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## An Exploration and Practice on the Ideological and Political Education of International Politics Course

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**Abstract:** The ideological and political education of the course is a kind of new idea and new mode in China's universities. Its aim is to explore the resources of ideological and political education for different subjects and specialized courses and make it in the same direction with ideological and political courses. Therefore, as a carrier of course education, we should dig into its moral elements, explore its unique educational value, and further improve teaching design and innovating approaches to achieve the mission of strengthening morality in the process of course education.

**Keywords:** International politics; Ideological and political education; Moral element; Teaching design

At the national conference on College ideological and political work, General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out, the main channel of classroom teaching should be put to good use, and all kinds of courses should be made in the same direction with ideological and political courses to realize the synergistic effect<sup>[1]</sup>. So we should dig into the moral elements of international politics course and innovate the educational approaches to achieve the historical mission of strengthening morality .

1.Value embodiment of the ideological and political education of international politics course

1.1 Educating people from the changes of the classical contents of international politics

With the improvement of China's international status, China's international political theory, especially its ancient political thoughts, has gradually been accepted by the world, and has become the important supplement of Western international

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political theory. More importantly, China's international political wisdom will enhance students' confidence and pride for the motherland.

### 1.2 Educating people from the solution of international political problems

With the enhancement of China's international status and sense of great power's responsibility, China is playing an increasingly prominent role in solving regional and world problems. The solutions with Chinese characteristics are gradually recognized by the world. The mind and responsibility of China as a great power not only make college students feel extremely proud of their own motherland, but also stimulate their patriotic feelings and strengthen their sense of responsibility in the new era.

### 1.3 Educating people from the formation and innovation of the theoretical achievements of Marxism with Chinese characteristics

The international political theory of Marxism with Chinese characteristics is gradually accepted by Western academia. Many political theories, such as the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, Real Non-alignment, Democratization of International Relations, Harmonious World and the Community of Human Destiny, have made huge contributions to world peace and development. These theories will make students realize that China's development is not a zero-sum game, but to create the good opportunities for the world and contribute to the ultimate prosperity of the world. So learning these knowledge not only enhances students' patriotism, but also further enhances their feelings of internationalism.

## 2. Integration of the course contents and ideological and political education of international politics

### 2.1. Power and morality: moral education's gradual integration into the teaching of international politics theory

One of the fundamental differences between Chinese and Western international theories is related to the different pursuit of power and morality. When teaching the basic Western international politics theories, we should analyze deeply the essence of ideal, democracy and freedom contained in their thoughts. Fundamentally speaking, idealism and realism emphasize the role of morality and power in the survival and development of the country, however, the opposition between power and morality

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makes the two paradigms opposite. Meantime, we should know, the traditional Chinese political culture attaches great importance to increasing power through morality and justice and regards them as a part of power. This new harmonious ideal realism will be a new attempt in the development of international politics, and will have a far-reaching impact on the practice of state-to-state relations.

## 2.2 Traditional security concept and new security concept: moral education's integration into the solution of global problems

The traditional Western national security concept has unable to explain the constantly emerging new problems in view of the new situation of international security after the Cold War. However, China's new security concept featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation as the core has been a major breakthrough in the theoretical framework of traditional security concept, and can bring the new theoretical interpretation of non-traditional security issues. Thus, this security concept will surely have a far-reaching impact on creating a peaceful environment of long-term stability, security and reliability for the international community.

## 2.3 Law of the jungle and win-win cooperation: moral education's integration into the different political pursuits of the country

The jungle law of survival of the fittest that Western international political theories and practices have always pursued has not brought peace and prosperity to the world. However, the idea about the "community of shared future for mankind" that is being pursued by today's Chinese government is consistent with that of "harmony in diversity" contained in the political culture of the Pre-Qin period, which reflects the pursuit of Chinese culture toward the essence of peace. The logical thinking of the Western world has failed to find a reasonable solution to the world's problems, while China's ideas on win-win cooperation like "democratization of international relations", "community of shared future for mankind" have brought vigor and vitality to the world. China is playing its role as a major power, and its prescription for global governance is also being recognized by the world.

## 2.4 Clash of civilizations and coexistence of civilizations: moral education's

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integration into the comparison of two kinds of different cosmopolitanisms

The theory about the clash of civilizations advocated by the Western scholars led by Huntington emphasizes the irreconcilability of the contradictions between civilizations. This cosmopolitanism centered on the Western civilization creates deliberately the conflicts between nations. However, the Chinese cosmopolitanism, which is characterized by the concept of the world emphasizes the integration and harmony of civilizations. This yearning for harmony within and outside the country has been the Chinese nation's consistent pursuit of Chinese-style idealism for three thousand years. The cohesion of Chinese civilization relies on non-religious spiritual power, while the expansion of Western civilization relies on both religious power and material power including violence. The Chinese civilization has achieved great national integration in history, but the Western civilization has triggered numerous wars and conflicts in the process of promoting capitalism to the world.

3. Approaches and carriers of ideological and political education of international politics course

3.1 Integration of moral education elements before class

The course scenario group through the multimedia-case study model puts great Chinese wisdom in international politics into the designed study case, i.e. the course scenario group should combine the Chinese elements with a challenge for the global politics in the process of selecting the topic, consulting the data, extracting the viewpoints, analyzing the argumentation and simulating the situation in class, and further analyzes that the Chinese plan has been a valid path to solve some major global problems. So in the process of preparing for the performance, students can deeply feel that the traditional international politics theories need innovation to solve complex international problems with the change of the international situation. The political wisdom created by China as a major power shouldering its responsibilities in the world is making great contributions to enriching the theoretical treasury of international politics<sup>[2]</sup>. This kind of subtle moral education before class can further arouse students' patriotic feelings.

3.2 Integration of moral education elements in class

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In classroom teaching, we adopt some key teaching approaches, such as case analysis, discussion, debate and heuristics to analyze the international issues like the security dilemma of Northeast Asia, Syrian crisis and terrorism, inspire and guide students to combine international security theories with China's new security concept, and encourage students to think about the international issues from the standpoint of the human and socialism. Thus, we should make students realize that the essence of China's national security thought is to pursue harmony, world peace and harmonious idealism. At present, the Chinese security wisdom which provides a good recipe for solving the world's security dilemma has been favored by Western academia. Undoubtedly, it will stimulate students' patriotic enthusiasm and social responsibility to introduce Chinese elements into the teaching contents with different methods in class.

### 3.3 Integration of moral education elements after class

In the after-class study and review, the moral education elements are mainly used in the sections of "answering questions", "discussing" and "making cases" through the network platform. Take the discussion as an example, students should discuss them within the specified time after the teacher releases the discussion questions. Meanwhile, the teacher can also hang the cases which has been analyzed in class on the network platform to continue to be discussed. Also, the online discussion and debate are also an ideal way to stimulate students' patriotic feelings. The teacher can lead students to develop patriotic feelings, turn the identification of socialist core values such as patriotism, harmony and prosperity into a political attitude and political belief. In this way, personal destiny is integrated with the that of the motherland, and personal dream is also integrated with that of the motherland.

### 4. Some key problems in the ideological and political education of international politics course

Without the guidance of Marxist theory, the ideological and political education of the course is like water without the source. Meantime, it is a tree without roots without the system of philosophy and social science with Chinese characteristics. If we ignore the top-level design and overall planning of the course, we cannot

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fundamentally solve the problem that the professional course and ideological and political education course are in the same direction.

#### 4.1 Incomplete teaching design and overall planning

The current textbooks of international politics do not fully reflect the contents about the ideological and political education of the course, which requires a good instructional design in the actual teaching. It is a systematic and complicated project how to distribute the classical contents and dynamic contents of the ideological and political education of the course into the instructional design. In addition, some contents in the teaching syllabus are not related to the ideological and political thoughts, so they need to be modified accordingly to integrate moral education elements into the chapters of the teaching syllabus.

#### 4.2 insufficient innovation of teaching carrier

The further innovation is needed in the bidirectional integration and co-construction mechanism between Marxist theory and other humanities, philosophy and social sciences. Especially for the professional teachers of humanities and social sciences, the daily teaching training in the organic combination of professional courses and ideological and political education course is not enough<sup>[3]</sup>. In particular, the ability to accurately use Marxist standpoint and methods to analyze practical problems in teaching needs to be strengthened.

#### 4.3 Imperfect professional team quality and teaching ability of the ideological and political education of the course

The teacher is the decisive factor to improve the quality of ideological and political education of the course. However, for professional course teachers, there are few targeted and demonstrative teaching guidance measures of ideological and political education of the course, and the normalized collective lesson preparation system has not been formed. Therefore, the attraction and appeal of ideological and political education of the course still need to be further improved. At the same time, some teachers neglect to strengthen students' value judgment ability, value choice ability and value shaping ability in the teaching, and the teaching supervision is also insufficient how to play the guiding role of Marxism in the professional courses.

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5. Choice of path to improve the effect of the ideological and political education of international politics course

We focus on the following solutions on how to break through the bottleneck of ideological and political education of international politics course, and realize the whole-course and all-around education.

#### 5.1 Revising the course syllabus and design the course teaching

The teaching syllabus should be dynamic. According to the needs of ideological and political education reform of the course, we should modify the teaching syllabus to reflect the infiltration of the contents about classical moral education and dynamic moral education. Meanwhile, according to the teaching syllabus, the teaching design should also reflect ideological and political elements of the course so as to make them truly come true.

#### 5.2 Seeking the right academic breakthrough and innovate the teaching carrier

The coordination between the teaching and scientific research of Marxist theory and international politics is being carried out to realize their collaborative innovation. If possible, some teachers who have some research on international politics from School of Marxist Studies can be employed to teach a certain chapter, so that moral education can be naturally integrated into the classroom. At the same time, the teaching team should give full play to the teaching methods such as classroom teaching, online interaction and teaching feedback, skillfully combine the essence of socialist core values with diversified classroom teaching to achieve educational goals in a fascinating and subtle way.

#### 5.3 Breaking through the professional barriers and optimize the teaching resources of the whole process and all-round education

To realize the unification of ideological and political teaching and educational function of the course, we should reform teaching form of the course, take a portion of theoretical lessons to carry out the service learning. Thus students will apply knowledge to serve the society, which will strengthen national and ethnic identity of social masses. So, students' sense of mission and responsibility for the course will be naturally enhanced and so the teaching objective about the unity of knowledge and

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action will also be achieved.

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