A Study of College English Curriculum from the Perspective of General Education

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Abstract: From the perspective of General Education, College English courses are designed to enable students to better adapt to today’s diverse society, and to provide students with knowledge and values that are common to different groups of people, viewing the setting of college English courses from the perspective of General Education is actually in line with the requirements of the times and the needs of the country. After four years of college study, college students will enter the society, so it is of immeasurable significance to the individual college education system and general education to cultivate their ability of multi-aspect development to make them better adapt to the society.

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English courses in contemporary universities are generally divided into two parts: listening, speaking and reading and writing. Leaving aside the curriculum for English majors, most of the other majors are based on these two aspects, English course is divided into two parts, listening, speaking and reading and writing. Reading and writing course is the course form from childhood to childhood, as a relatively new teaching mode, listening and speaking course in college makes students’ Eyes Bright, which shows that the teaching idea of college English course is

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to cultivate students’ ability to use English, and accords with the teaching idea of general education. The following is a brief discussion on the research of General Education in College English Curriculum.

1. The Reasons for Setting up Contemporary College English

There are listening classes in middle school, but the nature of listening classes in middle school is different from that of listening and speaking classes in college. Listening class only requires students to be able to understand it, so the students in the application of English training, but if you want to really learn a language well, then it must be applied. Therefore, the “listening and speaking course” set up during college makes up for the neglect of students’ ability to speak English in middle school. When students enter a university campus, they suddenly find that “students seem to understand every word in the English-style teaching model, but they are puzzled when the teacher turns them into a sentence.” So it shows that students are not flexible enough to use English as a language in their daily life. In the past, middle school students only used it as a subject to accomplish their learning tasks.

Moreover, the setting of college courses is also related to the learning characteristics of students at this stage, because most college students at this stage are self-taught, and because there was no longer an English class every day or even a class every day, therefore, the college English course is divided into two sections: listening, speaking and reading and writing. The single and double-week teaching method can ensure that students can make some progress in both sections. English is a very important skill to learn English well can improve self-cultivation and value, so that students can have a new way of sustainable growth, the study of college English curriculum from the perspective of general education can also help students to understand more information and news, which shows the importance of English learning.

2. On the Significance of College English Curriculum from the Perspective of General Education

(I) Guide the students to understand the cultural differences and strengthen their oral ability

The college English curriculum starts with the five basic aspects of language learning, dividing “audio-visual-oral” into one part and “reading and writing” into another part, it combines the five basic elements in the study of language subjects to train college students in an all-round way, including the mutual infiltration of
knowledge and culture.

In the arrangement of college English textbooks, it can be found that both the “audio-visual-oral” and “reading-writing” sections contain different aspects of Western culture, therefore, from the perspective of General Education, College English courses are not only designed to enable students to learn English words or sentences, in this information society, college students may also face the challenge of carrying out cross-border exchanges in their future development, in fact, the English knowledge learned in class is not the same as that used in actual communication, because a language contains not only the way of speaking, but also many aspects of cultural customs and regional characteristics. The student’s spoken English ability can directly reflect his English level, the person who can speak English fluently most is let everybody envy, in the Middle School English teaching actually has not paid too much attention to the student’s English pronunciation, the lack of attention to English pronunciation here is not the result of the teacher ignoring students’ mispronunciations, but rather the students’ pronunciation is mostly inauthentic, that is to say, unemotional. In fact, the students themselves know this problem, therefore, college English courses usually use genuine foreign interviews and reports when they study audio-visual and oral English, within the scope of students’ English Knowledge Reserve, we should let students know how to use English in the countries where they speak English as their mother tongue, and enhance their ability of “cultural transformation” and “English expression”. It is obvious to all that there are obvious cultural differences between China and Western countries. If college students learn English knowledge on the basis of ignorance of culture, they can only form superficial skills, the practical ability of English includes the ability of oral expression, reading and writing, so the curriculum of college English can meet the needs of students’ all-round development under the general education.

(2) Discover New English knowledge in practice

There was once a story about a Chinese student who called the toilet “WC” for short. In the minds of the students, it didn’t seem to be a problem, but when a foreign friend came to China on a trip, when Chinese volunteers are asked where the student bathroom is, their foreign friends have no idea what “WC” means. They are often referred to as a toilet or washroom, it is precisely because of the lack of college students’ knowledge and the illusion caused by a long time in the native language context that this joke is staged, so it reflects the importance of college English curriculum, after learning English, middle school students are not eager to apply it to social practice, but college is different. College is a period with many social practice activities, therefore, the Ministry of Education should be based on the fact that college students can apply the English knowledge they have learned in
practical activities to find out the existing problems, therefore, it is proposed to set up college English courses from the perspective of general education, so that students can better adapt to the future diversified society.

The study of college English curriculum in the context of General Education reflects that teachers should fully guide students to understand the cultural differences between China and the West, on the basis of understanding the cultural differences, in order to ensure that the students do not make the mistakes of expressing English with Chinese thoughts when they have a real exchange with foreign friends, when teachers guide college students to learn English from the perspective of General Education, to enable college students to understand that learning English well can improve themselves, thus ensuring the improvement of students’ comprehensive quality. The development of general education is related to the educational direction of all young people, in the process of college students’ English teaching, more attention should be paid to the infiltration of General Education.

3. Conclusion

The research on college English curriculum from the perspective of General Education shows the teaching ideas and teaching requirements of universities today, aiming at cultivating talents who can apply knowledge flexibly, and the essence of English is a language, it is not only a pure subject, but also a solid foundation of English and a flexible application ability, which can provide college students with great help in their future career and development. With the promotion of China’s international status, the Chinese market is gradually going to the world, so English, as one of the global common languages, is also playing an extremely important role. The study of college English curriculum can clarify the current education direction, and the university itself can be said to be a microcosm of society, allowing students to develop a more mature way of doing things during this period.

Works Cited