

# Research on Improving the Legal Literacy of College Students in Higher Vocational Colleges under the Perspective of Great Ideological and Political Courses

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**Abstract:** Under the current perspective of great ideological and political courses, improving the legal literacy of college students in higher vocational colleges is not only a positive response to the educational mission of the new era, but also a powerful promotion of the construction of a rule of law society. As a key course for improving the quality of legal education in higher vocational colleges, the course of "Value, Morality and Rule of Law" plays a pivotal role in it. Through an in-depth analysis of the characteristics of the learning situation of students in higher vocational colleges, this paper proposes strategies such as optimizing teaching content and strengthening the construction of ideological and political teachers, aiming to improve the target targeting and supply accuracy of legal education, while enhancing the attractiveness and linkage of the classroom, and focusing on the improvement of timeliness and resource quality.

**Keywords:** great ideological and political courses, characteristics of learning situations, teaching content, teachers

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## Introduction

In May 2024, General Secretary Xi Jinping instructed that the ideological and political courses of schools should closely meet the development needs of the new era and show new atmosphere and new actions. This instruction provides a clear direction for the reform and innovation of ideological and political courses, ensuring that the course content keeps pace with the times and the teaching methods are innovatively developed. Since the comprehensive revision of the *Vocational Education Law (2022)*, vocational education has been clearly given the same status as general education. As a key link of higher education system in China, vocational colleges are not only committed to cultivating students' professional skills, but also shoulder the important mission of shaping their moral qualities. In the context of the increasingly prominent demand for legal education in higher vocational colleges, the importance of constructing a specific implementation plan for the "Value, Morality and Rule of Law" course teaching is even more prominent. This move is intended to further consolidate the core role of ideological and political courses in ideological guidance, theoretical deepening and emotional resonance, and ensure that the knowledge it conveys is closely linked to the actual needs of students, thereby helping students achieve all-round development.

## 1. Strengthening the pertinence of ideological and political teaching objectives based on the characteristics of higher vocational colleges

As the core practical path of the fundamental task of cultivating morality and cultivating people, legal education in colleges and universities is an important measure to implement Xi Jinping's thoughts on the rule of law<sup>[1]</sup>. To improve the quality and effectiveness of legal education for students in higher vocational colleges, the first and key task is to reach a broad and in-depth consensus on educational goals. Learning situation analysis is a process in which teachers analyze and study students' cognitive foundation, ability level, attitude orientation and other dimensions in depth<sup>[2]</sup>, and then accurately design and optimize the teaching process to meet the personalized learning needs of different students and ensure the pertinence and effectiveness of education.

### **1.1 Strengthening the pertinence of ideological and political theory courses based on the actual development and physical and mental characteristics of higher vocational students**

Under the macro framework of the integrated construction of ideological and political courses in primary, secondary and high schools, it is necessary to accurately grasp the teaching objectives, legal literacy, and moral emotion cultivation focus for students of different school ages<sup>[3]</sup>. In view of the actual characteristics of the physical and mental development of higher vocational students, the matching transformation between education and teaching and students' personalized learning needs should be properly handled. In the three stages of before, during and after class, teachers should have a deep understanding of students' actual learning situation, accurately grasp their focus, interest and confusion, and adjust and optimize teaching strategies in a timely manner to meet students' personalized learning needs.

### **1.2 Combining the characteristics of vocational education to improve the effectiveness of ideological and political theory courses**

Against the background of the country's construction of a new development pattern, higher vocational education has ushered in a critical period of its development. Compared with undergraduate education, higher vocational students play an important role in the rise of new technologies and new professions. In view of the significant differences between the on-campus classroom and off-campus practice environment faced by higher vocational students, as well as the particularity of the three-year education training model, higher vocational colleges should give full play to the role of ideological and political theory courses in cultivating morality and cultivating people, ensuring that students can better integrate into the development track of Chinese-style modernization after graduation and contribute to the modernization of the country.

## **2. Optimizing teaching content and realize the integration and connection of legal education in primary, secondary and high schools**

In the process of promoting legal value recognition education, higher vocational colleges have shown diversified implementation paths, among which classroom teaching and legal publicity are the two core strategies. Classroom teaching is based on ideological and political courses, especially "Value, Morality and the Rule of Law" as a public compulsory course for freshmen, which covers a wide range and touches all students. However, it should be pointed out that the course is still insufficient in the teaching of legal content, mainly focusing on the sixth chapter. In view of this, in order to ensure the effective implementation of legal education, higher vocational colleges should systematically sort out the teaching content, accurately grasp the key points and difficulties of the chapters, and make full use of the classroom as the main channel to widely spread Xi Jinping thought on the rule of law. This move plays a crucial role in improving the legal literacy of higher vocational students.

### **2.1 Paying attention to the actual teaching content and achieve effective connection between teaching and training at the subject stage**

The profound conclusions and comprehensive deployment of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on the construction of the rule of law are our party's firm implementation of the strategy of comprehensively governing the country according to law<sup>[4]</sup>. As an important position for legal education, higher vocational colleges need to

accurately grasp the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China and take it as the core point of legal education to improve the pertinence and effectiveness of education. In the process of promoting legal education in primary, secondary and high schools, it is necessary to clarify the focus of education at all levels to meet the normative standards of the integrated construction of primary, secondary and high schools. Specifically, the legal education of primary school students focuses on the enlightenment of life rules and cultivates their cognition and respect for basic social rules; the legal education of middle school students focuses on the cognition of legal norms and deepens their understanding and application of laws and regulations; and for college students, the focus of legal education is on the recognition of the value of the rule of law, guiding them to form a firm belief in the rule of law and actively practice it in practice. In view of this, on the basis of a deep understanding of the revision concept of the textbook "Ideology, Morality and the Rule of Law", the teaching content should be committed to clarifying socialist law and its functions, clarifying the scientific core and guiding value of Xi Jinping thought on the rule of law, explaining the specific measures to strengthen the implementation and supervision of the Constitution, and exploring effective ways to improve the legal literacy, so as to improve the quality of legal education for college students in higher vocational colleges.

## **2.2 Grasping the key points of teaching and solve the contradiction between limited class hours and rich content**

The sixth chapter of "Value, Morality and the Rule of Law" covers a wide range of content and many knowledge points. However, due to the length of the chapter and limited class hours, it is a major challenge to achieve effective dissemination of legal education<sup>[5]</sup>. In this context, it is particularly important to carefully design and plan the content. In view of the actual development of higher vocational colleges and their close connection with industrial development and high-quality development of the local economy, the teaching process should make full use of the organic combination of small classrooms on campus and large classrooms of social practice. Specifically, according to the career development planning needs of different disciplines, we should actively contact internship companies, deeply understand industry regulations, and ensure the timeliness and practicality of teaching content. In classroom teaching, we should focus on the systematicness and stability of subject knowledge, with the goal of improving students' legal awareness; in practical teaching, we should emphasize the transformation and application of subject results, as well as the ability to cope with challenges, so as to effectively alleviate the contradiction between limited class hours and rich content.

## **3. Deepening the construction of ideological and political teaching staff and optimize the coordination mechanism of related disciplines in vocational education**

In order to strengthen the cultivation of the legal spirit of college students in higher vocational colleges, the core lies in strengthening the leading role of teachers<sup>[6]</sup>. Therefore, to promote the construction of legal teams of higher vocational teachers and improve teachers' legal literacy, higher vocational colleges need to comprehensively integrate resources, break the boundaries between schools and society, and between various majors and law majors, and establish an open and interactive collaborative relationship.

### **3.1 Strengthening the connotation construction of curriculum ideological and political education and realize the deep integration of legal education and vocational education**

In the construction of legal education teaching staff in higher vocational colleges, the current main force mainly includes ideological and political teachers and counselors. However, we must face the fact that most of these teachers do not have a legal professional background, so there are limitations in their legal knowledge reserves. At the same time, there are certain differences in their legal literacy and legal ability. In terms of teaching strategies, the current teaching strategy still mainly relies on the traditional one-way teaching model.

In order to effectively break the professional barriers between ideological and political teachers, professional teachers and law teachers, higher vocational colleges can take a series of positive measures. For example, invite law teachers to

conduct in-depth legal spirit cultivation for teachers in higher vocational colleges in the form of special seminars or regular lectures. At the same time, a complete and multi-level teacher training system should be quickly established to comprehensively improve teachers' legal literacy through measures such as systematic induction training and regular professional rotation training. These measures are aimed at gradually solving the problems of insufficient teachers and un-optimized structure faced in the process of cultivating the legal spirit of college students.

### **3.2 Cleverly using technical means to make up for the shortcomings of legal education in higher vocational colleges.**

Teachers should pay close attention to the current ideological trends of college students and focus their teaching on the legal theory and practical challenges they are concerned about to ensure the pertinence and effectiveness of legal spirit cultivation. Given that contemporary college students grow up in the digital age and have a deep network literacy, we should closely link the construction of ideological and political courses with students' daily lives to ensure that students can receive legal education no matter where they are. In this process, we should flexibly use diversified teaching methods such as heuristic, discussion and situational teaching, and make full use of modern teaching tools such as micro-classrooms, flipped classrooms and smart classrooms to organize college students to deeply study and exchange relevant legal knowledge, so as to deepen their understanding and recognition of the spirit of the rule of law, and ensure that the spirit of the rule of law is truly integrated into the hearts of students and reflected in their daily behavior.

## **4. Conclusion**

With the development of the times and the progress of society, higher vocational colleges shoulder great responsibilities and missions in cultivating the spirit of the rule of law among college students. By strengthening the construction of the ideological and political teaching team, deepening the connotation of ideological and political courses, and flexibly using technical means, a solid foundation has been laid for the cultivation of the spirit of the rule of law among college students. However, the cultivation of the spirit of the rule of law is a long-term and arduous task that requires the joint efforts and continuous investment of higher vocational colleges, teachers, students and even the whole society. In future work, we need to continue to deepen the construction of ideological and political teachers and improve teachers' legal literacy and teaching ability; at the same time, we need to further strengthen the connotation of curriculum ideological and political education, deeply integrate legal education with vocational education, and form a comprehensive and systematic legal education system; in addition, we should also actively explore new teaching methods and means, such as virtual reality and artificial intelligence, to provide students with a more vivid and intuitive learning experience, and promote the internalization of the spirit of the rule of law and its externalization in practice.

## **Conflicts of interest**

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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