

Exploration on the Construction of Teaching Materials in Higher Vocational Colleges

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Abstract: The construction of teaching materials is a basic and necessary part of the education and teaching work in higher vocational colleges. At present, there are several problems in the organization, compilation, and publication link of teaching materials for higher vocational colleges. In response to these problems, corresponding countermeasures are proposed.

Key words: higher vocational college; teaching material; countermeasure

1. Introduction

The construction of teaching materials is an important part of the higher vocational colleges' educational and teaching work. High-quality teaching materials, as a vehicle for the knowledge and tools for teaching, are the prerequisite for the cultivation of high-quality vocational college graduates. The teaching materials of higher vocational colleges can partly decide whether the vocational education can train students well enough into qualified high-tech applied talents for the first-line enterprise posts. In recent years, many higher vocational colleges paid great attention to the construction of teaching materials, and have compiled and published a number of textbooks. But it still can not meet the needs of the development of higher vocational education, and there are still many problems in the construction of higher vocational teaching materials now.

2. Problems of the Teaching Materials Now in Use in Higher Vocational College

2.1 Serious shortage of teaching materials suitable for higher vocational education

There are three sources of higher vocational education teaching materials in China. The first one is to use the teaching materials of universities with too much theoretic contents and too less practical parts, which bring much difficulties in teaching and seriously affect the results of teaching. The second way is to use the teaching materials of junior college, original adult college and technical secondary school, which are basically "undergraduate compression version". There are serious deficiencies in the construction of these textbooks in teaching content at the aim of "application", and it is difficult to meet the basic requirements of higher vocational teaching. The third is self compiled teaching materials. There are many problems in them, such as copying content, poor quality of compilation, poor processing and poor printing quality, which lower the quality of teaching materials.

2.2 Textbooks now in use are lagging both in version and content

The current teaching materials in use are too old to reflect the new theories, new technologies, new instruments and new materials in time. Many of these teaching materials departing from the new specifications, new regulations and new

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standards, which are inconsistent with the teaching goal of training applied talents with high technology. Although some teaching materials are called “teaching materials planned for higher vocational colleges”, their contents are actually copies of the original teaching materials for junior colleges or adult colleges, and lack of corresponding practical training teaching part.

2.3 Serious shortage of practical teaching materials

Although practical teaching is an important link in vocational education, which generally accounts for one-third to one-half of the total class hours in higher vocational colleges, teaching materials on the market are mainly for theoretic teaching. The shortage of practical teaching materials has become the bottleneck of training higher vocational talents.

2.4 Lack of coherence between content of teaching materials and qualification certificate

“Double certificate system” is a significant feature of higher vocational education, but most of the higher vocational teaching materials is lack of effective connection with the vocational qualification certificates or vocational skill certificates issued by labor department and industry management department.

3. Countermeasures and Suggestions

In order to change the current situation of the lack of high-quality teaching materials in higher vocational colleges, the following measures are suggested:

First, take the construction of teaching material seriously. The construction of teaching material is a very important part of higher vocational education. Textbook is the carrier of certain teaching theory, the main tool and basis of teachers and students’ teaching activities, the intermediary of teaching theory and practice, the combination of theory and practice, and the key factor of improving teaching efficiency and quality. The quality of textbook seriously affected the teaching result of whether the vocational colleges can achieve the training goal of cultivating applied talents with high technology.

Second, good planning is the foundation of the construction of teaching materials in higher vocational colleges, and strengthening leadership is a guarantee. The department in charge of education should strengthen the leadership over the construction of teaching materials, formulate the basic teaching requirements and professional training specifications of basic courses as soon as possible, organize the compilation and publishing teams, strengthen the contact and coordination between them, and build a communicating platform for exchanging messages between higher vocational colleges. Through this platform, we can timely integrate information for teaching material construction in higher vocational colleges from all aspects, so as to put forward the plan of teaching material construction and publishing from a macro perspective. So we can effectively eliminate the short-term behavior in teaching material construction, promote the construction of teaching materials in higher vocational colleges into a virtuous circle, expect a large number of teaching materials reflecting the characteristics of higher vocational education show up as a result, and we will be happy to see channels for compiling and publishing textbooks in higher vocational colleges are unimpeded.

Third, the construction of teaching materials should focus on the goal of training applied talents with high technology. The teaching materials of basic courses should regard application as the purpose, sufficiency as the “degree”, and explaining the conceptions clearly and strengthening the application as the teaching focus. It is necessary to strengthen the pertinence and practicability of professional course textbooks. At the same time, we should not only pay attention to the reform of content and system in teaching material construction, but also pay attention to the reform of methods and means, so as to keep up with the development of science and technology and meet the needs of production work.

Fourth, teaching staff involved in the the construction of textbooks’ compilation in higher vocational colleges should be strengthened. Teachers are the key factor to provide high quality teaching materials. We should give full play to the enthusiasm of teachers, encourage and support them compiling high-quality teaching materials highlighting the

characteristics of higher vocational education.

Fifth, teaching reform and construction in high school is the basis of teaching material construction. The compilation of teaching materials should be combined with the reform of talent training mode and teaching content system. At the same time, the construction of teaching materials should promote the reform of talent training mode of higher vocational education and promote the coordinated development of all kinds of higher vocational colleges.

4. Conclusions

The teaching materials now in use are not suitable for the situation in higher vocational college in many ways. We should pay more attention on the construction of vocational college textbooks which has less and easier theoretic content, more practical contents and better operating standard explanation in detail. The department in charge of education should strengthen the leadership over the construction course, encourage teachers compiling good teaching materials highlighting the characteristics of higher vocational education. At the same time, a teaching reform should be carried out along with the construction of the teaching materials.

Conflicts of Interest

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

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