



A concise exploration on the approaches of integrating tea culture into cross-cultural teaching

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Abstract. With the continuous strengthening of economic globalization, English, as a cross-cultural communication language, plays an important role in spreading Chinese culture. As an excellent traditional Chinese culture, tea culture contains rich historical and cultural heritage. Although the current cross-cultural teaching has fully realized the importance of tea culture, in the actual cross-cultural teaching practice, tea culture should only be mentioned briefly by expanding knowledge. This paper aims to study the measures of integrating tea culture into cross-cultural teaching, such as designing tea culture curriculum with local characteristics, selecting corresponding teaching materials and using virtual simulation experiment teaching technology to infiltrate tea culture into all aspects of cross-cultural teaching. Integrating tea culture elements into the classroom can effectively enhance students' sense of identity and self-confidence in Chinese culture, as well as their ability of cross-cultural communication, thus spreading Chinese culture all over the world.

Keywords: tea culture, cross-cultural teaching, cultural communication.

1 Introduction

With the deepening of globalization, cultural exchanges among countries are becoming more and more frequent, and culture has become a bridge connecting countries all over the world. As a big tea country, China has a long history of tea culture since ancient times, and tea culture is an important link between Chinese and western cultures, so tea culture plays an important role in cross-cultural communication. Chinese tea culture has spread to all parts of the world through the Silk Road and other channels, allowing more countries to know about Chinese culture and history, and strengthening cultural exchanges and theoretical study among countries around the world. In addition, tea culture is not only an important part of Chinese traditional culture, but also carries the way of getting along with the world advocated by Chinese people. "Taking tea as a medium and making friends with tea" has become an important part of China's diplomacy to promote harmonious but different and eclectic exchanges of civilizations. Although the current cross-cultural teaching has fully realized the importance of tea culture, but in the actual cross-cultural teaching practice, tea culture only needs to expand knowledge. This paper aims to study the measures to integrate tea culture into cross-cultural teaching, such as designing tea culture courses with local characteristics,

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choosing corresponding teaching materials and using virtual simulation experiment teaching technology to infiltrate tea culture into all aspects of cross-cultural teaching. Integrating tea culture elements into the classroom can effectively enhance students' sense of identity and self-confidence in Chinese culture, as well as their ability of cross-cultural communication, thus spreading Chinese culture all over the world.

2 The Necessity and Measures of Integrating Cross-cultural Teaching into Tea Culture

Economic globalization demands more and more international talents, and people from different cultural backgrounds communicate more and more. However, due to many differences in social environment and historical background, people's thinking and language are different, which easily leads to more or less barriers and even unnecessary conflicts in the process of communication. As an important carrier of cross-cultural communication, language plays an important role in cultivating cross-cultural awareness and reducing conflicts during communication, and corresponding to it are various cultural systems. China's traditional tea culture contains philosophical thoughts such as tea art and tea concept, and is an important part of our culture. Integrating tea culture into English teaching can better carry forward our traditional culture and make more foreigners feel the charm of Chinese traditional culture and the charm of the Chinese nation. At present, most colleges and universities in China have fully realized the importance of integrating English cross-cultural teaching into tea culture, but there are still many problems in actual English teaching, such as teachers' own cross-cultural awareness is not strong, English teaching cross-cultural awareness stays at the theoretical stage, lack of practice, etc. Integrating tea culture elements into cross-cultural teaching, innovating teaching ideas and changing teaching methods are important ways and methods to solve the problems existing in English teaching of tea art majors at present, so as to realize the practical value of cross-cultural teaching activities. In order to better integrate the elements of tea culture, we should deeply dig and effectively analyze the values of tea culture.

First, flexibly choose teaching materials related to tea culture. First of all, it is necessary to clarify the applicable objects and teaching objectives of the selected textbooks. For example, the curriculum standard of Tea Art and Tea Drinking emphasizes that the teaching materials should be based on this curriculum standard, and the teaching content should be reasonably arranged according to the needs of talent training. The textbook should cover the basic knowledge of tea culture, tea knowledge, tea set knowledge, brewing techniques and tea etiquette. For example, the book "Fundamentals and Practical Training of Tea Art" includes these aspects and pays attention to practical operation^[3]. At the same time, we should also refer to the specific requirements in the professional curriculum syllabus, such as the basic knowledge of tea commodities and the identification of tea sets mentioned in the curriculum syllabus of Tea Culture and Tea Art. You can refer to other recommended bibliographies and supplementary materials to enrich the content of the textbook. For example, books such as Millennium Tea Culture and Chinese Tea Culture can be used as the main bibliography. At the same

time, you can also refer to existing textbooks such as Chinese Tea Culture and reference materials such as *Drinking China-General Theory of Tea Culture* written by Wang Xufeng. Through the above steps and suggestions, you can effectively select suitable textbooks related to tea culture to ensure the teaching quality and effect.

Secondly, tea culture is included in the curriculum design as an important cultural element. In the primary stage, students can be helped to understand the Chinese tea culture by introducing the basics such as the types of tea, the steps of making tea, and the use of tea sets. With the improvement of students' level, they can further go deep into the connotation and historical background of tea culture, such as tea ceremony and tea ceremony. Tea culture is not only theoretical knowledge, but also a practical culture. Therefore, in the teaching process, teachers can organize some actual tea performances or tea parties, so that students can experience the process of making and tasting tea. This interactive teaching method can enhance students' sense of participation and interest. Practical activities can cultivate students' ability to use English flexibly, and can also expand limited classroom activities to extracurricular activities, enriching students' extracurricular life [3]. Tea culture can be combined with other disciplines to form an interdisciplinary teaching mode. For example, tea culture is combined with Chinese, history, fine arts and other disciplines, and students' knowledge and cultural understanding can be enriched through the description of tea culture in literary works and historical tea culture stories. Specific tea culture cases are introduced into teaching, such as the famous top ten famous teas in China and the stories behind them, and students are guided to think and discuss the language expression and cultural connotation in these cases through case analysis. At the same time, it can simulate the real tea party scene, so that students can learn and use Chinese in role-playing. There are various methods of teaching Chinese as a foreign language, including intuitive method, deduction method, induction method, contrast method and situational introduction method. In the teaching of tea culture, the situation introduction method can be adopted to stimulate students' interest in learning by creating specific tea culture situations, and help students master relevant language knowledge and cultural background through a lot of exercises and interactions. In the teaching process, we should pay attention to the evaluation and reflection of students' learning effect. Through classroom observation, homework assignment, group discussion and other forms, students' understanding and mastery of tea culture can be understood, and teaching strategies and contents can be adjusted according to feedback. When introducing Chinese and western tea culture resources, teachers should create teaching situations, actively carry out diversified activities, gradually cultivate students' cultural respect, enhance students' sense of national cultural identity and cultivate students' cross-cultural ability [5].

Thirdly, using virtual simulation experiment teaching technology and immersive experience activities, students are guided to understand the cultural identity and spiritual value in tea culture. Using emerging information technologies such as virtual reality technology (VR), a highly simulated learning environment can be created. For example, the virtual simulation teaching system of tea art service developed by a technology company can enable students to understand the characteristics of common teas, master the brewing methods of various teas, and participate in the whole tea making process through three-dimensional scenes such as tea growth environment simulation scenes

(tea picking, growth, tea management), indoor scenes of tea evaluation room (indoor lighting, environmental humidity, operating console), cognition of tea evaluation equipment (wet and dry operating console, sealing machine, tea drying machine, etc.), and tea processing equipment (black tea, green tea, oolong tea, black tea, white tea). Integrating tea culture into cross-cultural teaching is not only to improve students' communicative ability, but also to publicize tea culture all over the world. We can integrate virtual simulation technology into English classroom. The application of this technology not only improves the teaching effect, but also stimulates students' interest in learning. By designing immersive experience activities, such as virtual explanation of tea growth, picking and tea making process, and simulation reproduction of tea art performances, students can personally experience all aspects of tea culture in a virtual environment. "By introducing emerging information technologies such as AI analysis and digital twins, smart classrooms and virtual simulation training rooms can be built to further empower classroom teaching reform."^[9] For example, in teaching environments such as Liubao Tea Intangible Cultural Heritage Master Studio and Modern Tea Industry Autonomous Region Virtual Simulation Training Base, students can deeply study and experience the essence of tea culture. This advanced teaching method not only helps students better understand tea culture, but also provides more possibilities for cross-cultural communication.

3 The significance of Integrating Tea Culture into Cross-cultural Teaching

Integrating tea culture elements into cross-cultural teaching can enhance students' sense of identity and self-confidence in Chinese culture. As an important part of Chinese excellent traditional culture, tea culture contains rich historical and cultural heritage. By introducing tea culture into cross-cultural teaching, students' sense of identity and self-confidence in Chinese culture can be effectively enhanced. This kind of cultural self-confidence not only helps students to better understand and inherit their national culture, but also enhances their international competitiveness in the context of globalization. For example, in the "Tea Culture Practice and Dissemination" project of the School of Media and International Culture of Zhejiang University, Chinese students and foreign students participated in tea picking, tea making, tea tasting and other activities, which not only experienced the taste of tea and the interest of tea making, but also tasted the Chinese tea ceremony culture.^[8] This personal experience helps students to understand and identify with Chinese culture more deeply. By introducing tea culture, the content and form of English class can be enriched.

For example, when introducing the word "tea", teachers can explain it by comparing Chinese and Western tea drinking habits. Westerners like to add milk or sugar to their tea, while Chinese prefer pure tea.

In addition, integrating tea culture into English teaching is helpful to cultivate students' cross-cultural communication ability. In the context of globalization, cross-cultural communication skills are particularly important. By learning about Chinese tea

culture and etiquette, students are able to better understand Chinese culture and communicate this knowledge to foreigners in English.^[4]

For elementary foreign students, education can be carried out through cultural background to help them better master basic language knowledge such as basic vocabulary, phrases and syntax. For example, when introducing "tea", different forms and types of tea in China and Britain can be compared to reduce students' learning difficulty.^[6]

Not only that, but it can also cultivate students' cross-cultural communication ability. With the continuous evolution and development of Chinese traditional tea culture, a tea culture system represented by tea poetry, tea allusions, tea art, tea philosophy, tea classics, tea operas, etc. has been gradually established, which contains the unique literature, art and emotional expression of the Chinese nation ^[1]. By running through tea culture in the teaching of language knowledge and skills, teachers can help students better understand and remember the uniqueness of Chinese and western cultures by comparing the differences of Chinese culture (such as tea ceremony spirit, tea drinking space and way, etc.). And through the comparison between Chinese and western tea cultures, students can take the differences between Chinese and western tea cultures in language, material, behavior and spirit as an opportunity to accept, understand and deal with the problems in cross-cultural communication, and then re-understand western society in the colorful tea culture, correctly understand the value of cultural phenomena and language application, and promote the improvement of cross-cultural significance ^[2].

Students' study of tea culture helps to improve their cultural accomplishment, and at the same time, it can increase their love for traditional culture while spreading our national culture. Therefore, teachers should pay attention to the teaching mode combining theory and practice, exert students' subjective initiative, improve students' interest in learning tea art, and promote the inheritance and development of China's tea culture.^[7]

4 Conclusion

To sum up, this paper deeply discusses the relevant strategies and measures on how to integrate tea culture elements in cross-cultural teaching. First of all, we have selected appropriate teaching materials to ensure that tea culture as an important cultural element is included in the course design. Secondly, through the use of virtual simulation experiment teaching technology, students can practice in a virtual environment and deeply understand the spiritual connotation of tea culture. In addition, immersive experience activities have also been introduced, through personal participation, students can more intuitively feel and experience the charm of tea culture.

Integrating tea culture into cross-cultural teaching not only conforms to the current Chinese diplomatic concept of "harmony without diversity, inclusiveness", but also carries forward the educational spirit of "tea as a medium and tea as a friend". This practice not only helps to enhance students' sense of identity and resonance for Chinese culture, but also promotes the spread and understanding of Chinese culture on a global scale. Therefore, the comprehensive use of tea culture elements is an inevitable choice to cope with the challenges of cross-cultural teaching. Through these measures, we can

accelerate the development of intercultural teaching, enhance students' intercultural communication skills, and promote cultural diversity and understanding in global education.

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