Path Selection and Construction of University English Teaching in the Context of “Internet +”

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Abstract: This paper explores the path construction of university English teaching in the context of "Internet +." With the rapid development of information technology and ongoing changes in the field of education, "Internet +" has brought significant improvements to university English teaching. In light of this, new approaches from the perspective of "Internet +" are proposed, including personalized learning, enrichment of digital resources in teaching materials, interactive collaborative learning environments, and online courses. Additionally, the construction of supporting systems is emphasized, covering teacher development, student competency cultivation and assessment, and educational technology support and management. Through these explorations, this study aims to provide inspiration for the modernization reform of university English education.

1. Introduction

With the rapid development of information technology and the widespread use of the internet, "Internet +" has become a key term in the modern societal transformation. In this digital age, "Internet +" has not only changed people's lifestyles but also profoundly influenced the development of the education field. As a vital component of higher education, university English teaching faces new challenges and opportunities brought by "Internet +." Through systematic analysis and discussion, this study aims to provide theoretical guidance and practical references for the innovation and reform of university English education, promoting the enhancement of its quality in the era of "Internet +."

2. The Theoretical Framework of "Internet +" Education

In the context of rapid information technology development, the concept of "Internet +" has deeply penetrated into people's daily lives and various sectors of society. "Internet +" signifies more than just the integration of the internet with traditional industries; it is also a mode of thinking and an innovative concept. Emphasizing integration, sharing, innovation, and intelligence, it possesses characteristics of openness, diversity, and collaboration. In the realm of education, "Internet +" has introduced entirely new teaching models and learning approaches, presenting unprecedented opportunities for education's advancement and proliferation.
2.1. The Concept and Characteristics of "Internet +"

"Internet +," also known as "Internet +" or "Internet and," refers to the profound integration of internet technology with various sectors, facilitating innovation and upgrading. At its core lies the comprehensive connection and efficient sharing of information, achieved through digital and intelligent means to redefine and enhance traditional industry processes and patterns. "Internet +" is characterized by openness, enabling the interconnection of resources across different domains and the potential for cross-domain collaboration. Additionally, "Internet +" underscores user experience and personalization, providing tailored services and content to individuals.[1]

2.2. "Internet +" Alters University English Teaching Models

Within the domain of university English teaching, the application of "Internet +" exhibits significant distinctiveness and transformation. The evolution of traditional large classroom models into diversified learning scenarios, encompassing online courses, virtual reality interactions, and real-time remote interactions, is evident. This shift has liberated learning from geographical and temporal constraints, allowing students to choose learning methods and paces that suit their needs and interests. Personalized learning becomes feasible, as students tailor learning plans according to their learning styles, interests, and capabilities. The role of instructors has also transformed; they are no longer mere conveyors of knowledge but are increasingly focused on guiding students in active exploration, critical thinking, and collaborative communication. This interactive teaching model stimulates students' interest and enthusiasm for learning while nurturing their innovative and problem-solving abilities.[2]

3. Enhancements in University English

Teaching through "Internet +" In the era of "Internet +," profound reform and innovation are occurring in university English teaching. Leveraging digital technology and online platforms, "Internet +" offers new opportunities for improvement in traditional university English teaching, particularly in the following aspects:

3.1. Widespread and Open Access to Teaching

Resources "Internet +" has globalized and opened up teaching resources in university English education. Through online platforms, instructors can introduce high-quality educational resources from various countries and regions, broadening students' learning horizons. These resources may encompass outstanding English courses from around the world, lectures by renowned educators, international academic seminars, and more. Exposure to diverse teaching resources allows students to gain deeper insights into the practical applications and communication contexts of English in different settings, thus enhancing their overall language competence.[3]

3.2. Facilitation of Interactive Collaborative

Learning "Internet +" injects greater interactivity and collaboration into teaching models. Methods such as online discussions and team projects can encourage more profound academic interactions among students in virtual environments. This interaction not only aids students' better understanding of course content but also cultivates their critical thinking and teamwork skills. Through collaboration with peers, students can effectively employ English for communication and cooperation, providing robust preparation for their future entry into the professional world.
3.3. Collection and Analysis of Learning Data

In the "Internet +" era, the collection and analysis of learning data become feasible. Educational technology tools can record students' online learning behaviors and performances, offering valuable insights to instructors.[4] Analyzing learning data allows instructors to gain a more accurate understanding of students' learning needs and challenges, enabling targeted guidance and support for personalized instruction. This data-driven approach enhances teaching effectiveness and caters to students' diverse learning needs.

3.4. Cultivation of Self-Directed Learning Abilities

The learning model of "Internet +" encourages students to take a more proactive role in their education, fostering their self-directed learning abilities. Students need to select and sift through numerous online resources while also managing their learning progress and time independently. This autonomy in learning cultivates students' self-discipline and independent thinking abilities, enabling them to adapt effectively to various learning challenges. The cultivation of these abilities lays a solid foundation for students' lifelong learning endeavors.

4. Path Selection in the "Internet +" Perspective of University English Teaching

4.1. Introducing Personalized Learning Concepts

In the "Internet +" perspective, the introduction of personalized learning concepts becomes a crucial reform in university English teaching. Personalized learning emphasizes tailoring customized learning plans based on each student's unique learning style, interests, and abilities to meet diverse student needs. With the development of intelligent learning platforms, students can choose suitable learning materials and resources based on their learning progress and interests, enabling them to take more autonomous control of their learning journey. Simultaneously, through the analysis of students' learning data, instructors can gain a deeper understanding of individual learning statuses and requirements, offering more precise guidance and support.[5] Personalized learning not only stimulates students' motivation but also significantly enhances learning outcomes. Each student, within a comfortable learning environment, can concentrate on mastering knowledge, fully utilizing their strengths, leading to superior learning achievements. Furthermore, cultivating students' self-directed learning abilities is a pivotal objective of personalized learning. Through independent selection of learning materials, creation of learning plans, and resolution of learning challenges, students not only enhance their knowledge and skills but also foster problem-solving and self-management capabilities, laying a solid foundation for future learning and professional endeavors. However, implementing personalized learning also faces challenges. Instructors need the ability to design personalized learning plans and gain in-depth understanding of each student's learning characteristics. Additionally, the application of intelligent technology requires effective guidance to ensure the quality and appropriateness of the learning paths and resources.[6]

4.2. Leveraging Digital Resources to Enrich Teaching Content

In the "Internet +" perspective, leveraging digital resources to enrich university English teaching content becomes an imperative strategy. With the rapid development of information technology, digital resources emerge abundantly, creating diverse learning opportunities for both instructors and students. Instructors can seamlessly integrate open educational resources, multimedia content, virtual reality, and more, presenting language materials in more engaging ways. Through digital resources,
students can access not only more diverse and contextually relevant language materials but also transcend temporal and spatial constraints, experiencing cross-cultural communication. Multimedia formats like videos, audios, images, and more vividly depict the emotions, culture, and practical application contexts behind languages, thereby stimulating students’ interest and deep thinking. Moreover, the introduction of virtual reality technology offers students immersive learning experiences, making language learning more practical and experiential. Instructors can ingeniously utilize digital resources to design interactive teaching activities, fostering active student participation. Formats such as online discussions, multimedia presentations, and virtual role-playing enhance interaction between students and content, while cultivating teamwork and communication skills. Through targeted case analysis and scenario simulations, students gain deeper insights into the role of language in practical application, thus enhancing their language proficiency. However, the application of digital resources requires prudent consideration. Instructors need to select suitable resources to ensure their quality and effectiveness, preventing information overload and deviation from teaching objectives.

4.3. Constructing Interactive and Collaborative Learning Environments

One of the distinctive features of "Internet +" is interactivity and collaboration, which hold immense potential in university English teaching. In the "Internet +" perspective, instructors can actively build interactive and collaborative learning environments using online collaboration tools and social media platforms, thereby encouraging students’ active participation in language learning. Through online collaboration tools, students can engage in real-time interactions with instructors and peers anytime, anywhere. Discussion boards, collaborative documents, real-time Q&A, and similar functionalities enable students to share insights, pose questions, and stimulate profound thinking and communication in virtual spaces. The utilization of social media platforms provides students channels to share learning resources and engage in interactive discussions, transforming learning from isolated individual activities into collaborative processes. This interactive and collaborative learning environment strengthens interactions between students and instructors and fosters cooperation and communication among students. In virtual spaces, students can jointly solve problems, complete tasks, and share learning experiences, enhancing not only their language communication skills but also teamwork and communication abilities, equally essential in real-life situations and professional contexts. However, the construction of interactive and collaborative learning environments demands a balance. Instructors should guide students in the reasonable use of online tools to avoid excessive attention dispersion, ensuring the depth and quality of learning.

4.4. Development of Remote Teaching and Online Courses

In the "Internet +" era, university English teaching embraces a novel model—remote teaching and online courses. This model, facilitated through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and Small Private Online Courses (SPOCs), liberates learning from time and place restrictions, ushering in a significant educational transformation. Remote teaching and online courses render learning more flexible and personalized. Students can choose course content, participate in discussions, and complete assignments according to their learning pace and schedules, regardless of location. This grants students access to quality educational resources, interactions with exceptional instructors and peers, and a transnational learning experience. This not only meets diverse student learning needs but also cultivates students’ self-directed learning abilities. Furthermore, remote teaching and online courses expand the influence of instructors. Through digital technology, instructors can disseminate high-quality course resources on a global scale, effecting a larger educational impact. This enhances instructors’ influence and contributes to school branding and internationalization. Additionally, online
teaching platforms allow instructors to better understand student learning situations, enabling more accurate adjustment of teaching strategies to enhance teaching effectiveness. However, the development of remote teaching and online courses necessitates quality assurance. Educational institutions should design sensible course content and assessment methods to ensure the academic rigor of students' online learning.

5. Establishing a Support System for "Internet +" University English Teaching

5.1. Faculty Development and Professional Advancement

Under the backdrop of "Internet +" in university English teaching, the role of educators is undergoing significant transformation. In addition to traditional teaching knowledge and skills, educators must possess competencies aligned with information technology and online education to better adapt to new educational trends. In this context, faculty development and professional advancement are indispensable components of the support system. Schools should establish ongoing faculty training programs to continuously enhance instructors' educational technology capabilities and online teaching experiences. These programs can include, but are not limited to, participation in training for online teaching platforms and attendance at educational technology seminars. Through such training, instructors can gain in-depth understanding of the latest developments and applications in "Internet +" teaching, mastering cutting-edge educational technology knowledge, thus more confidently employing technology to enhance student learning outcomes. Professional development is also a crucial focus for educators. Instructors should continually update their educational philosophies, integrating teaching models and methods of the "Internet +" era. By engaging in educational research, publishing teaching papers, and similar means, educators can continuously enhance their academic qualities, contributing to the exploration and promotion of "Internet +" teaching methods. Additionally, the interactive and collaborative learning environment facilitates professional communication and mutual learning among educators. However, faculty development and professional advancement face challenges. Instructors' time and energy are limited, raising the need to carefully allocate training and development time amid demanding teaching tasks. Schools should plan training time reasonably, providing flexible training modes that allow educators to enhance their skills and develop themselves without compromising teaching priorities.

5.2. Student Skill Cultivation and Comprehensive Assessment

In the context of "Internet +" university English teaching, nurturing students' comprehensive language proficiency and practical application abilities becomes a core educational goal. Consequently, student skill cultivation and comprehensive assessment are of paramount importance. Schools should focus on designing diverse assessment methods to comprehensively evaluate students' language skills and cross-cultural communication abilities. Diverse assessment methods can include, but are not limited to, coursework, project practice, online interactive participation, and more. Through assignments and project practice, students can apply acquired knowledge to solve real-world problems, fostering practical application abilities. Online interactive participation can assess students' expressive and communicative abilities in virtual learning environments. Furthermore, methods such as self-directed learning journals, oral presentations, and writing tasks can evaluate students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Assessments should be conducted periodically to monitor students' learning progress, providing data support for personalized learning and teaching adjustments. Instructors can offer targeted guidance and advice based on assessment results, helping students unleash their potential. Meanwhile, schools can establish student portfolios, documenting students' learning trajectories and growth, offering robust support for comprehensive quality assessments.
However, student skill cultivation and comprehensive assessment face challenges. Ensuring the objectivity and fairness of assessments, avoiding mechanistic quantitative evaluations, and fully considering students’ individual differences are issues that require careful consideration and resolution. Hence, schools should formulate clear assessment standards and procedures, establish a scientific assessment system, and ensure the effectiveness and reliability of assessments.

5.3. Educational Technology Support and Management

To ensure the effective implementation of "Internet +" university English teaching, schools need to establish a sound educational technology support and management system to meet the technological demands of teaching and learning. This system encompasses various aspects of work, including technical support, training, network management, and security measures. Schools can establish educational technology centers or similar departments dedicated to providing technical support and training for instructors. This may involve guidance on educational technology application, operation training for online teaching platforms, multimedia material production, and more. Through professional training, instructors can better grasp technological tools, effectively integrating technology into the teaching process, thereby enhancing the quality of "Internet +" university English teaching. Network stability and security are also vital aspects of educational technology support and management. Schools need to establish network management and security strategies to ensure the smooth operation of teaching platforms. High-quality network connectivity and stable server operations are essential for the seamless conduct of online courses and interactive teaching. Additionally, safeguarding the information security of students and educators, preventing data leaks and cyberattacks, is also the responsibility of the school. Educational technology support and management should also focus on technology updates and upgrades. Schools should regularly assess the effectiveness of existing technologies and actively explore new technology applications to continuously enhance teaching effectiveness and innovation. Moreover, to better supervise the application of educational technology, schools can establish relevant monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, making timely adjustments to support and management strategies.

6. Conclusion

In summary, this paper explores the core topic of the pathway selection and construction of university English teaching in the context of "Internet +." It delves into the profound impact of the information technology revolution on higher education English instruction. The ongoing evolution of "Internet +" is leading the education sector towards innovation and transformation. Traditional university English teaching models are no longer able to meet the diverse learning needs of contemporary students and the new demands for language proficiency from society. Therefore, harnessing the power of information technology to construct new teaching paradigms is imperative. The introduction of personalized learning, the enrichment of teaching content through digital resources, the creation of interactive and collaborative learning environments, the development of remote teaching and online courses, among other pathways, inject vitality into university English teaching. These approaches stimulate students' enthusiasm and motivation for learning while enhancing the effectiveness of teaching. Throughout the progression of "Internet +" university English teaching, several challenges are encountered, necessitating the establishment of corresponding support systems. The integration of faculty development and professional advancement, student skill cultivation and comprehensive assessment, and educational technology support and management will lay a solid foundation for modernizing education. This support system is not only relevant to the growth of educators and students but is also pivotal in ensuring the smooth execution of "Internet +" university English teaching. The selection and construction of university
English teaching pathways in the "Internet +" context are not only an inevitable choice but also an urgent response to the demands of an evolving era.

References