

# *Innovation of Psychological Health Education Model for University Students in the Network Environment*

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**Abstract:** With the rapid growth of society and the comprehensive popularization of the internet, it is particularly important to cultivate the psychological qualities of university students as the successors of social growth. In the current era of informatization, the impact of the network environment on the mental health of university students is becoming increasingly significant, bringing abundant information and communication channels, as well as various psychological health challenges. Therefore, how to cope with the online environment and ensure the positive growth of university students' mental health has become an important issue that urgently needs to be addressed in university students' mental health education. The online environment has both positive and negative effects on the mental health of university students. On the one hand, the internet provides university students with a broad learning and communication platform, which helps them broaden their horizons and enhance their social skills; On the other hand, negative information and excessive dependence on the internet may also lead to psychological problems such as anxiety and depression among university students. To address this challenge, this article delves into the innovation of mental health education models for university students in the online environment. The innovation of the mental health education model for university students in the online environment is an important way to address the challenges of the online environment and ensure the growth of university students' mental health.

## **1. Introduction**

Psychological health education, as an indispensable part of the modern education system, always carries the important mission of cultivating students' healthy psychology and shaping a sound personality [1]. Its core lies in based on the objective laws of student psychological growth, guiding students to establish a stable psychological environment through professional psychological education strategies, mastering techniques for self adjustment and improving psychological conditions, and laying a solid psychological foundation for future growth and growth [2]. This educational process is not only related to the individual happiness and quality of life of students, but also has important significance for the harmony, stability, and growth of the entire society [3]. In today's society, the popularization and in-depth application of the internet have completely changed people's way of life and work patterns. The internet has not only become an important channel for people to obtain information and exchange ideas, but also unconsciously influences people's ways

of thinking and values [4]. For university students, who are young, active, and full of exploratory spirit, the internet has undoubtedly become an important platform for their learning, life, and social interaction.

The transformation of the online environment undoubtedly brings new challenges and opportunities to the mental health education of university students [5]. Firstly, the changes in the online environment have had a profound impact on the psychology of university students. The convenience, openness, and interactivity of the internet enable university students to express their opinions and emotions more freely and communicate with people from all over the world [6]. This borderless communication method provides rich information and resources for university students, helping them broaden their horizons and broaden their horizons; On the other hand, it also brings psychological problems such as information overload, network dependence, and social anxiety [7]. How to effectively address these psychological issues while enjoying the convenience brought by the internet has become an important issue faced by mental health education for university students [8]. Secondly, the continuous updating and application of new media technologies provide new tools and means for the mental health education of university students.

The traditional mental health education model often focuses on classroom teaching and face-to-face counseling, which is difficult to fully cover the daily lives of university students and cannot timely understand and solve the problems they encounter in the online environment. New media technologies, such as social media, online courses, virtual reality, etc., provide more convenient and efficient ways for mental health education for university students. Through new media platforms, educators can gain a deeper understanding of the psychological needs and problems of university students, and provide more personalized and precise mental health services; At the same time, university students can also choose their own mental health learning methods more independently, and improve their psychological adjustment ability. Faced with the changes in the online environment and the challenges posed by new media technologies, university managers and mental health educators must actively respond, innovate educational models, and improve the quality of education.

## **2. The Impact of Online Environment on the Mental Health of University Students**

### **2.1. Positive Impact**

The positive impact of the online environment on the mental health of university students is multifaceted. It not only provides new directions for mental health education for university students, but also greatly enriches educational resources and channels [9]. The online environment has broken the limitations of traditional classroom education, and university students can obtain mental health knowledge through various channels such as online courses, educational websites, and social media. Traditional mental health education is often limited by time and space, but the online environment makes learning anytime, anywhere. Students can arrange their own independent learning according to their own time, and can also seek help in a timely manner when needed. Through online psychological counseling, psychological hotlines, and other methods, students can receive professional guidance and assistance in a timely manner when encountering psychological problems.

The online environment provides students with an anonymous and secure platform to express their emotions and troubles through the internet. Through communication and sharing with others, students can alleviate the impact of negative emotions and gain emotional support and comfort. The Internet is an open and free space. University students can freely express their views and opinions. This free environment helps them better understand themselves. Through communication and interaction with others, students can have a clearer understanding of their interests, values,

personality traits, etc., thereby achieving self-improvement and enhancement. In the online environment, students need to actively obtain, filter, and organize information, which helps to cultivate their self-awareness and self-management abilities. Meanwhile, the online environment also provides students with rich social opportunities, allowing them to establish connections with others through social media, online forums, and other means, and gain a broader social experience.

## 2.2. Negative Impact

The negative impact of the online environment on the mental health of university students cannot be ignored. The rich and colorful online environment has great appeal to students, and some students may become overly addicted to the online world, spending a lot of time and energy in virtual activities such as online games and social media. This addiction may lead them to overlook learning, socializing, and exercise in real life, causing negative impacts on physical and mental health. The freedom and sharing of online information make various types of information flood the cyberspace, including negative emotions and information. University students may be influenced by negative emotions when browsing this information, leading to psychological problems such as anxiety and depression. Especially when faced with extreme comments, violent information, etc. on the internet, students may have difficulty distinguishing between truth and falsehood, leading to incorrect concepts and behaviors.

The online environment is filled with various values, including erroneous concepts such as materialism and hedonism. When university students are exposed to these concepts, if they lack correct guidance and judgment, they may form incorrect values, leading to behavioral misconduct and moral decline. In the Internet era, university students are more inclined to use the Internet for communication, which leads to the gradual reduction of interpersonal communication in real life. Long term virtualized communication may lead to students lacking face-to-face communication skills, resulting in feelings of loneliness and alienation. The virtual self in the online environment may have a gap with the student's real self, and long-term immersion in the virtual world may lead to distorted self-awareness among students. This distortion may make it difficult for students to adapt to real life, leading to psychological problems such as inferiority and anxiety.

## 3. Strategies for Building a New Model of Psychological Health Education for University Students

### 3.1. Establishing a Comprehensive and Precise Educational Network System

In the current digital era, it is essential to construct a comprehensive and precise mental health education network system specifically tailored for college students (refer to Figure 1). This system should encompass both online and offline mental health education content, and it should offer personalized psychological counseling services to address the distinct needs of individual students.

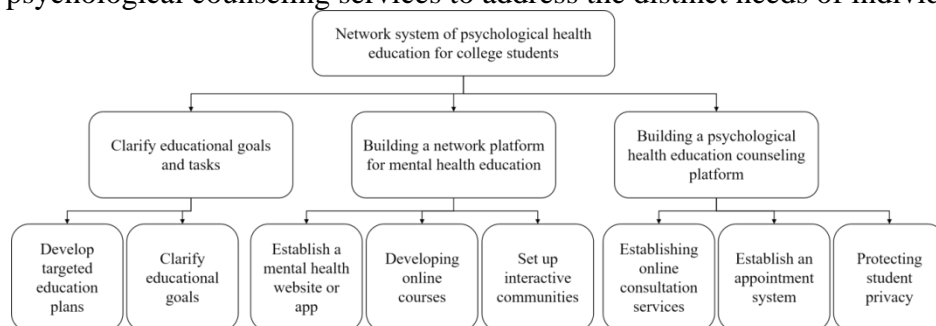


Figure 1: Network system of psychological health education for university students

We should utilize big data and advanced AI technology to continuously monitor and evaluate the psychological states of students in real-time, allowing for the prompt identification of any emerging psychological concerns.

Based on the collected data, personalized mental health knowledge and counseling resources should be pushed to students, thereby strengthening their self-awareness and self-regulation skills.

Furthermore, an interactive platform integrating online and offline elements should be established to facilitate seamless communication and collaboration among students, teachers, and psychological counselors.

Lastly, this system must include professional psychological counseling services, accessible through various modes such as online chat, phone calls, and in-person sessions, to provide students with immediate and effective psychological support.

### 3.2. Developing a Professional and High-Quality Teaching Team

To elevate the standard of mental health education for college students, it is imperative to assemble a highly professional and skilled teaching team (as outlined in Figure 2). This team must consist of dedicated mental health education teachers, student support staff, and seasoned psychological counselors.

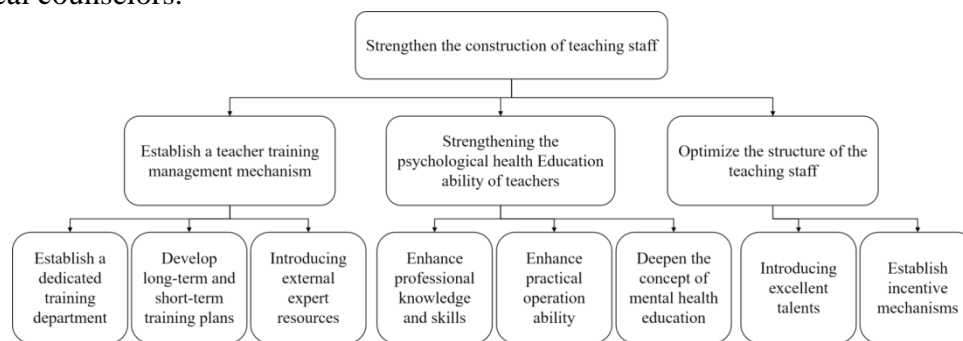


Figure 2: Strengthening the construction of teaching staff

We must prioritize enhancing the teachers' professional expertise by offering systematic training and ample learning opportunities, ensuring they are well-versed in the theoretical knowledge and practical skills required for mental health education.

Additionally, teachers should be encouraged to engage in mental health-related research, fostering their scientific inquiry skills and fostering innovative thinking.

It is also crucial to cultivate the teachers' practical abilities by actively involving them in psychological counseling sessions and the planning of mental health activities, allowing them to gain hands-on experience.

Moreover, a mutual learning environment should be established among the teachers, facilitating the exchange of case studies and experiences through regular meetings and workshops, thereby promoting knowledge sharing and personal growth.

Emphasis should also be placed on nurturing the teachers' professional ethics and humanistic values, instilling in them a profound sense of duty and commitment to holistic student development.

Finally, a robust incentive mechanism and evaluation system should be implemented to motivate teachers and recognize their efforts, providing constructive feedback on their performance and aiding in their continuous professional development.

By adhering to these strategies, we can significantly bolster the overall professionalism and educational capabilities of the teaching team, ultimately delivering exceptional and tailored mental health education services to college students.

### 3.3. Innovating Educational Methods and Evaluation Mechanisms

In constructing a new model for college students' mental health education, innovating educational methods and evaluation mechanisms is equally crucial. Traditional teaching methods often focus on theoretical instruction, but in the online environment, we can explore more interactive and experiential teaching approaches.

**Utilizing Technology for Experiential Learning:**

By leveraging network technology and multimedia resources, we can create Virtual Reality (VR) or Augmented Reality (AR) teaching environments. These environments allow students to experience and address mental health issues in simulated scenarios. This method not only enhances student engagement but also enables them to learn and practice in a safe setting.

**Incorporating Interactive Teaching Methods:**

Role-playing, group discussions, and case studies can be introduced to encourage students to delve deeper into mental health topics through teamwork and interaction. These methods foster critical thinking, communication skills, and problem-solving abilities.

**Innovating Evaluation Mechanisms:**

Beyond traditional written tests and oral presentations, diverse assessment methods like self-reflection journals and mental health projects can be employed. These approaches provide a more comprehensive evaluation of students' learning outcomes and stimulate their initiative and creativity.

**Establishing Continuous Mental Health Monitoring:**

Creating mental health profiles for students and regularly tracking and evaluating their mental well-being is essential. This helps in timely identification and resolution of potential issues. Such a continuous evaluation mechanism ensures the long-term effectiveness and relevance of mental health education.

In conclusion, by innovating educational methods and evaluation mechanisms, we can more effectively raise college students' awareness and capabilities in mental health, assisting them in better coping with the challenges posed by the online environment.

## 4. Conclusions

In the online environment, the growth of mental health education for university students is becoming increasingly important. It is not only related to the comprehensive growth of individual university students and the realization of personal value, but also the cornerstone of social progress and stability in the future. In the implementation process of mental health education, we must take the basic concepts and needs of university students as the starting point, explore and develop education models that adapt to the network era. The popularization and growth of the online environment have brought unprecedented opportunities and challenges to the mental health education of university students. In order to meet the objective requirements of the growth of the times, we must update educational concepts, innovate teaching methods, fully utilize the advantages of network technology, and establish a more complete and systematic system of psychological health education for online university students. This system should include abundant mental health education resources, diversified educational methods, personalized educational services, and scientific evaluation mechanisms to ensure the pertinence and effectiveness of education. By constructing such a system, we can better leverage the positive role of the internet, popularize relevant knowledge on mental health education for university students, enhance their awareness of mental health, and improve their mental health status. This not only helps university students better cope with the pressure and challenges in learning and life, but also helps them form a sound personality and good psychological qualities, laying a solid foundation for their future growth and

growth.

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