

# Design and Practice of Ideological and Political Classroom in College English Curriculum Taking Promoting Gender Equality as an Example

Zhao Zhuang<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Yunnan College of Business Management, Kunming, Yunnan 650106, China

## ABSTRACT

Taking the sixth unit of the third volume of New Era Mingde College English as an example, this paper discusses the strategies for integrating ideological and political elements into the comprehensive English classroom from four aspects: introduction of teaching content, theme exploration, text resources, and text extension. Helping students establish a correct concept of gender equality and women's empowerment, and making their own contributions to promoting women's comprehensive development, adhering to the basic national policy of gender equality, and safeguarding women's legitimate rights and interests.

**Keywords:** Classroom practice, Value shaping, College English.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

According to *The Guidelines for the Construction of Ideological and Political Education in Higher Education Curriculum* issued by the Ministry of Education, it is pointed out that comprehensively promoting the construction of ideological and political education in curriculum means integrating values into knowledge transmission and ability cultivation, helping students shape correct worldviews, outlooks on life, and values. This is the application of talent cultivation and an essential content.

It is a must to take education and teaching as the most fundamental work, deeply explore the ideological and political education resources contained in various courses and teaching methods, enable students to learn, master the laws of development, understand the world's principles, enrich their knowledge, broaden their horizons, shape their character, and strive to become socialist builders and successors with comprehensive development of morality, intelligence, physical fitness, aesthetics, and labor.

In this new era, it is a new cultural mission that continues to promote cultural prosperity, build a strong cultural nation, and build a modern civilization of the Chinese nation at a new starting

point. The course will strengthen our cultural confidence, take on our mission, and work together to create a new culture that belongs to our era, and build a modern civilization of the Chinese nation[1].

## 2. MULTIDIMENSIONAL CULTURAL INTEGRATION

Reading A When Gender Diversity Makes Firms More Productive[2], as the intensive reading text of this unit, mainly discusses how companies that support gender diversity will receive positive feedback; People should believe in the value of gender diversity and consider gender inclusion as an obligation. Firstly, teaching adopts an output oriented mechanism to derive the theme of the text. Secondly, in the process of teaching, the course focuses on the theme of the text and train higher-order thinking abilities in teaching activities to achieve logical thinking, critical thinking, and innovative thinking in language. Finally, through classroom teaching, the teaching objective aims to enhance students' understanding of cultural differences and similarities, cultivate national sentiment, and enhance their comprehensive cultural and humanistic qualities.

## **2.1 Integration Points of Ideological and Political Education**

First, the impact of women on business outcomes in the workplace has always been controversial. Combining the text and comparing attitudes and policies towards women in the workplace at home and abroad, students can understand China's efforts and achievements in promoting gender equality.

Second, women are creators of material and spiritual civilization, and an important force in promoting social development and progress. Chinese women struggle in various industries and shine brilliantly on the path of promoting social progress.

Third, it is to see the power of women. They undergo secondary growth through inner exploration.

Fourth, how women themselves should actively think, face and act in order to fully achieve gender equality.

## **2.2 Educational Methods**

- Output oriented approach;
- Situational teaching method.

This course is a blended learning approach for college English, divided into three parts: pre-class, in-class, and post-class. The teaching content presented in this thesis is the in-class part. In classroom teaching, the first step is to activate and strengthen students' understanding of gender diversity themes. Based on the understanding of the text title and key information, raise questions, introduce gender diversity themes, and extract key information. This section presents the knowledge objectives.

Based on the reading of the text, the term Gender Diversity can be understood. After extensive argumentation and analysis, the author summarizes that the effectiveness of diversity depends on the environment, taking the business aspect as an example. When analyzing this part of the content, it is natural to connect the reflection question — China's attitude towards diversity and related regulations;

Based on the theme of the text, expand students' knowledge by playing video materials closely related to the topic, practicing listening and expression through video materials, and emphasizing the creation of a language

environment for students. Conduct analysis and argumentation, introduce new concepts, and think about how to address issues such as gender stereotypes and discrimination. The way to solve problems is also in line with the content of ideological and political education. Women should have self-esteem, confidence, and self-reliance... This stage presents the goal of ideological and political education.

## **3. INTEGRATING IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL ELEMENTS INTO COLLEGE ENGLISH CURRICULUM TEACHING PRACTICE**

### **3.1 Text Preparation (Warming-up)**

With multi-identities in modern society, women are not only mothers and wives who take care of their families, but also scientists, entrepreneurs, professional athletes and teachers. Dong Mingzhu is a good example can be chosen as one of the prominent women in recent years whose achievements encourage more young women to pursue their dreams. Her achievements helped China's home appliances industry to develop in an environmentally-friendly way.

Among many entrepreneurs, why We Have Too Few Women Leaders in the business world? Regardless of the position, the impact of women on business results in the workplace is always controversial, and this situation is similar abroad. Why? Can students find the answer from the text that learned today?

### **3.2 Theme Exploration**

At first, the class needs to explain a term "Gender Diversity." From a business perspective, represents the mix of a workforce in terms of gender, including that of top management and the board of directors. When it comes to gender diversity, its derived meanings include the following two aspects.

Although in general, men are physically stronger than women, but that doesn't mean they are smarter. With the development of technology and society, intelligence is playing a crucial role in all walks of the society. It is not hard to explain why there are large numbers of excellent women politicians, women scientists, women doctors,

women astronauts springing up to the positions that used to be dominated by men...

By studying this text, it is to sort out and analyze its theme together and develop a correct understanding of the role women play in the business world.

To identify the theme of the text, in the process of teaching, two reading techniques will be used: skimming and scanning.

### 3.2.1 *Skimming*

It involves looking through a text and reading only the main parts like contents, headings, introductions, summaries and conclusions. With skimming, you are supposed to get a general idea of the material.

### 3.2.2 *Scanning*

The method is usually applied to search a page quickly for information or scan for specific information. Usually, it is used when learners look for a number, name, place, or fact by capital letters, currency symbols and titles. By using the reading techniques, these lead to a positive feedback loop — firms that support gender diversity will capture benefits. After determining the theme of the text, students can express their opinions and further understand the role of women in the workplace. Believing in the value of gender diversity and treating gender inclusion as an obligation.

Argumentative papers focus on presenting facts and reasoning. As the saying goes, “facts speak louder than words.” To make your viewpoint stand firm, you need to provide a large number of examples to prove your viewpoint. In this text, the author provides many examples. By using examples, this study explores different approaches to treating women both domestically and internationally, from the societal and national levels, and then introduces various positive policies implemented in China to achieve a silent expression of ideological and political elements in the course... for example, what are China’s attitudes and practices towards gender diversity?

On September 22nd, 2015, the Information Office of the State Council, or China’s Cabinet, issued a white paper on *Gender Equality and Women’s Development in China*. China has always upheld the constitutional principle of equality between men and women, which is also a basic

state policy for promoting progress in the country and in society.

Equal participation in economic activities and equitable access to economic resources are the basic conditions for the well-being and development of women. The state ensures equal employment right for women.

Then, every student learns statement by Xi Jinping President of the People’s Republic of China at the High-level Meeting on the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

China has strong cultural support and the country’s legal structures are in place. China has created a better social environment for women’s individual overall development and achieved wider recognition of gender equality in the past decade. Women in China have participated extensively in economic and social development. More sectors have opened employment to women and they can perform at nearly the same level as men in economic and social development.

## 3.3 *Text Resources*

In addition to the macro analysis, the course tries to get an insight into the detailed reasons by listening to a talk *Implicit Bias – How We Hold Women Back*.

When the students listen to the talk, they got the expression implicit bias, it equals to gender bias. The content of this video material will enable students to think about gender differences and the problems they may lead to.

Gender differences just like two boxes of different colors, pink box and blue box, people label them as “feminine” and “masculine”, then they squeeze in all of girls and women into the pink box and let them to be certain things, like nice, kind, sweet and many more. People also squeeze all boys and men into the blue box, and tell them they have to be tough and aggressive and many more things. These two boxes of different colors are just like gender stereotypes. They are the root of gender inequality in the society or in the world. So, how should the students think outside the box? During the course, the students need to get to solutions and they will find that there’s a number of solutions.

As women themselves, thinking about the path to achieve gender equality... Women are equal to men, a woman can learn anything a man can, but self-confidence, self-reliance and self-esteem are

required. These are basic qualities to achieve gender equality.

### 3.4 Text Extension

Women are as capable as their male peers. At the same time, on average, women spend 136 minutes a day taking care of children and other family members. Women can assume multiple roles in the family and society, and as women, they possess the new spirit of the new era and the extraordinary ambition to always be ready to defend their motherland. After learning the text, let students enjoy a poem together written by Mao Zedong.

*Militia Women*[3]

*Inscription on a Photograph*

*February 1961*

With rifles five feet long, so bright and brave  
are you

On the parade-ground in the first rays of the day.

You, China's daughters, have unusual aims in  
view;

You've scorn for flashy dress, but love your war  
array.

- Assignment

Discussion

1. What else has China done to achieve gender equality and women's development?

2. Do you believe that gender diversity can make firms more productive? Using counterarguments to make a debate, either supports or opposes the argument.

## 4. CONCLUSION

The ideological and political education in English courses should focus on firm ideals and beliefs, strengthening moral cultivation, cultivating a spirit of struggle, and cultivating patriotism. Gender equality is a fundamental national policy in China, and promoting the comprehensive development of women and gender equality is an important component of socialism with Chinese characteristics. To gather the strength of women, gather their wisdom, respect and care for women, and guide women to actively engage in the great practice of the new era and new journey. Cultivate

students with ideal beliefs, positive social attitudes, and the spirit of the times.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Project: This paper is part of the results of the Yunnan Province Philosophy and Social Science Planning Project in 2021, Project No. PY202128. Project name: A Cognitive Translation Study on the International Communication of Mao Zedong's Poetry.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Guangming Daily. Symposium on Cultural Heritage and Development [N]. Guangming Daily, 2023-06-03(01).
- [2] Wang, Shouren and so on, New Era Mingde College English [M]. Higher Education Press, 2022
- [3] Zhao Zhentao. Mao Zedong Poems [M]. Hunan People's Publishing House, 1980.