Teaching Reform and Practice of Marketing Course in the Background of Digital Economy

Nana Miao

Business School, Zhengzhou University of Industrial Technology, Zhengzhou, 451100, Henan, China

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Abstract: Entering the era of digital economy, with the rapid development of the Internet and technology, the teaching of marketing is also facing tremendous changes and challenges. This article introduces new teaching methods and content, strengthens practical links, and promotes the cultivation of students' understanding and application ability of marketing theory. This article will start from the background of teaching reform, analyze the characteristics and challenges of marketing in the context of the digital economy, and propose corresponding teaching reform strategies.

1. Introduction

With the arrival of the digital economy era, traditional marketing theories and practices are no longer able to meet the rapidly changing market demands. In order to cultivate marketing professionals who adapt to the digital economy era, it is necessary to reform and practice the teaching of the course "Marketing". This article will explore how to reform the teaching methods and content of courses, strengthen practical links, and promote the cultivation of students' comprehensive quality and market operation ability in the context of the digital economy.

2. The Characteristics and Challenges of Marketing in the Background of Digital Economy

2.1 The Impact of the Digital Economy on Marketing

With the rapid development and popularization of digital technology, the digital economy has become an important field that cannot be ignored in contemporary society. It has had a profound impact in various industries, and as an important discipline in business, marketing is also facing new challenges and opportunities in the wave of digital economy. In order to better adapt to the development trend of the digital economy era, the teaching of marketing courses also urgently needs to be reformed[1].

Firstly, the digital economy has changed the way consumers shop, and online shopping through internet channels has become a mainstream trend. Therefore, in teaching, it is necessary to strengthen the learning and training of e-commerce, including the operation and management of e-commerce platforms, the formulation and execution of online marketing strategies, and other aspects. Through practical case analysis and simulation practice, cultivate students' ability to
operate e-commerce and online marketing in the digital economy.\(^2\)

Secondly, the digital economy provides more and more accurate data support for marketing. Traditional market research often requires a lot of time and resources, while big data analysis in the digital economy can more conveniently obtain and analyze consumer behavior data. Therefore, relevant big data analysis methods and tools should be introduced in course teaching to cultivate students' sensitivity and analytical ability to data. Teachers can use case studies and practical projects to enable students to personally operate and analyze market data, improving their data analysis skills\(^3\).

In addition, the popularity of social media brought about by the digital economy has also had a profound impact on marketing. In teaching, it is necessary to strengthen the explanation and practice of social media marketing, including the selection and operation of social media platforms, the formulation and execution of content strategies, and other aspects. Through practical cases and group projects, enable students to operate and analyze the effectiveness of social media marketing, and cultivate their ability to engage in social media marketing in the digital economy era\(^4\).

Finally, the digital economy has also spawned new business models and market opportunities. In the course teaching, it is necessary to strengthen the introduction and analysis of emerging business models, including the principles and operational methods of sharing economy, platform economy, and other emerging models. At the same time, it is also necessary to cultivate students' innovative thinking and practical abilities. Through group projects and entrepreneurial practices, students should have a deep understanding of emerging business models and be able to apply them in actual markets.

In short, the impact of the digital economy on the teaching of marketing courses cannot be ignored. In order to better adapt to the development trend of the digital economy era, the teaching of marketing courses must undergo corresponding reforms. By strengthening teaching content on e-commerce, big data analysis, social media marketing, and emerging business models, we aim to cultivate students' ability and literacy in marketing in the digital economy to meet the development needs of future markets.

### 2.2 Market challenges in the context of the digital economy

The rapid development of the digital economy has brought many new market challenges, which also put forward new requirements for the teaching of marketing courses. Traditional marketing courses can no longer meet the needs of enterprises and students in the digital age, so we need to make corresponding adjustments and improvements in course teaching\(^5\).

Firstly, the market challenges in the digital economy require us to focus more on digital technology and innovation. Traditional marketing courses mainly focus on traditional elements such as products, prices, channels, and promotions, but in the digital age, digital technology and innovation have become important forces driving market development. Therefore, we need to integrate digital technology and innovation into marketing courses, so that students can understand and master various digital tools and platforms, such as social media marketing, search engine optimization, and data analysis, to help them better adapt to the market environment of the digital economy\(^6\).

Secondly, the market challenges in the context of the digital economy require us to cultivate students' abilities in data analysis and creative thinking. In the digital economy era, a large amount of data can help enterprises better understand the market and consumers. Therefore, students need to have good data analysis skills, be able to extract valuable information from the massive data, and make scientific marketing decisions\(^7\). At the same time, the digital economy also requires more creative thinking, as market competition is becoming increasingly fierce, and companies need to
create unique brands and marketing activities to attract consumers’ attention. Therefore, we need to focus on cultivating students’ data analysis skills and creative thinking in marketing courses, and stimulate their creativity and innovative spirit through teaching methods such as case analysis and practical projects.

In addition, the market challenges in the context of the digital economy also require us to pay attention to real-time monitoring of consumer behavior and market trends. In the era of digital economy, the market environment and consumer demand are constantly changing, so enterprises need to timely understand market trends in order to flexibly adjust marketing strategies[8]. In marketing courses, we should teach students how to use various tools and technologies to monitor and analyze market and consumer behavior, as well as how to make corresponding adjustments based on market trends. This can help students better adapt to market changes and provide valuable marketing suggestions for enterprises.

In summary, the market challenges in the context of the digital economy have put forward new requirements for the teaching of marketing courses. We need to focus more on digital technology and innovation, cultivate students’ data analysis and creative thinking abilities, and focus on real-time monitoring of consumer behavior and market trends. Only in this way can we cultivate excellent marketing talents who can meet the needs of the digital economy era.

3. Teaching Reform Strategies for Marketing Courses

3.1 Introducing digital teaching resources

With the rapid development of the digital economy and the widespread application of information technology, traditional teaching models and resources are no longer able to meet the needs of students in the current era. Therefore, introducing digital teaching resources has become an inevitable choice for the teaching reform of marketing courses[9].

The introduction of digital teaching resources can greatly enrich the teaching content of marketing courses, providing more case studies, industry data, and practical experience. Through digitization, we can more intuitively demonstrate the actual operation process of marketing, combining theoretical knowledge with practical applications. For example, we can use digital platforms to showcase various market research reports, consumer insights, and competitor analysis, allowing students to better understand the market environment and grasp market dynamics.

In addition, the introduction of digital teaching resources can also improve students’ learning participation and enthusiasm[10]. Traditional classroom teaching often only involves teachers explaining and students passively accepting. Digital teaching, on the other hand, can involve students more actively in the classroom through interactive design. For example, we can interact with students in real-time through online discussions, Q&A platforms, and other means, allowing them to think and answer questions, and cultivating their independent thinking and problem-solving abilities.

In addition, the introduction of digital teaching resources can also improve the teaching effectiveness of marketing courses. Compared to traditional paper textbooks, digital teaching resources are more flexible, easy to update and expand. We can update the teaching content in real time according to market changes and student needs, and maintain the progressiveness and practicality of the curriculum. At the same time, digital teaching resources can also provide more interactive and personalized learning methods, helping students better understand and master knowledge, and improving their learning effectiveness and comprehensive abilities.

Overall, the introduction of digital teaching resources is an inevitable choice for the teaching reform of marketing courses. In the context of the digital economy, it can not only enrich the course content, improve students’ learning participation and enthusiasm, but also improve teaching
effectiveness. Therefore, we should actively promote and apply digital teaching resources, continuously improve and improve marketing courses, and cultivate more marketing talents that meet the development needs of the digital economy era.

3.2 Strengthen practical links

With the rapid development of information technology and the rise of the digital economy, traditional marketing models are undergoing significant changes. In this context, strengthening the practical aspect is an important direction for the teaching reform of marketing courses.

Firstly, strengthening the practical aspect can enhance students' understanding and mastery of marketing theory. Marketing is a highly practical discipline, and simply mastering theoretical knowledge is far from enough. Through practical sessions, students can apply their theoretical knowledge to practical problems, thereby gaining a deeper understanding and mastery. For example, organizing students to conduct market research, develop marketing strategies, and carry out practical activities such as market promotion in the classroom can help students better understand market research methods and practical steps of marketing strategies, and cultivate their practical operational abilities.

Secondly, strengthening the practical aspect can enhance students' innovation and practical abilities. The rise of the digital economy has brought new opportunities and challenges to marketing, requiring marketing talents with innovative thinking and practical abilities. Through practical activities, students can cultivate their innovative awareness and ability, stimulate their innovative thinking, and provide a practical platform for them to try their own innovative ideas and methods. For example, students can be organized to participate in marketing competitions, entrepreneurial practices, and other activities, allowing them to exercise their innovation and practical abilities in practice.

Once again, strengthening practical links can promote cooperation and communication with enterprises. The teaching reform of marketing courses should not only stay within the classroom, but should closely integrate with the actual market, cooperate and communicate with enterprises. Through cooperation with enterprises, students can gain a deeper understanding of the actual operation of marketing and the needs of enterprises, adapt to market demands in advance, and enhance employment competitiveness. For example, enterprise experts can be invited to give lectures and practical guidance on campus, or students can be arranged to intern and train in enterprises, so that they can connect with the actual market and cultivate their professional literacy and practical abilities.

Finally, strengthening the practical aspect can enhance students' comprehensive abilities. Marketing is a highly comprehensive discipline that requires students to possess a wide range of knowledge and comprehensive application abilities. Through practical activities, students can develop their teamwork skills, communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and more. For example, in practice, organizing students to collaborate in groups to complete market research reports and develop marketing strategies can enhance their teamwork and problem-solving abilities.

In summary, strengthening the practical aspect is an inevitable requirement for the teaching reform of marketing courses. By strengthening the practical aspect, students can enhance their theoretical understanding and practical abilities, enhance their innovation and practical abilities, promote cooperation and communication with enterprises, enhance their comprehensive abilities, and better adapt to the needs of marketing in the context of the digital economy.

3.3 Integrating innovative thinking and entrepreneurship education

Marketing, as an important course in business schools, has always been one of the important
ways to cultivate students' innovative thinking and entrepreneurial abilities. However, in the context of the continuous rise of the digital economy, the teaching reform of marketing courses is also urgent.

Firstly, with the advent of the digital economy era, the teaching content of marketing courses should keep up with the times, incorporating relevant knowledge about the digital economy and its impact. In the past, marketing mainly focused on traditional marketing theories, methods, and practices. However, in the era of the digital economy, the scope of marketing has expanded to emerging platforms such as online channels and social media. Therefore, in order to enable students to better adapt to this change, teaching content should introduce content such as e-commerce, social media marketing, data analysis, etc., to help students understand the important impact of the digital economy on marketing and cultivate their competitiveness in this field.

Secondly, innovative thinking is the key to success in the field of marketing. In the context of the digital economy, innovative thinking is an indispensable ability. Therefore, marketing courses should focus on cultivating students' innovative thinking abilities. Teachers can stimulate students' innovative thinking through teaching methods such as case analysis, teamwork, and practical projects. At the same time, encourage students to participate in corporate practice and entrepreneurial activities, allowing them to personally experience marketing practices, cultivate their innovation awareness, and problem-solving ability.

In addition, entrepreneurship education should also be combined with marketing courses to provide students with opportunities and platforms for entrepreneurship. The rapid development of the digital economy provides vast space for entrepreneurship. Marketing courses can provide students with knowledge and skills related to market research, competition analysis, brand positioning, and other aspects, providing theoretical and practical guidance for their entrepreneurship. At the same time, schools should also actively cooperate with enterprises to provide entrepreneurial funds, incubators and other resources for students with entrepreneurial intentions, and encourage them to carry out innovative marketing activities in the context of the digital economy.

In summary, in the context of the digital economy, the teaching reform of marketing courses is imperative. By incorporating content related to the digital economy, cultivating students' innovative thinking abilities, and combining it with entrepreneurship education, we can provide students with more practical and valuable marketing courses, helping them become competitive marketing professionals in the digital economy era.

3.4 Promoting interdisciplinary integration

In recent years, with the rapid development of the digital economy, marketing, as an important business discipline, is facing the need for transformation and innovation in practice. In order to adapt to the market demand in this new situation and cultivate composite talents with a global perspective, the teaching reform of the course "Marketing" has become particularly important. In this context, teaching models that promote interdisciplinary integration are gradually attracting people's attention.

Cross disciplinary integration refers to the integration and collaboration between different disciplines, by combining knowledge, skills, and methods from different fields to create more innovative and comprehensive solutions. For the course 'Marketing', interdisciplinary integration can integrate marketing with disciplines such as information technology, data analysis, psychology, etc., forming a more comprehensive and in-depth teaching content.

Secondly, interdisciplinary integration can also improve students' innovation ability and comprehensive quality. Marketing is a discipline that combines artistic and scientific aspects,
requiring students to possess innovative thinking and comprehensive qualities in practice. By introducing knowledge of psychology, students can better understand consumer behavior and market demand, and cultivate their insight and judgment. At the same time, integrating art disciplines such as design and media into the curriculum can cultivate students' creativity and expression abilities, thereby enhancing their competitiveness in the field of marketing.

4. Conclusion

In the context of the digital economy, the teaching of the course "Marketing" needs to be reformed and practiced to cultivate marketing professionals who are suitable for the digital economy era. By introducing digital teaching resources, strengthening practical links, integrating innovative thinking and entrepreneurship education, students can better promote their understanding and application ability of marketing theory. This article provides relevant teaching strategies and practical cases, aiming to provide useful references for teachers and promote the teaching reform and practice of the "Marketing" course.

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References