

The Consolidation of Political Ideology Education Framework for College Students

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Abstract: The higher education system in China has been transformed into part of the public education system. Following this transformation, it is important to accentuate the quality of research and teaching in colleges and universities. Implementing high quality political ideology classes can be a way to help enhance the overall state of the higher education system. In this work, the author investigates the main attributes and traits of new age college students and the fundamentals for consolidating a new framework for the effective teaching of political ideology to college students.

Keywords: *New age, college, students, political ideology, consolidation*

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1 Introduction

Following the constant development of the state of China's higher education system, colleges and universities in China have now morphed into a public education framework from its previous elite status. The number of university and college graduates have increased significantly in recent years. This could provide adequate human resource to power and propel the economic engine of this country. The advancement of the state of China's higher education system demands a constant improvement on the standard and quality of deliverables, especially the quality of research and teaching. One of the most important aspects of higher education in China is the political ideology education (PIE), which aims to inculcate fundamental ideas and values of the Chinese society in college students.

2 Traits and attributes of contemporary college students

College students today are relatively more optimistic, healthy, driven and positive compared to college students of the previous eras. This could be attributed to the economic progress and societal changes achieved in China since its Open Door Policy in 1978. The changes experienced in China's higher education environment are tabulated in Table 1 below:

3 The fundamentals for consolidating the political ideology education framework

3.1 Basic principle 1: subjectivity

In order to improve the quality of political ideology education in college, it is imperative to underline the subjectivity of the students while accentuate the subjective function of students. It is also recommended to adhere to the text and personalized the coaching to focus on the students^[1]. By focusing in fulfilling the students' need and solving their problems, colleges can effectively enhance the quality and effectiveness of political ideology education while also inculcating self-governance and self-discipline^[2].

3.2 Basic principle 2: consolidation

One of the most effective ways to learn is to incorporate theoretical understanding with practise. Similarly, the teaching of political ideology may also be taught alongside real-world implementation to achieve certain learning goals. Practical activities, however, should be properly monitored by qualified professionals to achieve desired outcomes. Using a diverse methodology in political ideology education could help to steer and lead the young minds toward the right direction^[3].

Table 1

Trait	Description
Diversity	The increase in student population leads to students from myriad backgrounds.
Differences	The differences in social standing among the students can be significant, especially between the rich and the poor.
Vibrant	Most colleges in China implement credit system, double major, elective courses and double degrees. With the advancement of information technology, students may now acquire knowledge in the most creative and convenient ways.
Variability	Most college students come from single-child family, ergo better economic background with less challenges and predicaments, and therefore most likely unable to handle social pressure, which can exacerbate into severe mental and psychological problem.
Hysteresis	The increase in college student population can lead to an increase in competition in the local job market. However, there are some faction of students who retain the elite-oriented view of employment, and hence unable to adapt to the change in the higher education environment.
Complexity	The advancement of information technology and an increase in job competition have caused tremendous pressure on college graduates today. In order to stand out from the rest, college students have to undergo complex thought processes, which could severely alter their morality and social judgement.

3.3 Basic principle 3: differentiation

In this modern age, it is recommended to provide personalized teaching services for college students. Integrating personalized coaching and teaching could increase the level of interest in the students. Apart from that, it could also help teachers and instructors to better

understand the students' mentality and personality. A deeper understanding between the tutor and students could facilitate the transfer of knowledge and discussion on political ideology. The two major difference in this strategy is tabulated in Table 2.

3.4 Basic principles 4: humanity

Table 2

	Description
Respectful	Colleges should emphasize on the personal needs and mental growth requirement of individual students, and respect their personal development
Critical	Educate the students by using critical examples and ideologies to promote critical thinking and logical reasoning.

Apart from teaching and mentoring the younger generation in the field of political ideology, educators should not neglect the importance of humanity in the process^[4]. This can be achieved by increasing the interaction between instructors and students, or by introducing extra-curricular activities to promote camaraderie in the lesson. This aims to invoke higher interest of learning in the students while also to create an environment to encourage learning amongst the students.

4 Establish the values of political ideology framework of new era college students

4.1 Promote nationalism

The establishment of appropriate political ideology in college students may help to promote national spirit and a love for cultural tradition and values. Other critical values for nation-building like unity and cohesion can also be encouraged by enriching the application of resources used in the teaching process to include the

importance of perseverance, diligence and positive ideals and beliefs^[5].

4.2 Critical thinking in political ideology education

Most students would experience a certain cultural and mental gap when commencing tertiary education. It is also an important phase of a student's life when mental growth and critical thinking are fostered. The important political ideology should therefore be taught to these young, eager minds during this time to prepare them with essential skills and values to better play their roles in the society^[6].

5 Effective ways to establish political ideology frame in higher education environment

5.1 Identifying main ideals and values

The first step to effectively establish a quality political ideology framework in institutes of higher learning is to identify the main ideology, values and understandings in the system. The syllabus should be

filled with interesting, relevant and valuable contents that could invoke critical thinking and an appreciation for moral values. The core of the system should be the main ideology, the values and examples of the desired ideology, highlighted alongside other secondary values such as nationalism, patriotism, humility, morality, and other^[7]. The cascading effect from the core (main political ideology) to the outer mantle (secondary values) should create college graduates that are kind, competent, patriotic, loyal, obedient, discipline and skilful to continue to run the economic engine of the country. Apart from that, the routine should also emphasize on critical thinking, creative and innovative

thinking to allow freedom of initiation and spark new endeavours that could contribute to the country^[8].

5.2 Attract professional and excellent academics

Numerous studies have shown that the quality of students have a high correlation with the quality of teachers and mentors. Therefore, it is imperative to attract professional and eminent academics to form the backbone of the teaching staffs. Other solutions include increasing training workshop and retreats and hire professional from other industries. These solutions are tabulated in Table 3.

Besides, colleges should not neglect the importance

Table 3

Solution	Description
Attract excellent academic staffs	Hire and select academics with proven track record to provide creative and innovative output for the panel of staffs.
Increase training workshops	Increase the training on appropriate pedagogy and knowledge for existing staffs. This could enhance their professionalism while also increasing their skillsets to better contribute to the betterment of the institute.
Hire professionals from other industries	Hire professionals from other sectors, such as entrepreneurs or professors of political ideology to share their experience and ideas on patriotism and nationalism, with the hope to inspire young college graduates and to promote these values in their minds.

of psychological and mental education for college graduates to assist them with the challenges they face in society. Also, career-related assistance such as job placement and training should also be provided to the students to allow a smooth transition from campus to workplace. It is also crucial to encourage and promote research on political ideology through debate and discussions in campus^[9]. Public forum and discussions should be held periodically to provide the most updated information on political ideals.

5.3 Mechanism of the new political ideology framework

Following the formation of a proper political ideology framework, colleges and universities should then standardize the mechanisms required to regulate them. This could help to identify weaknesses in the system, strengthen the strong points and promote the advantages of the framework^[10]. Hence, institutions of higher learning should actively construct a sound ideological and political education mechanism for college students, combined with the rapid growth of the number of college students to strengthen the cooperation, bond and coordination between various institutes of higher learning to jointly improve the existing framework^[11]. Besides, the roles and responsibilities of each

academic staffs should be underlined and documented to strengthen cooperation to better implement the ideological and political education of college students. In addition, colleges and universities should also innovate the assessment mechanism to monitor the level of enthusiasm and passion of the teaching staffs, because the quality of students has a high correlation with the motivation and commitment of teachers^[12].

It may also be prudent to form a reward and punishment mechanism which aims to evaluate, reward and punish ideological and political education offenders through strict ideological and political education indicators. The form of assessment and reward and punishment mechanisms can also be innovated to assist in the teaching of proper values and ideology. In addition, colleges and universities should actively seek to improve the education and training mechanism for their academic staffs and comprehensively formulate the teacher training program to dynamically grasp the pulse of ideological and political education in the new era^[13].

6 Summary

With the arrival of a new era and the advent of information technology, various ideas are now impacting college students. The importance of

the establishment of an effective ideological and political education framework for college students is therefore becoming increasingly crucial. In the process of constructing the proper ideological and political education framework, colleges and universities should follow the four basic principles of initiative, specification, differentiation, and humanization. It is also important to combine the traits of contemporary college students and the task of fulfilling the needs of college students. The main ideas and values of desired political education should be identified, and then delivered to students through a panel of qualified, professional personnel. In time, it is hoped that institutes of higher learnings could standardize the construction of the political ideology education system for the benefit of the country.

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