

# Approaches to Integrating Ideological and Political Education into Student Management in Colleges and Universities

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## Abstract:

With the rapid development of higher education in China, the number of college students is increasing year by year, and the importance of ideological and political education in colleges and universities is becoming increasingly prominent. It is a crucial aspect of talent cultivation in higher education institutions and an essential measure to ensure the smooth implementation of national development strategies. However, traditional management modes in colleges and universities are no longer sufficient to meet current educational demands. This paper examines the implementation of ideological and political education from the perspectives of external environments, information channels, and educational reform. It emphasizes reinforcing foundational structures, strengthening the Party branch, fostering closer ties between teachers and students, and promoting democratic practices within the Party. The goal is to enhance the guiding role of ideological and political education in student management while strengthening students' capacities for self-education, self-service, and self-management.

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## Keywords:

Ideological and political education  
Student management work  
Talent training

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## 1. Introduction

With the rapid development of China's national economy, the education sector has experienced significant progress, particularly in higher education, which plays a vital role in improving national quality and advancing societal development. As the reform of China's education system deepens, colleges and universities are transitioning from

elite to mass education. This shift has rendered traditional management models inadequate for addressing the new demands of education. Integrating ideological and political education into college student management is a key aspect of fully implementing the Party's educational policies and fulfilling the fundamental task of moral education. It is also essential for promoting the healthy

development of higher education institutions, maintaining campus security and stability, and enhancing students' overall quality in the current context <sup>[1]</sup>.

Building on this, the paper explores the challenges of incorporating ideological and political education into student management, examines the principles underlying this integration, and discusses strategies to address these challenges. These strategies include expanding perspectives, solidifying foundational structures, and fostering closer relationships between teachers and students. By outlining practical implementation pathways, this study aims to support the healthy development of higher education institutions in China.

## **2. The dilemma of integrating ideological and political education into student management in colleges and universities**

In recent years, colleges and universities have increasingly emphasized ideological and political work, providing favorable conditions for the smooth execution of student management tasks. Concurrently, these institutions have sought to integrate ideological and political education concepts into student work and improve their management systems, leading to notable enhancements in the quality of their operations. However, various factors have made it challenging for ideological and political education to fully integrate into student management. These challenges are outlined as follows:

### **2.1. The influence of the external environment**

Significant changes in China's economic and social development have necessitated corresponding adjustments in the management systems of colleges and universities. Yet, in some institutions, the student management systems remain outdated and rigid, failing to adapt to actual demands. This lack of flexibility and humanization in student management hinders the holistic development of students <sup>[2]</sup>. Consequently, some students develop resistance to management practices, question the system, and undermine the effectiveness of student management. This, in turn, adversely impacts the quality and effectiveness of teaching in these institutions.

### **2.2. The influence of information channels**

Under the current circumstances, the management of college students faces increasingly complex challenges, particularly due to the varied psychological profiles of students. The rapid advancement of information technology, especially mobile communication technology, has provided students with unprecedented access to diverse information. While this has its advantages, it also brings negative influences that can complicate student management. Furthermore, the fast-changing social environment exacerbates the difficulties of managing students, diminishing the effectiveness of traditional methods. In this context, continuing with outdated teaching methods makes it challenging to achieve the desired educational outcomes.

### **2.3. The impact of education reform**

As reforms in China's education system accelerate, the educational philosophies of colleges and universities are also evolving. However, despite this progress, the ideological and political education of students has not seen substantial development. Traditional education practices tend to prioritize professional knowledge while neglecting students' ideological and political education. This oversight has prevented ideological and political education from achieving its full potential, significantly reducing its impact. While institutions recognize these issues, they often lack clear strategies to address them. Thus, when implementing ideological and political education, it is essential to deeply analyze the deficiencies of traditional teaching models and reform student management in alignment with contemporary societal developments. This approach will enable colleges and universities to better serve their students.

## **3. The principle of integrating ideological and political education into student management in colleges and universities**

### **3.1. The principle of proceeding from reality**

Under the new circumstances, the management of students and ideological and political work in colleges and universities has undergone significant changes. Particularly for the generation of students born after 2000, integrating ideological and political education into student

management is not only a component of ideological and political work but also an essential part of student management. Therefore, actual work must prioritize students as the central focus, adhering to the principle of reality and leveraging students' subjectivity and initiative.

Firstly, educational efforts in colleges and universities should begin by considering the characteristics, interests, and needs of students to foster a positive learning environment, thereby mobilizing their enthusiasm. Secondly, institutions should reform and optimize student management models, enhancing current ideological and political work systems based on students' needs. This approach enables students to find joy in the process, promoting the smooth integration of ideological and political education with student management.

### **3.2. The principle of teaching students in accordance with their aptitude**

Student managers in colleges and universities must thoroughly understand the physical and psychological conditions of their students and adapt management practices to cater to their diverse characteristics. This integration allows for a more effective combination of ideological and political education with management work. Educational administrators should carefully plan and optimize the allocation of campus educational resources, identifying their relevance to students' needs. Developing fair and efficient resource allocation strategies ensures their optimal utilization. This approach helps meet the distinct requirements of different student groups, ultimately improving the overall educational standards in colleges and universities.

### **3.3. The principle of gradual progress**

Student management in colleges and universities should follow a scientifically structured plan implemented within institutional operations. It is also essential to identify and prioritize the ideological and political education needs of students while leveraging various online teaching resources for instructional purposes.

Firstly, understanding and establishing clear objectives for ideological and political work is crucial, forming the foundation of effective student management. Simultaneously, methods and approaches to ideological and political education must be thoughtfully designed

and continually refined to ensure the content aligns with contemporary societal requirements while resonating deeply with students. This strategy enhances the effectiveness and appeal of ideological and political education.

Secondly, recognizing the importance of online ideological and political work is essential. Universities must actively build and improve the digital environment for such education by providing technical support and innovating content, formats, and delivery methods. Through the rational integration and utilization of abundant online educational resources, institutions can broaden educational channels while increasing the engagement and effectiveness of ideological and political education.

## **4. The implementation of integrating ideological and political education into student management in colleges and universities**

### **4.1. Broadening perspectives and implementing moral education**

University administrators should align their efforts with the broader societal context, enhancing the current moral education system for students and adopting the concept of moral education as the primary guideline for students' ideological and political education and management. Based on this foundation, the content of ideological and political education should be refined and supplemented to improve its overall effectiveness. To achieve these objectives, university administrators need to focus on the following aspects:

First, integrate school management with teaching activities. Ideological and political education shares a common educational goal with student management and maintains a close interconnection. Administrators in colleges should aim to seamlessly integrate these two domains to achieve harmonious development. This requires a structured approach where daily teaching activities and student management efforts interact positively, embedding moral education content into the core of subject education during course instruction. Such integration enhances the educational value of both domains<sup>[3]</sup>. Moreover, colleges and universities should

provide regular training programs for subject teachers and ideological and political counselors to facilitate effective collaboration and ensure the mutual reinforcement of these efforts.

Second, increase the emphasis on practical courses. Given the current educational landscape, Chinese colleges and universities need to focus on developing students' practical skills. This involves establishing internship bases and fostering communication with various enterprises and institutions to create a conducive environment for student internships. Alongside this, universities should actively promote innovation and entrepreneurship education, laying a robust foundation for student development in these areas. Colleges and universities can also strengthen students' ideological and political education by organizing campus cultural activities. Events such as red song parties, themed class meetings, and other moral education initiatives help inculcate correct values and life perspectives in students while enhancing their practical abilities.

Third, balance online ideological and political education with classroom teaching. The rapid development of network information technology has made the Internet a central part of college students' academic and personal lives, presenting a new avenue for learning. Therefore, university administrators must leverage this technology to enhance the delivery of ideological and political education. Simultaneously, efforts should be made to integrate online and classroom teaching, maximizing the educational potential of both modes. Colleges can also incorporate ideological and political education into various extracurricular activities, such as group travel, social investigations, and public service initiatives. By understanding and addressing the ideological and behavioral traits of college students, administrators can more effectively implement comprehensive ideological and political education.

#### **4.2. Consolidating the foundation and continuously strengthening grassroots Party branches**

Colleges and universities should ensure that the guidance on ideological and political work from relevant authorities is effectively conveyed to teachers of various subjects and ideological and political courses. This will

enable these educators to develop a clear understanding of their responsibilities. Additionally, the requirements of "two studies and one action" should be thoroughly implemented, leveraging the Party organizations' role as a core leadership entity. The following approaches can be taken:

First, colleges and universities must thoroughly understand and communicate the specific requirements of ideological and political work to subject teachers and ideological and political counselors. This ensures that both groups recognize the importance of integrating ideological and political elements into teaching and guidance. By doing so, educators can go beyond knowledge transmission to emphasize value shaping and cultural development.

Ideological and political counselors should innovate their methods and tailor the course content to align with the characteristics of their disciplines, ensuring these courses are engaging and thought-provoking. Subject teachers, on the other hand, should explore ways to present political theory in relatable and vivid formats, connecting the content to students' daily lives. This approach encourages students to reflect on national development and social progress. Collaboration between the two groups is essential to optimize the ideological and political work model, enhancing its impact and ensuring that each teaching activity becomes an opportunity for ideological education. This enables students to absorb these lessons in a subtle yet profound manner.

Second, colleges and universities should foster enthusiasm among student Party members, encouraging their active participation in ideological and political education initiatives. This involves adhering to the national principles and policies governing ideological and political work while embedding Party-building elements into campus culture, academic activities, and other student engagements. By doing so, students can experience the influence of the Party and socialist core values in their daily lives, achieving a meaningful integration of theory and practice.

Third, colleges and universities should focus not only on imparting professional knowledge but also on enhancing students' overall development. This includes fostering ideological and moral cultivation, teamwork skills, innovative thinking, and social responsibility. These

elements are critical for students' sustainable development and represent essential soft skills for future workplace competition. By adopting a comprehensive education and training model, colleges and universities can establish a robust foundation for their students, equipping them with the tools needed for long-term success.

### **4.3. Staying close to teachers and students, and continuing to promote the democratic style of the Party**

In the current era of diversified international ideologies, colleges and universities should consistently uphold and enhance the democratic practices of inner-party life, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the ideological perspectives of both teachers and students. This can be achieved through the following measures:

First, actively promote the modernization of the Party branch's democratic evaluation mechanism. This involves refining and improving the evaluation process to provide clear guidance and support for teachers and students engaged in ideological and political education. By creating a transparent and inclusive platform, every Party member can contribute effectively, collectively advancing the healthy development of campus culture. Additionally, efforts should be made to establish exemplary models within the Party, fostering a positive and energetic political atmosphere. By steadfastly implementing the principles of collective leadership and individual responsibility under democratic centralism, the cohesion and combat effectiveness of the Party branch can be strengthened, laying a solid foundation for its future development.

Second, alongside enhancing education and training for Party members, colleges and universities should focus on further strengthening the growth and effectiveness of Party branches. This can be achieved by organizing a series of well-structured activities and courses designed to deepen Party members' understanding of both theoretical and practical aspects of Party knowledge. Furthermore, in student management—especially for those who demonstrate disciplinary issues or face academic challenges—institutions should utilize ideological and political education activities to help them develop a correct worldview, life philosophy, and values. This dual approach not only strengthens students' moral frameworks

but also fosters their holistic personal development.

Finally, it is essential to fully implement the principles of inner-party democracy by actively engaging in constructive criticism and self-criticism. Such practices provide opportunities to enhance collaboration between teaching staff and student Party branches. This collaborative effort fosters better communication and understanding between teachers and students, creating a harmonious and constructive learning environment. Such an environment can unleash students' potential while simultaneously enabling teachers to refine their professional skills and teaching methodologies through practical educational engagement. This two-way interaction is invaluable for fostering harmonious teacher-student relationships and advancing the overall goals of education.

## **5. Conclusion**

In the new era, colleges and universities serve as critical platforms for cultivating national talent, with the ideological and political development of college students directly influencing the quality of this talent cultivation. To effectively enhance the level of ideological and political education in higher education institutions and seamlessly integrate it with students' professional learning and personal growth, colleges and universities must uphold a "people-oriented" educational philosophy. This entails fostering strong relationships between teachers and students, enriching the content of student education management, and refining student management systems.

Furthermore, by broadening working strategies, consolidating foundational efforts, and engaging closely with the lives of teachers and students, institutions can stimulate students' enthusiasm for learning. These efforts contribute to enhancing the overall quality of college students, preparing them to serve the nation as well-rounded individuals characterized by both competence and integrity. Through such comprehensive initiatives, colleges and universities can more effectively fulfill their mission of nurturing the next generation of leaders and contributors to society.

### **Disclosure statement**

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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