

# In-depth exploration of traditional cultural elements in the course "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation"

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**Abstract:** The course "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation" takes the professional knowledge of gem and jade and its rich spiritual and cultural connotation as the research object, emphasizing the interpretation, understanding, application and integration of traditional cultural elements. The goal of curriculum ideological and political reform is to dig deep into the traditional cultural elements in the curriculum and the moral connotation contained in jade culture, organically integrate the traditional cultural ideological and political elements into the training of curriculum professional knowledge and skills through quoting classics, case analysis and other ways, so that the rich spiritual connotation contained in gem and jade can mold teachers and students' confident and independent personality, and transform the great character of gem and jade stone into our resolute will and pragmatic and upright spirit, so as to achieve the teaching purpose of "understanding with jade, educating people with jade, and promoting ability with jade", give full play to the four functions of culture "value orientation, emotional encouragement, value recognition, and emotional cultivation", pay attention to the inheritance of traditional culture, and imperceptibly influence students' national identity, traditional culture education, teacher ethics cultivation, and educational feelings. Finally, it can realize the teaching goal of "promoting jade culture and spreading Chinese virtues". It enables students to cultivate and practice socialist core values while acquiring professional knowledge, enhance cultural self-confidence, and become disseminators and promoters of excellent traditional Chinese culture.

**Key words:** curriculum ideology and politics; traditional culture; gem and jade

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## 1 Introduction

Only by taking root in the fertile historical and cultural soil of the country and the nation can the tree of Marxist truth take root and flourish. The fine traditional Chinese culture has a long history and is extensive and profound. It is the crystallization of the wisdom of Chinese civilization and an important embodiment of the cosmological outlook, world outlook, social outlook and moral outlook accumulated by the Chinese people in their long-term production and life, and is highly compatible with the scientific socialism proposition [1]. The Ministry of Education's *2020 Guidelines for Ideological and Political Construction of Curriculum in Colleges and Universities* clearly emphasize that the ideological and political construction of curriculum in colleges and universities should focus on content of strengthening students' ideals and beliefs, feelings of family and country, and cultural accomplishment, and focus on optimizing the content of

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ideological and political construction of curriculum, systematically carrying out the education of socialist core values and excellent traditional Chinese culture [2]. Under the ideological and political teaching mode of "fostering character and civic virtue" course, the education and teaching activities in colleges and universities should also take "patriotism" as the core and carry forward "national spirit" as the focus. Therefore, college teachers should not only pay attention to imparting professional knowledge and skills to students, but also strengthen the integration with traditional cultural education.

The ideological and political goal of the course "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation" is to enable college students to experience and feel the broad and profound traditional Chinese culture through the study of gem and jade culture knowledge, and help them to deeply understand the profound jade history and unique jade culture of Chinese civilization, so as to stimulate their patriotic enthusiasm and social responsibility, strengthen college students' patriotic consciousness and national consciousness, and establish a high sense of national identity and national pride, thus truly establishing the lofty ambition of "studying for the rise of China", loving the motherland and national culture, voluntarily devoting themselves to the socialist modernization, and constantly striving to achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, which can achieve the ideological and political teaching purpose of promoting morality and cultivating people and enhancing cultural self-confidence.

## **2 The significance and advantages of curriculum ideology and politics**

### **2.1 Curriculum research objects**

The course "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation" is a quality education course for college students. The task of the course is to teach basic mineralogy knowledge and visual identification characteristics related to gem and jade from the perspective of appreciation, as well as the basic principle and technology of gem and jade identification, and briefly introduces the main fraud and counterfeit phenomena in gem and jade industry. The course content not only includes the popularization of basic professional knowledge of common single crystalline gemstones (diamond, sapphire, emerald, chrysolite, etc.), polycrystalline gemstones (jadeite, Hetian jade, etc.) and organic gemstones (pearl, coral, amber, etc.), but also introduces in detail the development history and cultural history of all kinds of gemstones, as well as appreciation knowledge of processing. The course includes a combination of theoretical teaching and practical teaching. The theoretical teaching mainly uses a large number of physical samples and pictures of gem to explain, while the practical teaching focuses on visiting and appreciating typical raw materials, finished products and processing of gem. Through the study of this course, students get to know the introductory course of precious stones, acquire the basic knowledge of common precious stones, understand the cultural history of precious stones, and improve their appreciation ability and aesthetic accomplishment. This course is very interesting and informative. It takes classic historical stories and interesting folklore as the starting point, and runs through the cultural thoughts of Guan Zi and Confucius on jade, so as to increase the cultural heritage of college students, carry forward the stone culture cause of China and the excellent traditional Chinese cultural spirit with the aesthetic appreciation and evaluation of gem as the carrier.

### **2.2 The content advantages in curriculum ideology and politics**

First of all, this course emphasizes the interpretation, understanding, application and integration of traditional cultural elements, gives full play to the four functions of "value orientation, emotional encouragement, value recognition and emotional cultivation" of culture, pays attention to the inheritance of traditional culture, and imperceptibly influences students' national identity, traditional culture education, teacher ethics cultivation and educational feelings. Secondly, creating a unique curriculum of gem and jade culture in colleges and universities can mold teachers and students' confident and independent personality through the rich spiritual connotation contained in gem and jade, and transform the great character of stones into our resolute will and pragmatic and upright spirit, so as to achieve the teaching purpose of

"understanding with jade, educating people with jade, and promoting ability with jade", give full play to the four functions of culture "value orientation, emotional encouragement, value recognition, and emotional cultivation", pay attention to the inheritance of traditional culture, and imperceptibly influences students' national identity, traditional culture education, teacher ethics cultivation, and educational feelings, and realize the teaching goal of "promoting jade culture and spreading Chinese virtues. Thirdly, the education and teaching activities of the course "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation" can serve as an effective carrier for the inheritance and development of traditional Chinese culture. While teaching professional knowledge of gem and jade stone, students can integrate traditional Chinese cultural concepts and humanistic spirit, so that students can spontaneously learn and inherit the national spirit and become disseminators and propagators of excellent traditional Chinese culture.

### **3 In-depth exploration of traditional cultural elements and cultural connotation in the curriculum**

China's "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation" is broad and profound, and has a long history. "Jade culture" is one of the cultural characteristics of the Chinese nation, and it is also an important symbol of the difference between Chinese civilization and other civilizations in the world. "Jade" can be called a microcosm of Eastern culture [3]. The curriculum ideology and politics of this course starts from digging into the traditional cultural elements and their cultural connotation in the course, exploring the close relationship between the ancient historical development of China and the inheritance of traditional jade culture, and organically integrating them into the teaching process, so as to achieve the ideological and political teaching purpose of cultivating morality and enhancing cultural self-confidence. The combination of jade culture and modern ideology is an embodiment of ideological and political education and an important measure to bring the function and role of ideological and political education into full play. Therefore, the ideological and political elements of traditional culture in the course "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation" can be explored from the following aspects:

#### **3.1 Understanding with jade: Hetian jade**

When teaching Hetian jade, one of the four famous jades in China, this course can organically integrate the development history and cultural connotation of traditional jade culture into the teaching process by quoting classics, so that college students can relive the spirit of harmonious coexistence between ancient literati and nature, experience the calm of ancient people's pursuit of mutual compatibility, and receive general education including geology, astronomy, history, humanities, literature and other disciplines. To understand the cultural feelings of our ancestors, we can get a glimpse of the broad and profound Chinese excellent traditional culture.

#### **3.2 Educating students with jade: fine carving jadeite -- striving for excellence and independent innovation**

Jadeite, known as the "king of jade", has a unique jade quality unmatched by other gems and jade stones, representing the elegant and luxurious deep and stable character, which is consistent with the traditional cultural connotation of the Chinese nation. "Jadeite culture" is essentially an inheritance and development of traditional Chinese culture. In contemporary times, people prefer to collect jadeite. The collected jadeite is not uncarved jade raw materials, but carved jadeite artifacts. The processing and polishing process of jadeite by jade carving masters is to give the jade a soul and spirit, and jade stone only has real artistic value after cutting and carving [4].

The evaluation of handcraft level of jadeite is one of the contents of jadeite quality evaluation, and jadeite design and processing especially tests the skills of jade carvers because of its unique structure, color and other characteristics. After the natural jade ore is mined, there will be many cracks, the color of the ore is varied and messy, the water color distribution is uneven, and so on, which are common characteristics of the jade ore raw materials. In the face of such

material properties, high-quality carving technology should be carried out on the basis of reverence and respect for nature, and then seek to maximize the expression of inspiration. In addition to natural attributes, the creation of jade should also revere human history and cultural tradition, and the works should have the height of art and the depth of thought. For example, in recent years, with the youth of consumer groups and the popularity of animation elements, many animation images have become the objects sought after by art creators, such as Nezha, Great Sage Equalling Heaven, Doraemon, etc. These images also appear in jade carving design, which is considered to be the performance of innovation. Therefore, whether in jade production, creation or design, we must adhere to independent innovation.

In the jade carving industry, there are many jade carving masters with exquisite skills and innovative ideas, who create exquisite jade works through the spirit of making perfection more perfect and independent innovation. By excavating the creation cases of these jade carving masters and organically integrating them into the teaching process, we can imperceptibly make students know how to respect and advocate the spirit of artisans, improve their appreciation level and ability of labor, knowledge and artistic creation, and practice the excellent spiritual quality of gem and jade culture in all aspects of thought and action.

### 3.3 Promoting ability with jade: "gold inlaid with jade"

As an important part of traditional Chinese culture, jade culture, with jade as the center carrier, runs through the history of Chinese civilization, not only deeply influenced the ancient Chinese people's ideas and concepts, but also became an indispensable part of Chinese culture, and has continued to have an important impact on modern people's ideas and concepts. For example, in 2008, the world-famous Beijing Olympic Games was held, and the Chinese-designed Olympic Medals "gold inlaid with jade" were praised as unique and creative medals in the Olympic history. This medal is inspired by the design of "gold inlaid with jade" on behalf of China's traditional culture". It is composed of symbols of noble "gold" and moral virtue "jade", not only interpreting the traditional value of "jade" compared to "virtue" since ancient times, but also expressing the Chinese people's sublime admiration for the Olympic spirit [5]. With the attention of mankind to jade civilization, the essence of jade civilization will gradually be tempered and enriched. The jade spirit of unremitting struggle is the essence of Chinese spiritual culture, and the inheritance and development of jade culture can deeply imprint China's excellent traditional culture on the hearts of Chinese, and inspire countless Chinese to strut toward a better future.

This course combines jade culture with modern ideas and concepts in the form of cases, so that students can understand the relationship between nature and ideas, culture and scientific level, expand imaginative thinking, and cultivate the ability to combine theory and reality. At the same time, inheriting traditional Chinese virtues can cultivate and practice socialist core values, which plays an important guiding role in people's understanding and transformation of the world, guides college students to establish a correct outlook on life and values, and makes correct value judgment and value choice. Promoting the cultivation of talents through ideological and moral development can mold individuals who are adapted to the needs of the times and develop in an all-round way.

## 4 Conclusion

The course "Stone Culture and Gem and Jade Appreciation" takes the professional knowledge of gem and jade and its rich spiritual and cultural connotation as the research object, emphasizing the interpretation, understanding, application and integration of traditional cultural elements. The goal of curriculum ideological and political reform is to dig deeply into the traditional cultural elements in the curriculum, as well as the moral connotation contained in jade culture, and integrate the traditional cultural ideological and political elements through quoting classics and case analysis. For example, the excellence in the jade carving process, the artisan spirit of independent innovation, and the traditional cultural essence of

"Yu Ru Yu Cheng" expressed by the Olympic medal "gold inlaid with jade" are organically integrated into the training of professional knowledge and skills, and effectively play the role of ideological and political education. It is necessary to let the rich spiritual connotation contained in gem and jade stone mold teachers and students' confident and independent personality, and transform the great character of stone into our resolute will and pragmatic and upright spirit, to achieve the teaching purpose of "understanding with jade, educating people with jade, and promoting ability with jade", give full play to the four functions of culture "value orientation, emotional encouragement, value recognition, and emotional cultivation", pay attention to the inheritance of traditional culture, and imperceptibly influence students' national identity, traditional culture education, teacher ethics cultivation, and educational feelings, thus realizing the teaching goal of "promoting jade culture and spreading Chinese virtues". While acquiring professional knowledge, students can cultivate and practice socialist core values, enhance cultural self-confidence, spontaneously inherit and carry forward what they have learned, and become disseminators and promoters of excellent traditional Chinese culture.

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### **Conflicts of interest**

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

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