A Study on the Integration of “Ideological and Political Theories Teaching” and “Ideological and Political Courses” in College English Teaching

Fenghua Tang
College of Foreign Studies, Hubei Normal University, Huangshi, Hubei 435002, China

ABSTRACT. At present, China’s higher education development has many opportunities, but it also faces more complex international situation and more important historical responsibility. In language teaching, the introduction of international, historical, cultural and other related knowledge will help students to correctly understand China’s national conditions, history and characteristics. “Ideological and Political Theories Teaching” is a brand-new teaching concept, but it is not a specific teaching course. It emphasizes that colleges and universities need to continuously improve students’ ideological and moral quality when carrying out teaching courses, thus making the courses have the functions of teaching and educating. This paper expounds the specific content of “ideological and political theories teaching”, analyses the practical significance of integrating “ideological and political theories teaching” into English teaching, and makes a specific study on the integration approach of “ideological and political theories teaching” and English teaching.

KEYWORDS: College english, “ideological and political theories teaching”, “ideological and political course”, Integration

1. Introduction

Contemporary college students have a solid foundation in English, qualified grammar and a large vocabulary, but they still have Chinese logic thinking habit. Many English sentences written by college students are completely influenced by Chinese sentence structure with only English words added, that is, the “Chinglish”. The direction of education reform in the new era is to realize the organic unity of ideological and political education and knowledge system education [1]. “Ideological and political theories teaching” is different from the simple ideological and political course teaching. It means that each course should play a role that fully excavate the moral elements of the course, and enable students to integrate ideological and political elements while learning the course [2]. The integration of college English teaching and “ideological and political theories teaching” can promote the effective combination of English subject and ideological and political education to build a “ideological and political theories teaching” construction system which is suitable for English subject [3]. The ideological and political work should be carried out throughout the whole process of education and teaching. To realize the major task of educating people in all aspects and cultivating builders and successors of the socialist cause with all-round development of morality, intelligence, physique and aesthetics, we must adhere to the correct political direction. Integrating the educational concept of “ideological and political theories teaching” with college English teaching can achieve a synergistic effect and meet the new requirements of talent cultivation in the new era.

2. The Relationship between “Ideological and Political Courses” and “Ideological and Political Theories Teaching”

The concept of “ideological and political theories teaching” has a lot to do with “ideological and political courses”. The two have the same goal and are both to realize the spread of socialist forms. In order to play the ideological and political role of college English curriculum, we must fully understand the implementation purpose and significance of “ideological and political theories teaching”. College English is a language course and it is necessary to integrate the teaching concept of “ideological and political theories teaching” into the continuous improvement of students’ English skills. The value orientation, moral sentiment and overall quality of college students in the new era will directly affect the in-depth development of China’s reform and opening-up and even the realization of the “Chinese dream”. In the long run, it will also affect the rise and fall of the whole country and nation [4]. The concept of “ideological and political theories teaching” weakens the discipline boundaries of the curriculum, transcends the knowledge view of a single curriculum, and converts curriculum resources into educational resources based on the literacy education function.
and moral cultivation function of the curriculum. Teachers should carry out ideological and political education for students consciously, purposefully and effectively in teaching work, incorporate ideological and political education into curriculum teaching in teaching design, and promote the organic integration with professional development education [5]. Through comments on international current events, students are guided to form the habit of paying attention to current events and to improve their moral quality and world outlook on honor and disgrace in understanding political highlights.

3. The Significance of the Integration of College English Teaching and “Ideological and Political Theories Teaching”

3.1 Establish Correct Ideals and Beliefs

As a compulsory course for college students, “Ideological and Political Course” plays a very important role in the cultivation of students’ values and the education of ideals and beliefs. With the development of the society and the change of the situation, the content and form of ideological and political education for college students keep pace with the times. College English covers almost all major students and play an important role in the subsequent development of students. Therefore, many college students take the initiative to participate in college English teaching and have achieved good results in English learning. College English education shoulders the important task of training internationalized comprehensive talents, and moral education is also indispensable in college education. Simple English education or ideological and political education already exist in the previous college education system [6]. The proposal of “ideological and political theories teaching” is forward-looking. It attaches importance to the study of knowledge, but it pays more attention to the survival and development of human beings in the curriculum. What kind of people should be cultivated becomes a kind of value pursuit. The education of socialist core values runs through all curriculum systems, and the close combination of students’ “music learning” and teachers’ “music teaching” can alleviate the dilemma of ideological and political education to a certain extent.

3.2 Incentive Effect

Culture is the accumulated sediment of language and literature, political system, values, religious beliefs, time concepts, spatial relations, etc. Language is the carrier of culture. Incorporating “ideological and political theories teaching” into English teaching can play a positive role in encouraging students to love learning and to love work in society. The ideological and political work of college students should not only rely on the traditional “ideological and political courses”, but also penetrate into other kinds of courses in the school. As a language course, English has dual educational functions of instrumentality and humanism from the perspective of its own disciplinary attribute [7]. Therefore, the focus of implementing “ideological and political theories teaching” for professional English is to let professional English teachers dig out the ideological and political elements contained in the curriculum and guide students to “correctly understand Chinese characteristics and international comparison”. For example, the knowledge of English culture, the recommendation of some extracurricular reading contents, and so on, can improve college students’ English ability in an all-round way. It is of great significance for students to better understand the excellent traditional culture of the motherland and enhance their cultural confidence. It is also a good penetration of ideological and political ideas in English higher education.

3.3 Normative Role

College English is an important component of college curriculum system and an important basic required course. It not only has more class hours but also has a long learning time span. Digging out the ideological and political education function of this course can imperceptibly lead students to form correct outlook on life, world outlook and values for a long time. English teachers should adhere to the “unity of teaching and educating”. They should not only impart language knowledge and skills training, but also understand the students’ ideological trends and misunderstanding, and guide them in time to help students form a scientific attitude towards culture. English learning helps to cultivate students’ sensitivity and tolerance to cross-cultural communication. Rich and diverse teaching contents are easy to carry out cultural comparative study, easy to carry out speculation in comparison, and easy to rationally view cultural differences in speculation. Therefore, it can be said that the classroom extension of college English teaching is relatively wide. If “ideological and political theories teaching” is integrated into the teaching process of college English, there will be more time and scenes to carry out ideological and political education for students. The integration of “ideological and political theories teaching” into English is not only a norm for students, but also a constraint on teachers. Teachers and students should adhere to the spirit of craftsmanship as a guide and rely on firm beliefs to plan the future development path [8].
4. The Integration Path of College English Teaching of “ideological and Political Theories Teaching” and “ideological and Political Courses”

4.1 Perfect College English Teaching Materials and Curriculum

Textbooks are an essential part of curriculum teaching. In order to promote the effective integration of college English teaching and “ideological and political theories teaching”, college English textbooks and curriculum should be improved. In the process of setting up the English teaching plan, it is necessary to integrate scientific training objectives to improve students’ comprehensive language ability and their scientific literacy. In the process of classroom teaching, an atmosphere of moral education can be created, which can not only arrange students to explore the combination of relevant topics and teaching contents, but also encourage students to express their understanding of language knowledge or relevant situations. It is also possible to enrich teaching activities and enliven classroom atmosphere by means of knowledge contest, speeches and debates, case analysis and presentation reports, etc. It is also possible to tap students’ potential by turning over the classroom to realize seamless connection between ideological and political education and English learning. Specifically, college English teaching is not only an instrumental goal to improve students’ pragmatic ability, but also a humanistic goal to realize higher education and lead students to establish correct outlook on life, world outlook and values. We should let students understand western cultural traditions and ways of thinking. More importantly, we should encourage and guide students to explain China’s thoughts in English, China’s road and China’s plans to the outside world.

4.2 Developing English Ideological and Political Resources and Paying Attention to the Integration Effect of Curriculum Content

Schools and departments should actively set up platforms, establish a regular training mechanism for professional English “ideological and political theories teaching”, build a partnership learning model for professional English “ideological and political theories teaching” and promote the continuous optimization of the professional English “ideological and political theories teaching” teaching team. Adhering to the educational concept of cultivating morality and cultivating people, we should dig deep-seated humanistic value elements in the knowledge system of the textbook representation and refine the ideological and political education elements in the textbook. It is necessary to choose suitable teaching materials for the development of college English teaching. It is not only necessary to include the basic knowledge of English that needs to be explained in college English teaching, but also to incorporate some expansive teaching contents. Teachers should fully tap the depth and value of their ideological and political education. Teachers can divide students into several groups and let students discuss differences between “modern western civilization” and “civilization concept in socialist core values”. The internet platform is also an important position for the implementation of “ideological and political theories teaching”, which can lead the formation of students’ values through teaching contents and student discussion areas. In the process of teaching, teachers need to use different teaching methods to make classroom teaching more lively and interesting. Combined with actual cases, teachers should make students familiar with the cultural differences between China and the West to achieve the “four self-confidence” and finally realize cultural self-confidence.

4.3 Unification of Language Teaching and Humanistic Education

The scientific consistency between the content of “ideological and political courses” and the teaching methods of “ideological and political courses” is an important logic in English teaching. Schools should perfect the system and mechanism of “ideological and political theories teaching”, perfect the performance evaluation system, and encourage professional teachers to promote the implementation of “ideological and political theories teaching”. At the same time, professional teachers should also systematically learn the basic theory of Marxism. It is necessary to find out the advantages and disadvantages of each student in the process of English learning, to make full use of their learning advantages, and to constantly make up for their learning deficiencies, so as to lay the foundation for the subsequent integration of “ideological and political theories teaching” in college English teaching. This subtle teaching method can not only help students learn relevant English knowledge, but also enable students to receive intuitive and vivid ideological education by promoting the effective combination of English teaching and ideological and political education. The essential thoughts of English teaching and ideological and political education should be interlinked, so college English teachers should start with specific emotions and penetrate ideological guidance in the process of emotion cultivation when organizing classroom teaching. Teachers can also combine the traditional Confucian classics, translate the famous sayings and aphorisms about filial piety in traditional Chinese classics into English, organize students to read aloud, infiltrate ideological and political ideas into the expanding teaching of Chinese and western cultures, and strengthen the integration of Chinese and western cultures.
4.4 To Improve the Educational Awareness and Ability of Teachers in an All-Round Way

Teachers played a key role in the formation of the concept of “ideological and political theories teaching”. Integrating “ideological and political theories teaching” with English teaching must improve English teachers’ awareness and ability. Teachers can consciously let students think about what their personal dreams are and how their dreams are related to the “Chinese dream” in the introduction part, and then let students learn about the “American dream” through the text. Therefore, in order to implement the “Ideological and Political Course”, English teachers should first strengthen their ideological and political awareness, improve their moral cultivation, and be guided by what they hear and what they see. For example, when learning western culture and social life, the teaching material presents a kind of cultural representation. Teachers should guide students to deeply explore various social factors of cultural formation and examine the underlying causes behind the phenomenon with rational thinking and dialectical perspective. This process is also the process of forming students’ critical thinking ability. It is necessary to strengthen the teaching staff and improve teachers’ professional quality and ability. It is necessary to raise the relevant entry threshold for the education industry, strengthen party spirit education and belief education, and improve teachers’ ideological and political awareness and level of judgment ability through systematic professional training. Through teachers’ heuristic questions, students are guided to think deeply, so that students can understand the socialist core values, establish correct moral values, and inspire students to turn ideological and political ideas into practical actions.

5. Conclusion

Under the guidance of socialist core values, no matter which institution of higher learning needs to attach importance of ideological and political education as well as the ideological and political ideas should be infiltrated into the teaching of various disciplines. Ideological and political education in college English classes is very necessary and of far-reaching significance. As a new teaching concept, “ideological and political theories teaching” has played an important role in promoting the deepening of teaching reform in colleges and universities, and it is conducive to the overall improvement of students’ ideological and moral quality. Starting from the actual teaching situation, the ideological and political education elements in the teaching materials are excavated. While teaching language knowledge and training students’ language skills, the students are gradually guided to understand the cultural differences between different nationalities and cultivate their own cultural consciousness and cultural self-confidence. Under the background of the new era, English “ideological and political theories teaching” should take the political stance of cultivating moral character. It not only cultivates successors for socialist construction, but also cultivates students’ national feelings and international vision. Therefore, thus “ideological and political theories teaching” undertakes the historical mission of speaking Chinese stories well in English, and explains China’s plans, and spreads Chinese culture and building socialism.

6. Acknowledgment

Source of project: Key project of teaching reform and research of hubei normal university in 2018. Project number: 2018018. Project name: The optimization and reconstruction of the course teaching system for English majors in normal universities under the background of “Ideological and political course”.

References
