Thoughts on Calligraphy Education and Teaching in Colleges and Universities in the Multimedia Era

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Abstract: As an important quintessence of Chinese culture, the learning and inheritance of calligraphy can help students to cultivate a good interest in learning, and cultivate their own noble sentiment, so that they have multiple values of art, culture and history. Through calligraphy education activities implemented in colleges and universities, students can appreciate the unique charm of Chinese culture. In the context of the continuous development and growth of multimedia, calligraphy teaching is also facing more challenges and opportunities. It can improve teaching quality and efficiency by integrating calligraphy education and teaching in colleges and universities into multimedia. According to the current situation, this paper analyzed and proposed some opinions.

1. Introduction

Calligraphy is an important essence of Chinese traditional culture, which is the unique charm of Chinese characters in the process of development, and the key to the inheritance of Chinese culture. The inheritance and development of calligraphy has also been impacted by the relentless march of technology. Although some students have rich knowledge, they cannot write beautiful fonts. In addition, with the emergence of various intelligent terminals, the opportunities for handwriting become less and less, therefore, it requires to combine with the current development of science and technology in the process of carrying out calligraphy education and teaching activities. In the era of multimedia, it has become an urgent problem to be solved in the current calligraphy teaching on how to better improve the level of calligraphy of students and the quality of calligraphy teaching[1].

2. The Significance of Carrying out Calligraphy Education and Teaching in Colleges and Universities

In the new era, it is of significance to carry out calligraphy teaching activities in colleges and universities, which main purpose is to improve students’ humanistic quality, uplift their mind and spirit, and cultivate comprehensive talents. The calligraphy teaching activities have been popularized in various colleges and universities, and has become a very important subject.
2.1 Important Historical and Cultural Value

Calligraphy is a national treasure, the core of Chinese culture, and the practice of calligraphy education in colleges and universities has taken on the important task of popularising calligraphy. In today's environment of moderate expansion in universities across the country, the fever of calligraphy examinations has become an inevitable and exceptional phenomenon. Inherited tradition and innovation are the two main components of the 'transmission' and 'dissemination' of Chinese calligraphy. Within the framework of this 'two-transmission' discipline is the proposition of the times that Chinese calligraphy should 'go in, go down and go out'. Calligraphy education in higher education is not only about teaching a skill, but also about the continuation of Chinese culture and art and spiritual wealth. For every student of calligraphy in higher education, learning calligraphy is not only a merit of cultivating blessings and passing on the meaning of culture through individual professional learning, but also an inculcation of training professional skills and artistic quality of life. There are numerous examples in history of people who have been changed by calligraphy. Learning from the classics, seeing the wise, acquiring the basics of the profession through the study of calligraphy, improving one's personal cultivation and contributing to the revitalisation of the culture of the nation as a whole, is a firm belief that should be taken into account when considering the resource dilemma of calligraphy education in higher education.

2.2 Cultivate Noble Quality

Although the formation and shaping of each person’s quality is the result of joint action of many aspects, as for the learning of calligraphy, it can shape good character of students to a certain extent if they can concentrate on their studies of calligraphy. Learning calligraphy can greatly improve aesthetic level of students, and exercise their inner spirit. The regular script is the square font, every stroke is the representatives of the integrity and perseverance of Chinese people. For example, Liu Gongquan’s willow style, the font is clear and vigorous, rigid and soft, students can improve their aesthetic appreciation through learning[2]. And the dedication to calligraphy study can avoid external interference to a large extent, temporarily break from the secular isolation, and cultivate students’ spirit of concentration.

2.3 Develop Determined and Strong-Willed Spirit

The teaching of calligraphy is not achieved overnight, but a long-term learning process. For calligraphy, students need to spend a long time to understand and learn. They can reach a certain level only through continuous and repeated boring learning. During the process, the perseverance and determination of students can be cultivated and exercised well[3]. For students, it can enrich their after-school life and develop their strong perseverance, so that they can be able to better enter the society after graduation, and achieve success in the future work. Moreover, in the process of long-term perseverance, the students will certainly make breakthroughs, which makes students understand that they will certainly achieve good results in future as long as they can work diligently.

3. Current Situation of Calligraphy Education and Teaching in Colleges and Universities

3.1 Scale Formed But No Specific Goal

At present, more and more colleges and universities have been aware of the importance of calligraphy education and teaching in the cultivation of students, and have developed relevant teaching courses, but there is no quite clear goal in the process of cultivation. Although students have
been in learning, they still feel that the learning results are not obvious enough. The situation is mainly caused by the fact that colleges and universities did not set specific goals in the teaching process, when the overall goal is not clear, the phased goal cannot be clear naturally. That is to say, it is difficult to set educational goals. Although the teaching scale is relatively large and most universities have carried out the calligraphy teaching, students cannot achieve phased recognition. When the phased goals are completed, students will be less interested, and thus it is easy to lose their motivation for learning[4].

3.2 Inaccurate Positioning of Education and Teaching

In the education and teaching of various courses in colleges and universities, most courses have their own educational and teaching orientation, but the positioning of calligraphy education and teaching is very difficult[5]. Calligraphy is divided into two parts: learning and appreciation, which are different. At present, many schools confuse these two kinds in teaching and compile them in the same course, and hoping to enable students to understand each other, learn how to appreciate calligraphy during practice, and practice calligraphy during the appreciation. Despite the best intentions, students have many after-school activities and do not have a lot of time to study, which will lead to the decrease of learning efficiency.

3.3 Learning Obstacles Caused by the Change of Learning Style

At present, students are greatly depend on multimedia teaching in the process of learning various courses, and even maull multimedia courses are dominated by multimedia teaching, especially in the few years of the epidemic, online teaching has become the mainstream teaching style[6]. With the development of science and technology and the rapid popularization of terminal equipment, students are more willing to accept these new things, and the opportunities to write words will be less and less, resulting in the difficulty of promoting calligraphy education and teaching.

3.4 Low Efficiency Caused by Unfamiliar with New Teaching Method

Currently, many new teaching methods continue to emerge, and the teaching quality will be reduced if teachers cannot fully grasp the new teaching methods. It is necessary to develop multimedia teaching ability of students while strengthening the professional level of teachers from multiple perspectives. At present, there are still many teachers think that multimedia teaching is an unnecessary way, and they don’t have enough ability to use multimedia equipment, which leads to difficulty ensuring the teaching quality of multimedia calligraphy education and teaching activities. Under the background of current rapid development of science and technology, multimedia teaching has been rapidly popularized, and it will be the mainstream teaching mode in the future, which requires teachers to fully improve their own ability.

4. Improve Calligraphy Education and Teaching by Means of Multimedia Teaching

4.1 Set up Teaching Goals

Setting up accurate teaching goals and making phased division of courses can enable students to master certain knowledge after learning for a period of time and then enter the next stage of learning. In the process of formulating teaching plan, teachers should make a very detailed differentiation of course, clarify the phased teaching goal and the overall goal of course teaching, so that students can better summarize after complete a stage of learning, and harvest learning results, obtain certain
achievements, bring fun in learning and improve learning interest. The same is true of calligraphy education and teaching activities, once students are unable to obtain results through long-term boring learning, their interest will decrease sharply. In the process of dividing teaching objectives, since college teaching is different from high school teaching, there is no pressure on college entrance examination, it can formulate different teaching goals according to actual situation of students, including their talents, interests, and their own time arrangements, so as to avoid too high or too low goals, resulting in low teaching efficiency.

4.2 Develop Learning Awareness

The basis of course is to develop good learning awareness of students. At present, there are many learning methods and means for students, they have many mobile terminals, so the multimedia teaching activities can be carried out through this point. Through remote, mobile and network teaching modes, and fully use of Weibo, wechat and other social software, it can improve interests of students, meanwhile, it is convenient for students to better conduct online and offline learning, provide students with adequate learning opportunities in their spare time. It can achieve twice the result with half the effort by strengthening students’ awareness of learning calligraphy actively, improving their learning interests, integrating calligraphy learning into their other learning and after-school life, and improving their calligraphy level.

4.3 Learning Calligraphy Skills with the Help of Multimedia

In the study of calligraphy, the practice of technique plays an important role in expressing the inner spirit of the author. Therefore, calligraphy teaching should focus on the learning of calligraphic skills. Traditional teaching methods involve teachers teaching calligraphy skills with chalk on the blackboard, which inevitably affects students’ independent learning due to the angle or clarity. With the help of cameras and projection technology, the posture and wrist changes during calligraphy writing can be displayed from different angles, and high definition and speed techniques can be used to enable students to better understand the essentials of calligraphy writing and master calligraphy techniques.

The application of multimedia technology in calligraphy teaching can increase the opportunities and capabilities for appreciation of calligraphy, prompting students to improve their calligraphy skills, appreciation and aesthetic skills in learning traditional classical works. The introduction of multimedia technology makes the traditional calligraphy classroom vivid and three-dimensional. Multimedia projection technology allows for a dynamic presentation of the calligraphy writing process, complemented by verbal explanations from the teacher and practice from the students. Students can gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of calligraphy skills and classroom efficiency will be greatly enhanced. In conclusion, the use of multimedia technology to learn calligraphy skills has a significant effect on improving the efficiency of calligraphy teaching and increasing students’ interest in learning and appreciating calligraphy.

4.4 Clarify Teaching Positioning

In calligraphy education and teaching course, the realization of scientific positioning is an important issue, which requires both colleges and teachers to pay more attention to it and put it into practice. Calligraphy learning includes calligraphy learning and calligraphy appreciation, which requires teachers to allocate teaching content. The reason for the separation does not mean that the two are incompatible, but to prevent them from being confused by students. When students complete their calligraphy exercises wholeheartedly, they can carry out appreciation teaching activities.
Effective appreciation can promote the progress of their calligraphy exercise, through continuous exercises, once the breakthrough is achieved, the appreciation level of students will also be improved accordingly. Each class should be positioned and the main content of the course should be clarified, so as to truly highlight the advantages of multimedia teaching.

4.5 Flexible Application of Teaching Methods

Classroom education should not only a matter for teachers but for both teachers and students. The main body of teaching has been transformed from teachers to students through continuous teaching reform. However, it can be learned from the actual situation that the role of teachers in the current classroom teaching still cannot be ignored, and teaching methods of teachers have a key impact on the teaching quality. For calligraphy education, teachers not only need to have a high professional level of calligraphy, but also need to understand the relevant historical inheritance transactions, they shall be able to skillfully master multimedia equipment, understand the departments that students are interested in, and realize the mutual integration of teaching and learning. Teachers shall make relevant teaching preparation before teaching, improve calligraphy writing and appreciation ability of students, and improve their interest in independent learning.

5. Conclusion

In summary, with the continuous development of science and technology, teaching methods in colleges and universities are also increasing, and multimedia teaching has become the current mainstream of teaching. Calligraphy is a good quintessence of China, which is the concentration of China’s excellent traditional culture. Integrating multimedia teaching into calligraphy teaching can greatly improve learning efficiency of students to a large extent. Meanwhile, with the emergence of multimedia teaching and various mobile terminals, the teaching mode of calligraphy can be changed constantly, and the calligraphy education can also become more flexible. In order to better make full use of multimedia teaching, improve the level and quality of calligraphy education and teaching, and cultivate more and more comprehensive high-quality talents for colleges and universities, this paper analyzes the multimedia calligraphy education and teaching, and hopes to have a certain help to the calligraphy education and teaching work implemented in colleges and universities in China.

References