



# Strategies of Infiltrating Ideological and Political Education into English Culture Teaching in Colleges and Universities

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**Abstract:** An effective combination of English culture and political teaching is critical for college cultural education. This article analyzes the basic meaning of ideological and political education as well as the importance of the combination with college English culture. Countermeasures to take ideological and political education in college English cultural teaching has also been explored in this article in order to achieve the goal of teaching and educating people from all aspects.

**Keywords:** Ideological and Political Education; College English; Culture Teaching

## 1. The importance of combining college English culture teaching with “ideological and political education”

With the rapid development of the society, the demand for high-quality international talents is increasing, and the college English teaching quality also needs to be improved in China. Students' language ability in dictation and reading and the cultivation of students' humanistic knowledge and comprehensive cultural knowledge should both be paid attention to. Except being a communication tool, language is also the main body of social thought and the method of cultural communication, which is a very important part in the process of college English teaching. Cultural teaching contents include language, history and geography, as well as local customs and culture. Teaching's goal refers to cultural knowledge dissemination, ability training, and cultural awareness. For the teaching goal, English culture teaching requires students to set up correct attitudes and values for the cultural heritage of each country. It also requires them to achieve the goal of combining bilingual culture. At the same time, it is necessary to strengthen the cultivation of students' sense of innovation and social responsibility, as well as reflect the characteristics of English culture education effectively. Some experts believe that culture teaching includes English and native language culture during the education, among which the native language culture is one of the important reasons for developing students' intelligence. Others hold that English teaching goal is to cultivate students' ability of cross-cultural communication, not just the introduction of one single culture. In order to effectively strengthen students' cross-cultural communication ability to better bring the excellent Chinese culture worldwide. At the same time, it's helpful for students to set up correct ideas and understand the connections and differences between cultures. Therefore, it is very important to strengthen the cultural self-confidence and introduce Chinese excellent culture in the process of college English culture teaching.[1]

College English not only belongs to humanities, but is also an invisible ideological and political course. In this course, language and cultural learning are used as the theme to cultivate students' language and learning abilities, transform knowledge into skills, and internalize skills as ideological qualities, thus effectively achieving the goal of English education. During the college English teaching process, moral education and ability should be taken as the main contents. Students can learn language skills masterly through the study of English subjects. Moreover, students' inner

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qualities in psychological and ideological of all aspects should be cultivated in a deeper way, which will enable students be more objective when they treating the world and healthy aesthetic pleasure, as well as good appreciation abilities. Learning college English can not only understand the cultural differences in the world, but also enhance the students' deeper understanding of home culture. It enhances their patriotic feelings, strengthen their cultural self-confidence, expand their international horizons gradually, and improve their cross-cultural communication ability and speculative thinking ability to help students to set up correct views. Overall, it lays a good foundation for students to participate in cultural communication and explain Chinese stories in the future.

## **2. Explore the countermeasures of combining “ideological and political education” with college English culture teaching**

### **2.1 Enhance teachers' awareness and understanding of cultural concepts**

Under the influence of global and scientific technology, teachers are not only the authority to master knowledge, but professions that undertake social responsibility with great challenges. Meanwhile, teachers are also explorers of classroom and students' equality. They need to constantly learn knowledge and strive to improve their professional skills and personalities. Based on the previous survey, it can be learned that many teachers take the explanation of language knowledge as their main teaching goal in the current college English teaching process. Because of lacking of cultural awareness, it is difficult for teachers to combine Chinese and Western cultures effectively and apply them to college English teaching. During the learning process, boring vocabulary structures and grammars make students lose their interest and ignore cultural teaching contents gradually.[2]

College English teachers should pay attention to improving their cultural knowledge, and expanding as well as enriching their knowledge structure. By using the methods of training or continuous education, teachers can increase their understanding of other countries and cultures. When establishing the concept of college English culture teaching, advocating the teaching concept of Chinese culture and philosophy, and instilling western culture into students, teachers should also pay attention to the introduction of home culture, help students master the intercultural communicative ability by comparing the differences between Chinese and Western cultures. Teachers also need to strengthen students' understanding of the philosophical wisdom and cultural heritage of China for thousands of years, and effectively integrate the domestic and international perspectives to cultivate all-round and high-quality talents needed by the country and society for the new era of globalization.

### **2.2 Delve into each unit's theme and explore the ideological and political connotation**

During the English teaching process, it includes important topics in the center of civilization, such as language and culture, philosophical civilization, and so on, emphasizing knowledge, interest and sense of the times, and strengthening students' humanistic qualities. Taking the New Edition College Advanced English Comprehensive Course as an example, teaching materials are relatively rich and the theme of the times is diversified, including different fields such as society, economy, science and technology. Each unit belongs to a separate theme. From several ideological contents and cultural connotations, students can deeply understand these articles, strengthen their understanding of Chinese and Western cultures, and pay attention to the cultivation of students' personality. Usually, the teaching process is based on the content of teaching materials. The cultural theme activities are flexibly combined by designing various forms, such as classroom discussion and group summary. Besides, the cultivation of students' personality qualities, such as patriotic thoughts and social responsibility, have increased, leading students to establish humanistic feelings and cultivate their personality qualities. For example, materials, such as Reasons why its important to follow your dreams , are adapted to the ideological and political teaching of college English as a medium, which encourages students to overcome their fears in order to achieve their dreams. It is therefore cultivating students' positive and healthy personality qualities, meeting the ultimate goal of teaching and educating people. Another classes like The Age of Enlightenment, and The Middle Ages, which are under the unit of Taking the English course Western Culture, dig for the course's theme, guide students to think actively and discuss related issues together. Teachers can guide students to understand the scope involved in the course through dialogue.[3] From the whole course, students will learn the basic knowledge of Western

culture systematically, aspects such as culture, history, geography, which will strengthen students' mastery and study of Western culture. "By discussing the theme, students can learn to identify multiple perspectives and compare different cultures with more deeply thinking. Students can also re-find themselves and set up correct values in the process of understanding the world and society, The teaching materials has provided rich and colorful cultural comparison contents in translation practical part, such as "Historical Achievements of Kyle Polo and He Zheng", "Different Connotation of American Dream and Chinese Dream", which can be used as foundation by teachers to correctly lead students to carry out different viewpoints to collide and supplement each other. It will broaden students' horizons effectively, and strengthen students' ability to perceive and understand culture, which is conducive to their higher quality in various aspects, such as social responsibility and innovative spirit.[4]

### **2.3 Incorporate the ideological and political essence into classes**

College English is a key extension and supplementary content of teaching in classroom. It provides students with rich and colorful resources and flexible activity platforms, which can stimulate students' interest in learning, and improve their humanistic quality as well as ideology and morality. English corner or English club in school will encourage students to explain Chinese history and the ever-changing scientific changes by speaking English. Meanwhile, it is feasible for teachers to organize activities, such as English sketches and short plays for students, so that they can express Chinese classical culture and literary works in their own way. Moreover, through a translation competition of classical Chinese studies and poems and songs, it is helpful for students to have a better understanding of Chinese historical classics and classical literature, and can also cultivate their ideological and moral cultivation effectively. Students will be divided into different groups in this period when English blackboard newspaper competitions on various topics, such as Chinese history and culture and economic construction, can be held, and criticism rewards can be carried out. Meanwhile, it is also possible to conduct situational communication, such as English speeches and recitation competitions on Chinese culture, through which it can spread Chinese traditional culture, enhance students' ability to introduce Chinese culture in detail in English, and strengthen students' patriotism and national pride.[5]

## **3. Conclusion**

In conclusion, the most basic and compulsory course is English during college education. Due to the rapid development of China's economy in recent years, college English culture teaching has gradually been combined with ideological and political education. Besides, it has strengthened the cultivation of students' patriotic feelings and international vision. The combination is also an important way to renew college English teaching method. College English teachers need to dig deeper into the ideological and political elements of courses on the basis of the characteristics. They should also effectively incorporate ideological and political education into English culture teaching, helping students set up correct views naturally. As the guide of students' healthy development and growth, teachers need to constantly strengthen their ideological and political qualities and strengthen their sense of responsibility for ideological guidance. The most important core content in English teaching is to cultivate people by virtue. Teachers should not only strengthen the teaching of language knowledge and skills, but also carry out ideological guidelines and set up sense of worth. It is conducive for college English courses and ideological and political education to develop in the same pace. It is also helpful to cultivate high-quality talents who cope with the needs of today's social development.

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