

Construction of Ideological and Political Education Models and Critical Thinking on Applying Information Technology in Politics Teaching

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Abstract: The Chinese ideological and political education is full of Chinese peculiarity. According to Marxism, the ideological and political education is one kind of social practice which considers education as its central task. Under the new concept of educational technology, ideological and political education should also reflect the characteristics of modern technology. The paper explores three technological models of this particular education including decision model, educational activity model, and educational resources and technology model. In the teaching process, teachers can apply different models in class or after class to meet the requirements of their teaching contents and objectives. Apart from three models, the paper also discusses advantages and disadvantages of applying information technology in politics teaching. Suggestions on how to apply information technology properly and efficiently are offered in the last part of the paper.

Keywords: Ideological and political education, decision model, educational activity model, educational resources and technology model.

I. INTRODUCTION

The diverse development in life practice and its comprehensive requirements for the people's qualities lead to diversification and complexity in ideology, value orientation and social morality. Hence, the traditional forms and methods of ideological and political education confront the unprecedented challenge due to their hysteresis quality, simplicity, and emptiness as well. In order to solve the complex problem in ideological and political education, we have to transform those non-systematic, experienced methods to systematic and scientific ones, realizing e-modernization and effectiveness of this discipline.

At present, the creative educational models and learning patterns are advocated actively in various subjects; the deep-levelled integration between information technology and teaching is advanced vigorously. Likewise, the discipline of ideological and political education encounters the problem of its comprehensive integration into the information technology. The concept of Modern Technology of Ideological and Political Education has been put forward and absorbed into the basic theoretical system of ideological and political education. To construct its technological theory model and enhance its technological content can not only provide the new perspective in effective research into this discipline, but also broaden the new field in this discipline's construction. [1]The paper firstly discusses the objective existence of ideological and political education technology, and then explains the construction principles of its theoretical models, providing the effective practice of this model applied in our teaching process.

II. CONSTRUCTION PRINCIPLES AND DEMANDS IN IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION MODEL

A. Leader's Scientific Decision Plays the Leading Role in the System of Ideological and Political Education

The Chinese ideological and political education has the characteristic of definite political feature, so it is a must to adhere to the following principles directed by Marxism: the human being and the true facts as the foundation; democratic administration; comprehensive development. All these clarified principles determine the modern technology for ideological and political education isn't only a pure systematic design for this major, but also a leader's decision process. The first decision is the one for educational objectives and educational contents, strategies and various teaching methods accordingly.

B. Various Demands Are Reflected in Ideological and Political Education Activities

This variety can be seen in the education space. The education is not only fulfilled in school education, but also in wide area of social life. On the other hand, this variety can also be seen in its various approaches in execution. The ideological and political education can be carried out through the main channel of school curriculum, but meanwhile, it can be integrated into multi-carriers in culture, media, management, activities and intercommunication. The modern technology model of ideological and political education should go beyond the

differences among multi-contents of ideological and political education to the full extent, focusing on the sameness of educational process to cover all the educational purveyors.

C. The Comprehensive Tendency Should Be Complied with Ideological and Political Education Activities

The variety of ideological and political education activities has been integrated into other disciplines in their teaching practice, which advances the comprehensive requirements for ideological and political education. With the social development and technological advance, the elements and structures of this education are becoming increasingly complex. It needs to form a tridimensional network system contributing to construct a collective force among the families, school and society. This new model must reflect the comprehensive education concept, the corporative education value. It should be also established to cover the following natures as system, collectiveness and comprehensive efficiency in order to meet great needs in science, normalization, and comprehensiveness.

III. THREE MODELS OF MODERN IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION

A. Construction of Decision Model

The designing technology in modern education technology is similar to the scientific design in modern ideological and political education. To have a scientific decision and implement definite objectives and tasks is the central element to construct the education model. Figure 1 reflects the concrete design of decision model.

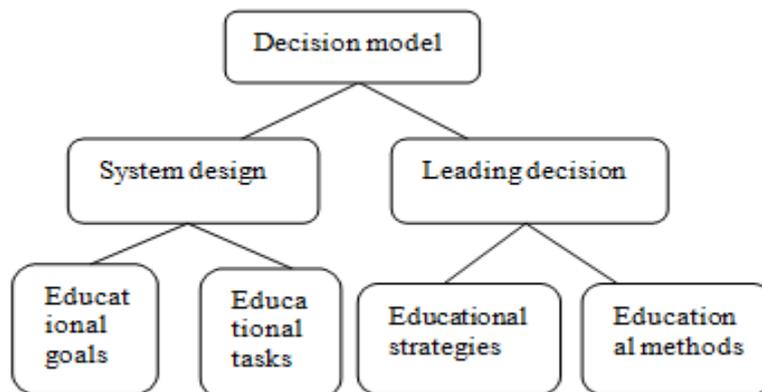


Fig. 1: The decision model of ideological and political education

B. Construction of Educational Activity Model

In the modern ideological and political education, the leading part is activity model. Here there are various carriers contributing to the completeness of activity model. Teachers can apply different carriers in different classes, such as cultural carrier, multi-media carrier, and comprehensive carrier. Figure 2 offers us the whole body of activity model.

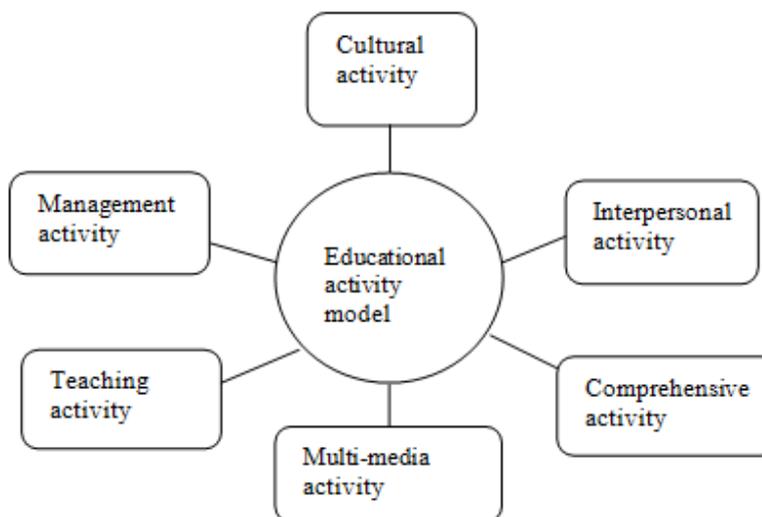


Figure 2: The educational activity model of ideological and political education

C. Educational Resources and Technology Model

The urgent task for the modern ideological and political education is to set up a set of teaching resources and management system to ensure its scientific and effective operation. At present, we have to construct a new system based on whole-media digital resources including management and evaluation mechanism. Figure 3 is the conceptualization of this model.

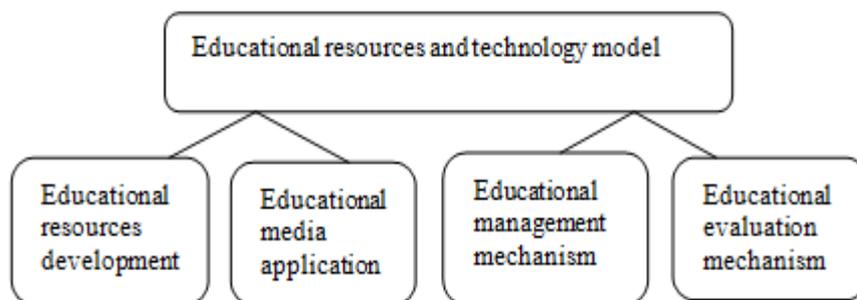


Figure 3: The educational resources and technology model

In fact, these three models can be integrated into a comprehensive body used by the administrators, designers or teachers of ideological and political education through network technology. The chosen educational methods or strategies must be the most appropriate ones to suit each of teaching content or environment. Teachers can utilize these models in different teaching process. For instance, they should use decision model on engaging this course, and use educational activity model in the process of teaching this course. Educational resources and technology model is always used by those teachers or teaching assistants being good at making teaching software.

IV. CRITICAL THINKING ON APPLYING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN POLITICS TEACHING

We must be fully aware of the importance and significance of constructing college online politics teaching system, for on one hand, it is to meet the requirements of deepening educational reform and confront the challenges of educational development, and on the other hand, it is to reflect the characteristics and principles of ideological and political teaching. [2] But there are two sides of applying information technology in politics teaching.

A. Advantages of College Online Politics Teaching System

Compared with the traditional teaching method, the online politics teaching system possesses incomparable merits. The network teaching system utilizes the high-efficiency of information transportation, greatly increasing information content and improving teaching efficiency. The ideological and political education is characterized by abundance and width of teaching materials and knowledge, so it's difficult for traditional class to fulfil teaching tasks in limited classes. The introduction of network teaching system resolves the problem of class limitation, and hence enhances the effects of politics teaching. Network teaching system can help students understand the deep-levelled issues and problems through vivid and direct images and expressions under the support of network and information technology. [3]The starting point to realize the educational goal lies in the point that the students are interested in the teaching materials. College politics teaching system integrates pictures, videos, and sounds together to offer the students a vivid and colourful class satisfying students' various demands in curiosities, interests, and desires. They begin to participate into political class actively and energetically.

B. Disadvantages of College Online Politics Teaching System

Although network teaching has become popular recently, the real teaching effect of information technology into college politics teaching network is full of controversy. Its disadvantages are also very obvious. Relying on network or multi-media demonstration easily neglects the development of the students' thinking abilities. The goal of class teaching is to lead the students to think in logical and critical manner, but the network teaching with multi-media demonstration tends to be inflexible teaching software. Once the software is made, it cannot be changed easily, and the whole teaching process is fulfilled according to previous design without flexible change and supplement, which deprives the students' opportunities to think in abstract way. On the other hand, relying on multi-media software leads to the reversed position of teacher and student. [4]Teaching activity is a double-side activity in which teaching and learning are taking place simultaneously and interacting at any time. During the whole teaching activity, teacher is in charge of teaching, while students in charge of

learning. Teacher and students are the subjects of this activity. But in the modern multi-media teaching process, multi-media teaching approach takes place of other approaches, and teacher changes to be an operator controlling computer. The college students' subjective position is weakened, passively absorbing the knowledge. And the third, in the process of multi-media teaching, interactivity and emotional interaction between teacher and students become inadequate. Many teachers are confined to the computer, demonstrating their teaching software and reading those printed materials automatically without time to feel the students' reactions and without knowing students' comprehensive degrees. There's no opportunity for feedback and heated discussion; the teaching process is boring and lifeless due to less interaction and reaction.

V. SUGGESTIONS ON IMPROVING EFFICIENCY OF APPLYING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN POLITICS TEACHING

A. Space Should Be Reserved to Make Teacher and Students Play Their Proper Roles, Reflecting Teachers' Subject Position

Teaching design is stable, while teaching practice is dynamic. Teachers begin a teaching design according to a stable teaching content, but the teaching practice is a dynamic process. Teaching activity is an instant face-to-face performance. Students are unique individuals with their own ideas and opinions, which requires teachers to display their particular functions. In making multi-media software, teachers should attach great importance to the key and difficult points. The assisting functions of the multi-media teaching software should be remembered in the whole teaching process. It is a complete and systematic process from making software, class operation, to doing exercise. Teachers and students have to participate into every concrete process playing their proper roles.

B. Multi-media System of Politics Teaching Software Should Be Set Up and Improved

Firstly, it is to set up information system of multi-media teaching software. In-class, after-class and online politics teaching software should be separated. The semi-system of teaching plan, in-class teaching, test and exercise should be improved. The key and difficult points should be taught in class; the topics for discussion should be uploaded to campus network; the teaching videos should be watched online in spare time. Secondly, the college multi-media teaching should meet the requirements of teaching contents. Teachers design higher-quality software according to teaching content and objective, paying attention to the application of pictures and concision of expressions. Thirdly, colleges set up information platform to share multi-media teaching software. In order to make qualified software, a qualified team of making politics teaching software should be set up, being in charge of different tasks to constitute a collective force.

C. The Multi-media Training and Encouragement Mechanism for Politics Teaching Staff Should Be Perfected

To apply multi-media teaching software is a new challenge for politics teaching staff, and in particular, for some old-aged teachers. As a result, it is a must to better the training for information technology and software making. Teachers have to learn to make and revise the software on their own, possessing the basic skills for making politics teaching software.

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