for college students in the process of growth, and on the other hand, a higher requirement for higher education from the current society. Although cultural outlook is an abstract concept, it can truly reflect all aspects of a person. When people face specific problems, their logical way of thinking can be seen from their mode of thinking about the problems, and accordingly this way of thinking is the important carrier of cultural identity. When college students can fully identify with our own excellent culture, there is no doubt that they will use Chinese logical habits and thinking mode to analyze and solve the problems. On the contrary, when they identify more with western countries' ideas and culture, they will adopt western thinking mode to analyze and investigate the problems, which is not good for the spread of Chinese excellent traditional culture or the building of our own cultural confidence.

#### (2) Helping to improve the intercultural communication level of college students

English is a tool language, and college students learn English knowledge in order to improve their English expression level<sup>[5]</sup>. As a college student, when communicating with people from other countries, it is no doubt to talk about something about culture, such as food, festivals, traditions and customs, etc.. The infiltration of Chinese excellent traditional culture into the college English courses can greatly improve the intercultural communication level of college students and ensure that they are able to tell Chinese stories and express Chinese thoughts skillfully and accurately to foreigners, which is also helpful for their future careers and personal development. In fact, in the process of communication between different languages, the factor that affects the actual communication effect is not the language itself, but the culture, as language is the carrier of culture. While language abilities can be acquired through a lot of repetitive training, understanding of a certain culture requires a systematic and long process. Therefore, in order to effectively solve the communication problem between different countries, it is necessary to understand and respect each other's cultures first. In English learning, college students should consciously dedicate themselves to using English to express Chinese excellent traditional culture, so that they can introduce our culture to foreigners vividly and fluently during the communication, which can make Chinese thoughts understood by other nations. Meantime, the purpose of effective communication is fulfilled.

### **3. The path of integrating Chinese excellent traditional culture into English courses**

#### (1) Adjustment of the teaching contents and introduction of Chinese excellent traditional culture elements

English textbooks in colleges are important carriers for students to learn English knowledge. When compiling English teaching materials, some contents of Chinese excellent traditional culture should be integrated. The unique attributes of ideological and political courses in colleges determine that the infiltration of excellent traditional culture in English teaching materials is one of the important ways to promote the effective integration of English course teaching and traditional culture<sup>[6]</sup>. In the context of the in-depth development of modern education reform, when developing college English teaching materials, different colleges and universities should take into account their own geographical locations, actively integrate the excellent traditional culture of our nation into the textbooks, and ensure that the completed teaching contents are compatible with students' daily life and learning, so as to stimulate their learning enthusiasm. It is a good choice to integrate some Chinese classics and red cultures into college English textbooks, which can make students continuously improve their national identity and inspire their patriotic enthusiasm while learning English. In addition, the teaching content of college English courses covers a wide range of aspects, such as social economy, culture and civilization, science and technology, etc. In the actual teaching process, teachers can appropriately add some humanities knowledge according to the different themes of the teaching unit, and introduce as many elements of Chinese excellent traditional culture as possible to students visually by showing pictures, videos or using other methods, which not only helps to enrich the teaching content of English courses, but also stimulates students' interest in learning, achieving twice the effect with half the effort.

#### (2) Optimizing the teaching methods of courses and using new teaching modes

When college teachers carry out English course teaching, they should strengthen the reform and

innovation of teaching mode, skillfully use teaching methods to improve the teaching effect of the courses. While teaching, teachers should focus on creating a positive and relaxing classroom atmosphere, stimulating students' subjective initiative, enabling students to actively participate in teaching activities, comprehend different ideologies critically, and constantly promote their problem analysis ability and judgment level, to achieve the purpose of ideological and political education.

At the same time, colleges and universities should positively transform the traditional English teaching modes, keep pace with the development of the times, and rely on the Internet as well as various media platforms to reinforce the teaching effect of Chinese excellent traditional culture. Teachers can employ different teaching forms and activities in the process of teaching, including video watching, topic discussion, project presentation and culture comparison, etc.. They can adopt a student-centered teaching mode to give students more space to practice their skills and play their strengths freely, guide them to correctly view and solve their doubts about the culture differences. In short, the excellent traditional culture can be integrated into the course teaching in the way that students like, and the ideological and political education of college students will be enhanced unconsciously.

#### 4. Conclusion

To sum up, the integration of Chinese excellent traditional culture into college English courses is not only the demand of the times, but also plays a vital role in promoting students' growth and development. Colleges and universities should pay full attention to the integration of excellent traditional culture in English courses, so as to continuously improve the cultural soft power of China and enhance the national self-confidence of modern college students.

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