

Teaching Reform of Public Administration in the Context of Course Ideological and Political Education

Yiling Xu^{1*}, Yinhang Zhou¹

¹ College of Economics and Management, Guangzhou Nanyang Polytechnic College, Guangzhou, China

Email Address

491568720@qq.com (Yiling Xu)

*Correspondence: 491568720@qq.com

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Abstract:

In contemporary society, it is crucial to strengthen the ideological and political construction of the “Public Administration” course in the discipline of public management. An especially urgent task is to construct a knowledge and discourse system for China’s governance. The ideological and political construction of the “Public Administration” course is a systematic project, with the core being the cultivation of the teacher team. It is necessary to deeply mine the ideological and political elements of the course and establish a content system where ideological and political education is embedded in the course. At the same time, it is necessary to explore multi-dimensional synergistic training approaches and scientific and reasonable guarantee measures from the overall and detailed levels to achieve the comprehensive training goals of knowledge transmission, ability cultivation, and value shaping in the “Public Administration” course teaching.

Keywords:

Public Administration, Course Ideological and Political Education, Teaching, Reform

1. Introduction

General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized an extremely important topic at the National Conference on Ideological and Political Work in Universities: “All courses should guard a certain channel and cultivate a good responsibility field, so that various courses can go hand in hand with ideological and political theory courses, forming a synergistic effect.” [1] General Secretary Xi Jinping’s important speech on educating students emphasized the importance of “curriculum ideology and politics”, which has significant political and strategic significance. From a political perspective, this is related to the Party’s guidance of higher education institutions and the full play of the political and ideological functions of universities; Cultivating students’ correct worldview, outlook on life, and values is crucial for nurturing successors to the socialist cause. Therefore, from a strategic perspective, implementing “curriculum ideology and politics” is essential.

In contemporary society, an important way to strengthen ideological and political work in higher education institutions, implement the mission of cultivating morality and talents, and cultivate talents through the “three pronged” approach is through “curriculum ideological and political education”. The core of this method is to integrate and integrate ideological and political education elements from professional courses, practical courses, and other courses, so that students can deeply feel the importance of ideological and political education in the learning process, thereby achieving a subtle effect. This article delves into the connotation of ideological and political education in courses, re examines the content of political and ideological education in university courses, and explores the importance of curriculum ideological and political construction, highlighting the necessity of applying political and ideological education in public management courses. From the perspective of teaching practice, analyze the existing problems of ideological and political education in public management courses, and explore teaching reform strategies and improvement suggestions.

2. The Connotation of Ideological and Political Education in Courses

At present, all universities in China are committed to improving and strengthening the high-quality education system. In May 2020, the Ministry of Education issued the “Guidelines for the Construction of Ideological and Political Education in Higher Education Curriculum”, which for the first time emphasized the need to “comprehensively promote the construction of ideological and political education in higher education curriculum and give full play to the educational role of each course”. In order to achieve a synergistic effect, it is necessary to integrate resources from various disciplines, mobilize all forces, and fully utilize the educational function of the school. Therefore, further strengthening is needed in the construction of ideological and political education in the curriculum. To achieve the goal of cultivating morality and nurturing people, and to nourish things silently, it is not about adding a new discipline or project in universities, but about integrating ideological and political education into curriculum teaching and various reforms, with the goal of cultivating talents with both morality and ability. The content of ideological and political education will be integrated into other subject courses, working together to promote the cultivation of students’ comprehensive literacy. Teachers of all disciplines and public courses in universities, except for those who specialize in teaching ideological and political theory, should jointly participate in providing ideological and political education to college students and work together to fulfill the mission of cultivating students. [1]

The promulgation and implementation of the Outline has triggered a widespread wave of strengthening ideological and political reforms in the curriculum, which has had a profound impact on the field of higher education in China. From now on, ideological and political education courses have been widely integrated into the vision of management, teaching, and research staff at all levels and types of higher education institutions across the country. [2] A highly anticipated research topic is how to more effectively promote and implement ideological and political education in university courses. In China’s university education, classroom teaching is the most important teaching form and a key and effective way to promote and implement ideological and political education in university courses. [3] In order to ensure excellent results in the construction of ideological and political courses in Chinese universities and ensure their scientific effectiveness.

3. The Importance of Curriculum Ideological and Political Construction

3.1. Strengthening the construction of ideological and political education in courses can help enhance students' ideological and political literacy

Colleges and universities enhance students' ideological and political literacy through ideological and political theory courses, but relying solely on this course for ideological and political education may face problems such as single form, dull content, insufficient attractiveness, and low student participation, resulting in unsatisfactory results. Taking public administration as an example, this major shoulders the responsibility of Cultivating professional talents is an important task in promoting the modernization of the national management system and management capabilities. [4] We should attach importance to cultivating students' social awareness, sense of social responsibility, and awareness of social service. In order to enhance students' professional abilities, we need to help them establish correct outlooks on life, the world, and values, which requires exploring ways of ideological and political education. By subtly enhancing students' ideological and political cultivation, we can fully leverage the advantages of public management majors that are closely integrated with social reality and have rich ideological and political elements, actively promote the construction of ideological and political courses, and achieve the goal of organically combining value guidance with subject knowledge teaching. This ideological and political education method integrates many vivid, specific, and vivid professional materials, and has rich professional knowledge. [5] By fully utilizing subject materials to support teaching, it helps students to have a deeper understanding and retention of knowledge, stimulate their enthusiasm and initiative for learning, promote ideological and political education to be more deeply rooted in people's hearts, and achieve wider and more effective promotion.

3.2. Strengthening the construction of ideological and political education in courses can help students improve their comprehensive quality

Strengthening the ideological and political construction of the curriculum can help students improve their comprehensive quality and train professionals who meet the needs of modern governance and all-round development. Through a variety of teaching methods, combined with the practical exploration and practical problems in the professional field, the ideological and political construction of the curriculum enables students to receive ideological and political education while learning professional knowledge. [6] The organic combination of professional knowledge and ideological and political elements helps to improve students' ideological and political literacy, help them better understand professional theoretical knowledge, and establish a sound professional knowledge system of public management. It is of positive significance to guide students to take the initiative to apply the ideas they have learned into practice. Through the use of public management theory knowledge to examine and solve practical problems, in order to improve students' comprehensive practical ability, and ultimately achieve success. In order to improve the overall quality level of students, it is necessary to comprehensively improve students' belief, ideal, subject knowledge and practical skills, which is the fundamental goal of curriculum ideological and political construction.

3.3. Strengthening curriculum ideological and political construction is helpful to the overall development of college teachers

The “Four qualities” criterion has clearly established the quality framework that teachers should possess in the new era, which is also the internal goal of the comprehensive growth of teachers of “curriculum ideology and politics”. In the course of thinking and politics, the key lies in the integration of value and knowledge, belief covers dream belief, moral emotion and benevolence, and the “four have” criterion is logically consistent with the course thinking and politics idea. Only when teachers in colleges and universities have comprehensive, professional, in-depth and effective qualities in carrying out ideological and political teaching can they achieve success. [7]

4. The Existing Problems of Ideology and Politics in Public Management Curriculum

4.1. Some full-time teachers have a wrong understanding of curriculum ideology and politics

General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized that the key to running ideological and political theory courses well lies in the teachers, and the key lies in unleashing their enthusiasm, initiative, and creativity. To promote the construction of ideological and political education in the curriculum, it is necessary to firmly recognize the leading role of teachers, because teachers are the main driving force for promoting the construction of ideological and political education in the curriculum. Adjusting teachers’ understanding and perspectives on ideological and political education in the curriculum is a fundamental prerequisite for achieving ideological and political education in the curriculum. The understanding and perspective of teachers on curriculum ideology and politics are the basic prerequisites for completing curriculum ideology and politics work. Some full-time teachers have deviations in their understanding of curriculum ideology and politics, which makes it difficult to implement it smoothly. [8] Some teachers believe that ideological and political education is not closely related to the subject they teach. Ideological and political education is the primary responsibility of student counselors and an important teaching mission of ideological and political courses; Even some teachers believe that offering ideological and political courses is just a repetition and strengthening of ideological and political education. They believe that this approach is redundant and will instead affect the teaching progress and energy of professional courses. Some teachers believe that integrating ideological and educational elements into the teaching process only requires achieving the goals of the curriculum ideology, and rarely delve into how to implement the curriculum ideology more specifically and in detail. [9] The main reason for the lack of enthusiasm and initiative among professional teachers in carrying out ideological and political education courses, which in turn affects the implementation effect, is the misunderstanding of relevant concepts.

4.2. There are shortcomings in the teaching methods of professional courses

The combination of professional curriculum teaching system and curriculum ideological and political education is not enough. College students are the main audience of teaching, with the ability to absorb, integrate and transform information, but this ability is not born with, need a certain “catalyst” to stimulate. On the surface,

subject teaching and ideological and political education are not very similar, but to realize their organic combination, we must establish an effective exchange and cooperation mechanism. Once established and institutionalized, such a system can play a positive institutional role. The current teaching of professional subjects often ignores the bridge construction and improvement needed to train well-developed professionals, resulting in closed and lagging professional teaching. [10]

In the current wave of scientific and technological change, it is necessary to enhance the use of cutting-edge technology methods and other intelligent teaching methods, especially in the integration of cutting-edge technology methods and curriculum Settings, in order to fully stimulate students' learning motivation, traditional teaching methods can no longer meet the enthusiasm of students. There are two important aspects of the integration of professional curriculum and ideology and politics: depth problem and limit problem. [11] In order to effectively integrate the latest technological means with the content of curriculum thought, it is necessary to ensure the degree of combination between them. At present, the teaching methods adopted by teachers are unable to effectively integrate the characteristics of the curriculum, fail to effectively help students quickly accept, understand and internalize specific values, and fail to start from the unique perspective, theory and method of the discipline. The way teachers and students interact has not yet taken full advantage of digital technology tools to enhance the activity and effectiveness of teaching. In the course preparation stage, the role of intelligent teaching platform has not been fully utilized according to the learning situation of students, and personalized and diversified teaching programs have not been formulated. Teachers have not yet taken full advantage of digital technologies to improve their teaching and learning, and have not been able to flexibly adapt teaching plans to students' needs to promote more effective teacher-student interaction. [12] Next we will consider the degree to which cutting-edge technology approaches are integrated with curriculum ideology and politics. The comprehensive ability of teachers needs to organically combine digital technology with curriculum ideology and politics for comprehensive evaluation. At present, there is a problem that the collaboration between technological progress and teacher capacity is not close enough, which is mainly manifested in two adverse trends. However, some teachers cannot change the traditional teaching methods, because they only rely on the provision of high-quality external educational resources, rather than actively improve their own digital literacy and application ability. Technology has gone beyond value orientation, which weakens the power of enlightening wisdom and nourishing soul that teachers should have in ideological and political education. Excessive pursuit of technological development, some teachers only focus on the introduction of new technical equipment, excessive reliance on digital technology, deviate from the original intention of "educating people" and the development logic of "people". [13]

4.3. Lack of scientific and rigorous evaluation system

A perfect teaching evaluation system is an important guarantee to promote the overall development of curriculum ideological and political construction. It is of great significance to improve the level of curriculum ideological and political construction, and it is necessary to analyze and judge the achievements of curriculum ideological and political construction with rigorous evaluation attitude, scientific evaluation method and complete evaluation system. At present, there is still a lack of a perfect evaluation mechanism to evaluate the ideological and political construction of public

administration majors. [14] The main performance is as follows: the evaluation of some public administration majors on the ideological and political construction of courses only stays on the surface and lacks in-depth review and evaluation, which reflects the importance of ideological and political education. Some teachers only meet the basic requirements of ideological and political curriculum, and fail to really pay attention to the construction of ideological and political curriculum, resulting in inadequate evaluation methods. Second, the construction of evaluation system is unreasonable. [15] The evaluation criteria are relatively simple. On the one hand, it examines whether teaching materials and teaching plans contain external standards such as curriculum ideological and political elements; on the other hand, it does not take into account the evaluation criteria for cultivating ideals and beliefs, shaping professionalism, and improving professional ethics, and it does not comprehensively examine the entire process of curriculum ideological and political construction. There are some problems in critical thinking. The evaluation of ideological and political construction of public administration courses mainly relies on teacher self-evaluation and expert evaluation, and pays insufficient attention to peer evaluation and student evaluation, especially the evaluation of external potential employers. [16]

5. Exploration on the Path of Ideological and Political Teaching Reform of Public Management Course

5.1. Scientific understanding of curriculum ideology and politics, pay attention to top-level teaching design

Colleges and universities should pay attention to the ideological and political teaching in the course of public management, and teachers should deeply understand the importance of ideological and political curriculum and its relationship with the course. In the college ideological and political teaching, the curriculum ideological and political courses play an important role, their purpose is to guide students to establish a correct way of thinking and values. Although they all work towards the same goal, they are named differently. [28] Although the ideological education course is very important, we should not only rely on it in the ideological and political education of college students, but also pay attention to and properly handle the relationship between the two. On the basis of mutual support and mutual encouragement, the relationship between the two shows mutual influence. Secondly, we should pay attention to the top-level design of teaching. By better connecting and integrating the ideological and political goals of the course, the ideological and political education of college students is targeted, and the potential ideological and political elements in the course of public management are deeply studied. [17]

5.2. Ensure the consistency of curriculum ideology and politics with professional courses, and refine the target system

First of all, it is necessary to ensure that the curriculum ideology and politics are consistent with the objectives of public management, so as to ensure the successful application of curriculum ideology and politics in the public management curriculum and achieve remarkable results. Secondly, the system of objectives needs to be planned in detail, and the objectives need to be refined to ensure that the desired results are successfully achieved. [27] In order to ensure the consistency between the teaching objectives of public management class and the ideological and political objectives of the curriculum, the two objectives need to be disassembled and refined

in detail. Guided by this goal, through detailed analysis and elaboration, we can find the common goal of both sides, and then carry out ideological and political education in classroom teaching and practical courses. In order to realize the deep integration with curriculum ideology and politics, it is not enough to rely on a simple combination with the same goal, we need to find more integration points. Only by establishing a perfect target structure can we lay a foundation for the deep integration of classroom teaching and curriculum ideology and politics. [18]

5.3. Strengthen teachers' ideological and political training and enhance their ideological and political education ability

Strengthen teachers' thinking cognition level and thinking and political accomplishment, so as to enhance teachers' ideological and political education ability. With the development of The Times and the changes of the international situation, the CPC Central Committee has put forward a new educational direction - curriculum ideology and politics, which marks an important reform of the traditional higher education concept. [19] Imparting subject knowledge and cultivating subject skills is the main goal of subject curriculum, which is the viewpoint of previous educational ideas. Ideological and political education is the responsibility of the special ideological and political teachers, we need to continue to strengthen the ideological and political training of teachers, which needs to change the long-rooted educational concepts. Our mission is to examine the progress of The Times, deeply understand the needs of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation for university ideological and political education, as well as the thinking state of modern college students, the formation and function of thinking concepts, and then strengthen teachers' awareness of the urgency and importance of curriculum ideological and political education. [26] Showing team effectiveness is an effective way to achieve high-level ideological and political education in public management courses, which needs to rely on the strength of team cooperation and deeply understand the importance of team. [24]

5.4. Explore the ideological and political elements of the curriculum, and fully carry out the basic task of moral education

In higher education institutions, it is crucial to fully carry out the basic task of cultivating morality and people, and we must be good at exploring the ideological and political education resources contained in the curriculum and teaching methods. Full-time teachers should deeply explore the ideological and political elements of public management, so as to cultivate compound applied professionals with correct political concepts, high ideological and theoretical literacy and strong management skills. Public management pays attention to public value orientation, which is determined by its domain characteristics and the pursuit of social interests. Government agencies play an important role in providing public goods and services in order to realize the interests of the whole society.[20] Among the executors who provide public goods and services, talent composition is an important part of public institutions. In the field of public administration, the importance of ideological and political education must be given high priority in order to ensure that people have diverse knowledge, abilities and perceptions. Because people's thinking is constantly changing, only through ideological and political training, can we achieve the maximum of public interests. In order to serve and benefit the people, the contemporary society is in urgent need of high-level public managers, who should strive for the overall interests of the party and the country, the overall interests and long-term interests. Their words and deeds not

only represent themselves and the collective to which they belong, but also represent the Party and the country, which is obviously political. In line with the principle of being responsible to the Party, the country and the people, we should act prudently and speak prudently, and cultivate moral integrity; In the work to be honest, careful and responsible, civil servants to be honest, dignified and honest. To adhere to the spirit of dedication, proactive, strong sense of service. [25]

5.5. Work together to improve teaching operations and assessment systems

It is necessary for all units to work together to improve the teaching operation and evaluation system, so as to enhance the “curriculum ideology and politics” quality and ability of public administration teachers. First, this is a systematic project, through a sound teaching operation and guarantee mechanism, strengthen the cooperation with the academic affairs Office and other relevant departments, orderly promote the ideological and political construction of professional courses. Second, the construction of curriculum ideological and political evaluation mechanism. Only by good use of this guidance tool can we ensure that the quality, assessment and evaluation of curriculum ideological and political construction have indispensable importance in management. [21] The establishment of the evaluation system for public administration teachers is helpful to promote the ideological and political construction of the curriculum, and its specific measures include two aspects: On the one hand, the effect of college students' moral training has gradually become one of the important indicators to evaluate the performance of teachers. Therefore, when selecting and promoting the titles of public administration teachers, priority should be given to those teachers who have outstanding performance in ideological education and training. On the other hand, the importance of the evaluation items of the ideological and political effects of the curriculum should be gradually strengthened in the evaluation, and another dimension should be added to the evaluation criteria of teachers. Continue to improve the quality of ideological and political education in public administration courses, and timely assist teachers to improve teaching methods according to students' evaluation. [22]

6. Conclusions

Public management education aims at cultivating compound talents for the country. By combining ideological and political courses with a major in public administration, students can be helped to acquire knowledge and enhance values more deeply, thus promoting their application in the development of today's society. Under the pattern of “big thinking and politics”, the ideological and political teaching of public administration courses should be paid attention to under the guidance of the concept of “three whole education”. In order to improve the effect of ideological and political education, teachers should strengthen the ideological and political education concept in professional courses, improve their own ideological and political cultivation and educational ability, enhance the ideological and political teaching ability in courses, flexibly use various ideological and political teaching resources, so as to improve the effect of ideological and political education, so as to train more outstanding talents to make contributions to the country. [23]

Conflicts of Interest

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