

Contemporary Chinese Literature in the International Education Curriculum: Cultural Communication and Identity Construction Strategies

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims to explore the important position and role of the Chinese contemporary literature in the international education curriculum, and focus on its strategies and significance in the cultural communication and identity construction. Through the characteristics and value of the contemporary Chinese literature works are expounded, combined with the multicultural background of international education, study how to effectively integrate Chinese contemporary literature into the curriculum system, to promote different cultural background students deep understanding of Chinese culture, help them in cross-cultural exchanges to build diverse and inclusive cultural identity, and promote the benign development of cultural exchanges and integration in international education.

KEYWORDS

Chinese contemporary literature; international education curriculum; cultural communication; identity construction

1 Introduction

In the current era of surging globalization, the importance of international education has become increasingly prominent and has become a crucial way to promote cultural exchanges among countries around the world and cultivate talents with a global perspective. In the vast and diverse framework of the international education curriculum system, literature education, like a dazzling pearl, as a core component of humanistic quality cultivation, emits a unique and charming light. Contemporary Chinese literature, with its magnificent development process, rich and profound connotations, diverse forms, and incisive depiction and reflection of social reality, stands proudly in the forest of world literature and becomes a powerful engine for disseminating Chinese culture and catalyzing cultural exchanges in the field of international education. Deeply exploring the strategies of cultural dissemination and identity construction of contemporary Chinese literature in international education curricula is like mining a treasure trove full of endless treasures, which has immeasurable important value and far-reaching significance for comprehensively enhancing the quality of international education and enhancing the world's in-depth understanding and perception of China.

2 Characteristics and Values of Contemporary Chinese Literature

2.1 Reflecting Social Changes and Multiculturalism

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, contemporary Chinese literature, like a magnificent epic, has slowly unfolded a magnificent and magnificent historical scroll, experiencing multiple distinct and significant development stages. In the early days of the founding of the country, numerous literary works enthusiastically depicted the vigorous enthusiasm and great feats of the construction of New China. For example, "History of Entrepreneurship" vividly showed the struggles and aspirations of farmers during the socialist transformation in rural areas and became a vivid portrayal of that era. With the spring breeze of reform and opening up blowing across the vast land of China, literary works keenly captured the profound pulse of ideological liberation and social transformation. "The Ordinary World" focused on the struggles and strivings of ordinary people in the tide of the times, deeply reflecting the huge impact of social changes on individual fates. Entering the new century, under the strong impact and in-depth integration of globalization, contemporary Chinese literature has shown the passionate collision and splendid integration of multiculturalism with an open mind. Works like "Frog", through an in-depth exploration of the special historical period of family planning, not only reflected the major changes in China's social population policy but also involved the complex interweaving and in-depth exploration of traditional culture, modern concepts, and human nature. These wonderful literary works, like bright windows, provide international students with precious and unique perspectives to deeply understand the development trajectory and cultural evolution of Chinese society from all aspects and angles.

2.2 Innovation in Literary Style and Form

Based on the profound foundation of inheriting the splendid treasures of traditional Chinese literature, contemporary

Chinese literature has always maintained an enterprising spirit of advancing with the times and have the courage to innovate, actively absorbing advanced creative concepts and novel expression techniques of Western modern literature, thus striding forward bravely and resolutely on the road of innovation in literary style and form. From the ingenious use of stream-of-consciousness techniques, such as the delicate and unique presentation of the inner world of characters in some avant-garde literary works, to the fuse of magic realism elements, Mo Yan's "Red Sorghum Family" perfectly combined the folk legends, profound history, and fantastic reality of Gaomi Northeast Township, conquering readers around the world with a shocking artistic power; from the bold and avant-garde experimental creations of avant-garde literature, constantly challenging the boundaries and rules of traditional literature, to the vigorous rise and prosperity of online literature, showing unprecedented innovative vitality and unlimited potential in the aspects of dissemination media and audience interaction of contemporary Chinese literature. Online literature, with its convenient dissemination mode, rich and diverse themes, and unique advantages of high interaction with readers, has brought international students a unique reading experience and novel cultural feelings, greatly broadening the dissemination scope and depth of contemporary Chinese literature in the world.

2.3 Rich Cultural Connotations

Contemporary Chinese literary works are like a profound and profound cultural treasure house, containing the essence of traditional Chinese culture with a long history and splendid splendor. Confucian benevolence, like a trickling stream, moistens the character images and plot developments in many literary works, reflecting the warmth and care between people; Taoist concepts of nature, like a gentle breeze, are faintly visible in works that depict landscapes and gardens and perceive philosophical insights, conveying the yearning and pursuit for natural harmony; Buddhist compassion, like a glimmer of starlight, shines with the brilliance of human nature and the power of redemption in some works. At the same time, these works also vividly reflect the mainstream values of contemporary China. Patriotic feelings are surging in chapters that describe heroic deeds and national struggles; the spirit of collectivism shines brightly in stories that show team cooperation and social construction; and the core socialist values, like a red thread, run through it, condensing the spiritual strength and value pursuits of contemporary Chinese society. In addition, the unique regional and ethnic cultures nurtured in the vast land of China have also been vividly presented in contemporary literary works. Minority literature, with its unique charm, such as the delicate depiction of colorful folk customs, the devout expression of mysterious religious beliefs, and the affectionate praise of tenacious national spirits, adds a rich and unique exotic color to contemporary Chinese literature. These rich, diverse, and wonderful cultural connotations make contemporary Chinese literature an inexhaustible source of high-quality materials for the dissemination of Chinese culture in international education.

3 Strategies for Cultural Dissemination of Contemporary Chinese Literature in International Education Curricula

3.1 Selecting Exquisite Literary Works

In the setting of international education curricula, it is necessary to carefully select contemporary Chinese literary works with excellent representativeness, ideological content, and artistic quality. It should cover classic works of different periods and various literary schools. For example, "Song of Youth" reflecting the construction period of New China and "Restlessness" embodying the spirit of reform and opening up. At the same time, some works with high popularity and wide influence in the international arena should be included, such as Mo Yan's "Red Sorghum Family" and Yu Hua's "To Live". In addition, the degree of fit between the theme of the work and the interest points of international students should be considered. For example, works about family emotions, personal struggles, and social fairness with universal value themes should be selected to enhance students' reading enthusiasm and participation.

3.2 Multilingual Translation and Dissemination

To enable more international students to access and understand contemporary Chinese literature, high-quality translation work is crucial. It is necessary to cultivate and gather a group of professional translation talents who are proficient in both Chinese and target languages and familiar with Chinese culture and literature to ensure that literary works can accurately convey the artistic conception, emotions, and cultural connotations of the original text during the translation process. At the same time, modern information technology and new media platforms should be used to broaden the translation, publication, and dissemination channels of contemporary Chinese literature. For example, by establishing multilingual literary websites and electronic libraries to provide convenient reading and downloading services of literary works; by using social media platforms to promote contemporary Chinese literature works and organize

online literary discussion activities to enhance interaction and communication with international readers.

3.3 Cross-cultural Teaching Methods

In the teaching of international education curricula, using cross-cultural teaching methods is the key to promoting the cultural dissemination of contemporary Chinese literature. Teachers should guide students to interpret contemporary Chinese literature in the global cultural context and encourage them to compare the similarities and differences between Chinese literature and their own national literature in terms of theme, character shaping, narrative style, etc. For example, when explaining "Fortress Besieged", students can be guided to compare it with satirical literary works in Western literature and analyze its unique features in satirical techniques and cultural criticism. At the same time, through organizing group discussions, role-playing, literary creation and other activities, students can deeply experience the cultural elements and emotional expressions in contemporary Chinese literature and improve their cross-cultural understanding ability and literary appreciation ability.

4 Strategies for Identity Construction of Contemporary Chinese Literature in International Education Curricula

4.1 Cultivating a Multicultural Perspective

The courses of contemporary Chinese literature should be committed to cultivating international students' multicultural perspectives, enabling them to transcend the limitations of their own cultural backgrounds and understand and respect the differences and values of different cultures. During the teaching process, teachers can guide students to interpret the characters and events in literary works from the perspectives of different cultural identities. For example, when reading "A Muslim's Funeral", students can be asked to explore the cultural conflicts and integrations shown in the work from the perspectives of different ethnic cultural identities such as the Han and Hui ethnic groups respectively. In this way, students can recognize the diversity and complexity of cultural identities and develop their inclusive attitudes and adaptability in cross-cultural communication.

4.2 Promoting Cultural Identity and Self-awareness

Through the study of contemporary Chinese literature, international students can gain an in-depth understanding of the charm and value of Chinese culture, which will further promote their identification with Chinese culture. Meanwhile, in the process of contacting and colliding with Chinese culture, students will also reflect on and reconstruct their own cultural identities, thus achieving a deepening of self-awareness. For example, when international students read the descriptions about family concepts and interpersonal relationships in contemporary Chinese literary works, they will unconsciously compare them with the corresponding concepts in their own national cultures, and thus recognize their own cultural roots and personal values more clearly. Teachers can help students sort out their gains and confusions in terms of cultural identification and self-awareness by organizing activities such as cultural reflection writing and classroom sharing, and guide them to construct positive and healthy cultural identities in a multicultural environment.

4.3 Building Cross-cultural Communication Bridges

Contemporary Chinese literature can also serve as a tool for international students to build bridges for cross-cultural communication in international education curricula. In the process of learning contemporary Chinese literature, students not only master Chinese cultural knowledge and literary expression skills but also cultivate cross-cultural communication abilities. They can take contemporary Chinese literature as topics and materials for cultural exchanges and have in-depth exchanges and discussions with Chinese students or students from other countries. For example, in international student exchange activities, seminars or cultural salons themed on contemporary Chinese literary works can be organized to allow students to share their reading experiences and cultural insights. Through the bond of literature, the friendship and trust among them can be enhanced, and the mutual understanding and cooperation among students from different cultural backgrounds can be promoted.

5 Conclusion

Contemporary Chinese literature has an irreplaceable important position and role in international education curricula. Through strategies such as carefully selecting literary works, strengthening multilingual translation and dissemination, and

using cross-cultural teaching methods, contemporary Chinese literature can better go global, allowing international students to deeply understand the connotations and charm of Chinese culture. At the same time, with the help of strategies such as cultivating a multicultural perspective, promoting cultural identity and self-awareness, and building cross-cultural communication bridges, it can help international students construct positive and healthy cultural identities in cross-cultural communication, improving their cross-cultural adaptability and communication and cooperation abilities. In the future development of international education, more attention should be paid to the construction and improvement of contemporary Chinese literature courses, continuously exploring and innovating strategies for cultural dissemination and identity construction, and making greater contributions to cultivating international talents with a global perspective and multicultural qualities.

About the Author

Xinya Huo, female, Han ethnicity, was born in February 1986 in Lanzhou, Gansu Province. She holds a master's degree and has the professional title of lecturer. Her major is Chinese Language and Literature, with research interests in pedagogy, modern and contemporary literature.

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