



Research on “Courses for Ideological and Political Education” Teaching in Law Majors

Taking Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law as the Core

Lei Zhang and Jing An^(✉)

Sichuan Minzu College, Kangding, Sichuan, China
anjing@scun.edu.cn

Abstract. In the teaching reform, law majors should deepen the idea of “Three-aspect Education”, give full play to the educational function of law courses, implement the fundamental task of fostering character and civic virtue in all aspects of the training of professionals of law majors, integrate “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” into the content of law courses, show its theoretical depth, academic depth and ideological height, take “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” as the value guide, clarify what the real ideological and political courses of law majors are, solve the problem of what kind of professionals of law majors to cultivate, find out the nature and connotation of ideological and political teaching of law courses, build a progressive and mutually supportive curriculum system of comprehensive coverage and rich type, and reconstruct the ideological and political teaching design of the courses.

Keywords: Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law · Law majors · Courses for ideological and political education · Teaching design

1 Introduction

As a contemporary theory of the rule of law, Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law is an original theory put forward in the context of the magnificent era, and it is a broad and profound scientific theoretical system, a scientific summary of the rich practice and valuable experience of the Communist Party of China in leading the legal construction, and a scientific theoretical system that is complete from connotation to logic, with distinctive theoretical style, thinking characteristics and practical characteristics, the creation of whose theoretical system stems from the summary of practical experience, the condensed rational concept, and the sublimation of theoretical cognition [1]. Doing a good job in the integration of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law into the law

Fund: Higher Education Teaching Reform Research Project of National Ethnic Affairs Commission of the People’s Republic of China: Phased research results of the ideological and political teaching design of law major courses centered on “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” (Project No.: JG202148).

© The Author(s) 2023

A. Volodin and I. Roumbal (Eds.): ICECIDT 2022, ASEHR 677, pp. 285–294, 2023.

https://doi.org/10.2991/978-2-494069-02-2_32

major courses will help to fully grasp the background of its formation, to systematically understand the logical train of thought contained in it, and to accurately identify its distinctive features. Taking “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” as the value guide, clarifying the ideological and political essence of the law majors, and solving the problem of what kind of people the law majors train have far-reaching significance for the ideological and political construction of the law majors.

2 Ideological and Political Teaching of Law Majors: Connotation, Current Situation and Problems

2.1 The Construction of a Law-Based Country Depends on a Team of Rule of Law

“Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” contains profound political principles, profound legal principles, and broad scientific principles. Incorporating “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” into the ideological and political teaching design of law majors can demonstrate the political determination of the party to lead the rule of law, reflect the people-centered fundamental stance, and highlight the firm belief in strengthening the country by obeying the law. The representative monographs on the study of “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” include: “Study Outline of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” [1] edited by the Office of the Central Committee for Comprehensively Governing the Country by Law, and “Introduction to Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” mainly written by Professor Zhang Wenxian [3]. The analysis of representative papers on “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” is as follows. The existing research content mainly focuses on the following aspects: the first is the research on the value and significance of the integration of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law into the ideological and political education in colleges and universities, and the second is the extraction of the core content of the integration of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law into the ideological and political education of colleges and universities. Some scholars believe that the core content of the integration should include the Chinese thought of the rule of law that emphasizes theory and the safe China thought that emphasizes practice, and clarify the historical status and significance of Xi Jinping’s political and legal thought of the new era and the inherent logical relationship between Xi Jinping’s political and legal thought of the new era [9]. Some scholars focus on refining Xi Jinping’s ecological thought of the rule of law and integrating Xi Jinping’s ecological thought into the ideological and political courses of colleges and universities from four aspects [6]. The third is to explore the specific path for the integration of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law into ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

When General Secretary Xi Jinping inspected China University of Political Science and Law, he pointed out that the construction of a law-based country depends on a team of rule of law. If the speed of talent cultivation for the rule of law lags behind the legal construction, it will be impossible to actively implement the policy of building the rule of law nationwide and it will be impossible to truly realize the law-based governance of the country in an all-round way. Therefore, colleges and universities should deepen

the “Three-aspect Education” in the teaching reform, give full play to the educational function of law courses, and implement the fundamental task of fostering character and civic virtue in all aspects of the training of professionals of law majors, especially using the course ideology and politics to deepen the essence of fostering character and civic virtue.

2.2 Clarifying What the Real Ideological and Political Courses of Law Majors Are, Solving the Problem of What Kind of Professionals of Law Majors to Cultivate, and Finding Out the Nature and Connotation of Ideological and Political Teaching of Law Courses

At present, although the theoretical research on the ideological and political courses of law majors has put forward the value, meaning and path of integrating “ideological and political” into the curriculum, it has not yet formed a unified understanding of the nature and connotation of ideological and political teaching in law courses. For example, Li Lei and Yao Ming’s discussions on “course ideological and political reform of legal education” are based on specific course teaching, lack a thorough demonstration of how to carry out the ideological and political education of the entire legal major courses, and fail to explain the essence and connotation of ideological and political teaching in law courses.

Colleges and universities need to accurately interpret the connotation, goals and significance of “ideology and politics” in the ideological and political courses of law majors. The main idea of the ideological and political teaching reform of law majors is to implement the concept of fostering character and civic virtue. The new era has put forward new requirements for the ideological and political courses of law majors, requiring that the law majors be given new connotations and new missions of ideological and political courses [2] (“Fig. 1”).

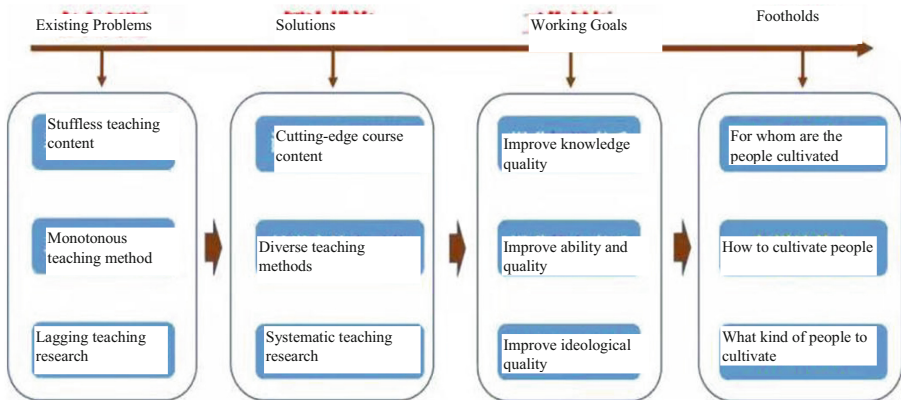


Fig. 1. Revealing the existing ideological and political problems and solutions for law majors’s courses.

2.3 The Education and Teaching Reform of “Course Ideology and Politics” for Law Majors is More Necessary and Urgent Than Other “Course Ideology and Politics” Teaching Reforms

As is known to all, the main training goal of the law major is to cultivate talents for the construction of the rule of law. Law students may become legal workers or practitioners in government agencies after they enter the society. These occupations require higher ideological and political literacy than other occupations. Therefore, legal courses, as the core of legal talent training, should build a panoramic, integrated, and progressive “moral and legal” legal talent training model and cultivate a large number of high-quality legal talents.

To sum up, if the construction of law majors in the new era is to reflect the attributes of the same direction as ideological and political courses, it is necessary to innovate and develop the legal discipline system and curriculum system and promote the integration of ideological and political elements into legal courses.

3 Changes in the Formulation Ideas of the Talent Training Programs for Law Majors: From the Training of Legal Talents to the Training of High-Quality Legal Talents

3.1 Using the Latest Achievements of “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” as the Main Theoretical Support, Realizing the Historic Transformation from Training Legal Talents to Training High-Quality Legal Talents, and Reconstructing the Ideological and Political Teaching Design of Law Majors

It is necessary to study the ideological and political teaching of law majors with “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” as the center, reconstruct the essential connotation and central goal of the ideological and political courses of law majors, and realize the historic transition from cultivating legal talents to cultivating high-quality legal talents. The focus of its innovation lies in “permeability”, which invisibly cultivates high-quality legal talents.

3.2 Re-examining the Construction of the Connotation of Ideological and Political Course Teaching Design of Law Majors, Promoting the Integration of Ideological and Political Elements into Legal Courses, and Forming a “Law + Ideological and Political” Synergy Effect from a New Perspective of “Law Professional Ethics”

In view of the deficiencies of the existing ideological and political teaching idea and curriculum system of law courses, it is necessary to re-condense the core elements of ideological and political courses for law majors and examine the construction of the ideological and political connotation of courses for law majors from the perspective of “legal professional ethic courses”. Law courses and ideological and political courses are originally in the same direction, and the goal should be to form a “law + ideological and political” synergy effect.

4 Research on the Path of Ideological and Political Design of Law Major Courses

Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law is a series of original and contemporary new concepts, new ideas, new horizons, new thinking and new methods with penetrating and explanatory power, which has deepened the understanding of the law of the party’s law-based exercise of state power, the law of the socialist construction of the rule of law, and the law of the development of human society under the rule of law, fully demonstrating the powerful innovation, vitality and combat effectiveness of scientific theories.

Regarding the ideological and political reform and innovation of law major courses, from a macro-level analysis: establishing the ideological and political goals and teaching system of law major courses is beneficial for colleges and universities, especially ethnic colleges and universities to establish the direction and goals of the ideological and political teaching reform of law major courses, to aim at the general goal of fostering character and civic virtue, to design ideological and political teaching for law majors with “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” as the center, and to train qualified law students. From a micro-level analysis, by incorporating ideological and political elements, redesigning the teaching of legal courses, and with “law professional ethics” as the link, all legal courses will be formed in series into the “law + ideological and political” concept.

4.1 Integrating “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” into the Content of Legal Courses, in Order to Show Its Theoretical Depth, Academic Depth and Ideological Height

Integrating “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” into the content of legal courses is conducive to improving legal awareness, cultivating legal thinking, deeply cultivating legal feelings, and assuring the belief in the rule of law. It is also beneficial to deeply grasp its core essence and theoretical essence, deeply investigate its formation history and operation logic, deeply draw its civilization of rule of law and governance wisdom, enhance political, ideological and theoretical recognition of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law, and strengthen the mighty force of belief, ideological determination, and forward momentum in comprehensively governing the country by law and building a rule-of-law China in the new era [3].

It is necessary to complete the full coverage of “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” in the entire course of law majors, adhere to the unity of integrity and innovation, and continuously enhance the ideological and political ideological level and affinity of the law major courses.

4.2 The Implementation of the Ideological and Political Courses of Law Majors Requires the Construction of a Curriculum System that Supports Each Other Among the Various Law Courses, and the Reconstruction of the Ideological and Political Teaching Design of the Courses

To begin with, in the ideological and political teaching design of law major courses, efforts should be made to start from the ideological and political teaching reform of civil

law, criminal law, economic law, intellectual property law, criminal procedure law, constitution, administrative law and other courses, especially with legal professional ethic courses as the core, to understand the cognition of teachers and students on the ideological and political courses of the above courses, the recognition of teaching measures and the evaluation of implementation effects.

In addition, the ideological and political courses of law majors need to formulate a series of targeted education and teaching norms and policy measures from the institutional level:

- Integrating ideological and political concepts at the theoretical level of law majors. First, the ideological and political concepts should be integrated from the formulation of the talent training programs for law majors and the design of the teaching syllabus, and then the ideological and political concepts should be integrated from the aspects of teaching arrangements, curriculum syllabus, quantitative assessment requirements, and curriculum evaluation standards. The ideological and political courses of law majors should adhere to the organic unity of moral education, strong professionalism, and practice, promote the reform of legal education and teaching, and continuously improve the quality of the training of legal talents in the new era. It is necessary to adhere to the unity of patriotism, love for the party, and love for socialism, create a legal ideological and political course module, and set up a series of compulsory courses. It is also necessary to improve the construction of the ideological and political theory of the law majors, so as to form a closed loop of “theory-practice-theory” in the ideological and political research of the courses. Teaching methods should be diversified, pay attention to ways and means, and solve the problem of how to cultivate people [4].
- Integrating ideological and political concepts at the practical level of law majors. Law schools should comprehensively promote “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” into classroom, into students’ minds, and into teaching auxiliary materials, so as to implement the ideological and political reform and innovation of curriculum in the new era. It should adhere to uprightness and innovation, implement law and ideology and politics in the same direction, and establish the concept of “fostering character and civic virtue” (立德树人) where “立” refers to the political direction and “树” refers to the political path. It is necessary to contact the legal practice department, fully explore the ideological and political resources contained in all the courses and teaching methods of law, and embed “ideological and political” concepts [5].

Moreover, adjusting and innovating the ideological and political design of law courses, systematically designing the ideological and political courses of law majors, and on this basis, establishing and improving the course ideological and political action system with strong operability, reasonable resource allocation and institutional guarantee. The purpose is to achieve the ultimate goal that all the law students trained can serve Chinese state governance and national rejuvenation.

4.3 Creating a “Trinity” Ideological and Political System for Law Majors

On one hand, it is necessary to create a “trinity” ideological and political system of law major courses with the law professional ethic courses as the core, the analysis of

teaching objects, the careful consideration of teaching purposes, and the selection of teaching content as the center, and the optimization of teaching methods and teaching evaluation as the focus. It is important to improve the ideological and political teaching design of law courses, for example: using the teaching methods that connect history and reality, with the international and domestic relations as well as the combination of theory and practice; adopting flexible and diverse teaching methods, and pursuing ways and means of nourishing all without a sound; strengthening practical teaching, and paying attention to both inputs and outputs [6].

On the other hand, drawing on experience from other countries is needed. For ideological and moral education, citizenship education, realistic education, and national spiritual education are usually used abroad. In addition, foreign scholars' research in this field focuses more on the exploration of multi-operational and practical skills. Among them, moral education focuses on guiding individuals in ideological and moral aspects and citizenship education focuses on citizens' identity and relationship coordination with society and the country. For example, Britain, France, Japan and other countries use a variety of teaching methods to stimulate students' thinking about social phenomena and ethics by watching videos and keynote speeches. In order to improve ideological and moral quality, Singapore promotes realistic education. In order to improve ideological and moral quality, South Korea conducts national spiritual education. In order to improve the ideological and moral quality, the United States starts from social humanities to science and engineering courses. Therefore, foreign countries start from operability and practicality to improve the ideological and moral quality of their citizens (“Fig. 2”).

4.4 Improving the Teaching Research Strength of the Teaching Team and the Teachers Should Learn Earlier and Deeper

4.4.1 Compiling Teaching Auxiliary Materials for Ideological and Political Courses for Law Majors

At this stage, the teaching auxiliary materials for ideological and political courses for law majors in colleges and universities lack novelty. Therefore, the school can organize law teachers from different departments to become members of the auxiliary teaching materials development. Because different roles see problems from different angles, this measure can supplement and improve the content of auxiliary teaching materials, promote the construction of auxiliary teaching materials system in the scientific division of labor and cooperation, dig deep into the moral education resources in practice through warning cases, and compile teaching auxiliary materials for ideological and political courses for law majors from civil law, criminal law, economic law, intellectual property law and other department laws, so as to improve the research depth of the teachers [7].

4.4.2 Establishing a Research Center for “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law”

Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law is the latest achievement of the Sinicization of the Marxist theory of the rule of law. Law schools need to establish a research center for “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law”. The teachers should learn earlier and deeper, improve their political position, strengthen theoretical interpretation, and deepen

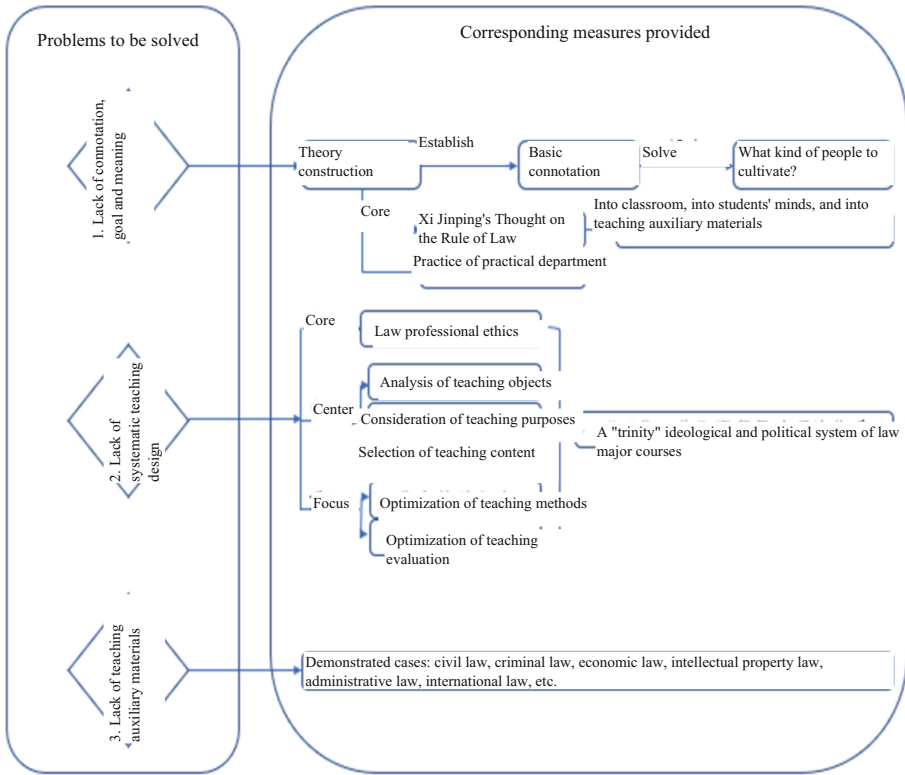


Fig. 2. Three-dimensional reflection of the ideological and political teaching design ideas for law majors.

the research on the theoretical system, subject system, and teaching material system of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law [8].

5 Conclusion

The courses for ideological and political education of law majors need to accurately establish the connotation, goals and significance of ideological and political teaching and solve the problem of “characteristic” ideological and political teaching for law majors. Efforts should be made to dig deep into the ideological and political genes of law courses and integrate the concept of “courses for ideological and political education” into the whole process of legal education and teaching. It’s also necessary to improve the teaching design and revise the training program and syllabus for legal professionals.

For law students, integrating “Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law” into the ideological and political teaching design of law major courses can present the practical rationality of seeking truth and being practical, strengthen the systematic concept of coordinating the overall situation, temper the precise and sophisticated dialectical method, cultivate the legal thinking that obeys the law, and shape the theoretical character of

integrity and innovation. Studying the courses for ideological and political education of law majors from the perspective of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law has theoretical and practical significance for the innovation of ideological and political teaching in law majors [9].

Authors’ Contributions. Lei Zhang was responsible for data analysis and Jing An wrote the paper.

References

1. Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, Office of the Central Committee for Comprehensively Governing the Country by Law. 2021. Study Outline of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law. People’s Publishing House (in Chinese).
2. Guo, Man. (2019). Analysis of the Path of Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law into College Ideological and Political Theory Courses from the Perspective of Political Identity. *Legality Vision* (in Chinese)
3. Writing Group of “Introduction to Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law”. 2021. Introduction to Xi Jinping’s Thought on the Rule of Law. Higher Education Press (in Chinese).
4. Chen, Dawen. 2021. Considerations on Integrating Xi Jinping Thought of Rule of Law into Collegiate Ideological and Political Theory Courses. *Studies on Core Socialist Values* (in Chinese).
5. Yang, Lan, and Xinrui Wang. 2022. On Integration of Xi Jinping Thought on Rule of Law into Teaching of Ideological and Political Courses in Colleges and Universities — Taking “Ideological and Moral Cultivation and Legal Foundation” as an Example. *Teaching of Forestry Region* (in Chinese).
6. Hu, Xiaoyi. 2021. Exploration on the Theoretical System of the Integration of Xi Jinping’s Ecological Thought into Ideological and Political Courses in Colleges and Universities. *Industrial & Science Tribune* (in Chinese).
7. Yin, Yuwen. 2021. Three Dimensions of Integrating Xi Jinping’s Rule of Law Thought into Ideological and Political Education in Colleges and Universities. *Journal of Qiqihar University (Philosophy & Social Science Edition)* (in Chinese).
8. Li, Jing. 2018. Integration of Xi Jinping’s Thought of Rule by Law into Ideological and Political Teaching in Colleges and Universities. *Teaching of Forestry Region* (in Chinese).
9. Chen, Chi, and Jian Gu. 2019. Significance, Content and Path of Rule-of-law Education of Ideological and Political Courses in Colleges and Universities—Research on the Integration of Xi Jinping Socialist Political and Law Thoughts with Chinese Characteristics into the Teaching of Ideological and Political Courses in Colleges and Universities in the New Era. *Journal of Sichuan Normal University (Philosophy & Social Science Edition)* (in Chinese).

Open Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>), which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made.

The images or other third party material in this chapter are included in the chapter's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the chapter's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.

