

# Literature and Art in Ideological and Political Education in Higher Education: A Study on the Ideological and Political Educational Functions of Literary Works

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**Abstract:** With the gradual deepening of domestic education reform, literature works have become a key part of the ideological and political education in colleges and universities, which plays a positive role in promoting the ideological and political literacy of college students. Literary works come from life, are close to life, and are closely related to The Times. In the process of ideological and political education, it is very important to rationally use literary works. This paper analyzes the influence of literary works on ideological and political education in colleges and universities, summarizes the shortcomings of using literary works to carry out ideological and political education in colleges and universities, and then puts forward the basic principles of using literary works to carry out ideological and political education, and on the basis of the principles, explores the feasibility strategies.

**Keywords:** College ideological education; Literary works; Education function

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Under the background of the rapid development of information technology, we have entered the era of massive data. Data information shows the characteristics of diversification and diversification, which has a great impact on the values of college students. The social environment we live in is constantly changing, to a certain extent, threatening the status of Marxist thought. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the ideological and political education of college students through effective guidance measures. Literature is the carrier of culture. Excellent literary works contain many functions such as cognition, aesthetics and education, and can reflect the ideological connotation and political connotation, which can subtly affect the readers.

## 2. THE INFLUENCE OF LITERARY WORKS ON IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The influence of literary works on ideological and political education in colleges and universities is reflected in the following aspects: First, literary works help to enhance the appeal of ideological and political education in colleges and universities and make it more vivid. The traditional mode of ideological and political education is based on lectures. Teachers explain theoretical knowledge, students accept it passively, and there is a lack of communication in the teaching process. With the development of society, there are great differences between the values and thinking styles of college students and traditional students. Especially under the background of education reform, the relationship between teachers and students tends to be equal. Therefore, the traditional education methods such as preaching, explaining and persuading are not effective, and even inspire students' rebellious psychology (WEI, 2023). However, literary works have obvious emotional characteristics and are highly consistent with the current ideological and political education in colleges and universities. The use of literary works to carry out ideological and political education has a strong appeal, which can make students more easily understand and accept the theory related to ideological and political education (Jing, 2022).

Second, literary works help to strengthen the humanistic characteristics of ideological and political education in colleges and universities. Ideas and thinking in ideological and political education tend to be theoretical, which is difficult to understand. In comparison, ideas in literary works can be more gentle to convey ideas from the perspective of sensibility, which is easier to understand and trust than theoretical ideas (Guo, 2023). Therefore, the introduction of literary works into ideological and political education is more beneficial to the cultivation of humanistic nature of college students.

Third, literary works help to expand the coverage of ideological and political education in colleges and universities. The economic system reform of our country is gradually deepening, the level of market economy is steadily improving, and people have more time for leisure and entertainment. Therefore, the demand at the spiritual level is increasing day by day. Many literary works have been adapted into films, TV dramas, songs and other forms, which are widely spread, the flavor of literary works is more obvious, and students have more convenient access to literary works. Literary works have become an important carrier of ideological and

political education in colleges and universities.

### 3. THE IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES FOR MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE UTILIZATION

Taking literary works as the carrier to carry out ideological and political education, we should not only affirm its advantages, but also face up to its shortcomings.

#### 3.1 Ideological and political teachers in colleges and universities have insufficient understanding of the educational function of literary works

In the process of using literary works to carry out ideological and political education in colleges and universities, insufficient understanding is a key problem. Insufficient cognition mainly refers to the relatively weak consciousness, that is, there are problems in the cognition of the educational value of literary works (REN, 2022). Our country literature works are very rich, but colleges and universities can not make full use of them. College teachers can quote classics and use classical literature works to spread correct ideas and help students develop noble moral sentiments when teaching. A classic "teaching material" is the Yuan Dynasty literary work "Twenty-four filial Piety". In this literary work, 24 typical filial characters are used as examples, such as "lying on ice and asking for carp" (as shown in Figure 1), to demonstrate filial piety.



**Figure 1:** lie ice for carp

College students are familiar with this story. Everyone knows that Wang Xiang has no mother since he was a child. In order to take better care of him, his father married a stepmother, who often spoke ill of Wang Xiang.

Wang Xiang lay on the ice, melted the ice on the river with his own body, and took out the carp. After eating the carp, the stepmother was cured. This allusion has educational value, but it is different from the social environment we live in today. Literary works have the characteristics of history and times. Teachers use the story of "lying on ice and asking for carp" to educate contemporary students. It is difficult for students to understand Wang Xiang's behavior, and the effect will be greatly reduced. Therefore, in the process of ideological and political education, teachers can begin to select materials from modern and contemporary literary works to enhance the significance of education. However, in view of the actual development of current university education, the application of modern and contemporary literature works is less, which is also a typical problem of insufficient cognition, and this problem needs to be improved urgently.

### 3.2 Lack of in-depth analysis of literary works in the process of ideological and political education in colleges and universities

From the perspective of ideological and political teaching in colleges and universities, the analysis of literary works is relatively shallow and not in-depth. Due to insufficient analysis, it leads to insufficient excavation of the connotation and significance of literary works, and it is difficult to give full play to the educational value of literary works. Taking contemporary literary works as an example, the characters in the works are often complicated and multi-faceted. If the characters are analyzed from a single perspective, it is difficult to fully understand the character and spirit of the characters, let alone correctly understand the intention of the author. In the course of teaching, the ideological and political teachers will mostly use the red theme of the literary work "Song of Youth" as an example to tell the students the story of the progressive youth Lin Daojing participating in the revolution.

In Song of Youth, the story of Lin Daojing's participation in the revolution seems to be very complete. However, it is difficult to express his patriotic feelings only by telling this story, nor can it comprehensively analyze the complexity of the characters in the work, which will affect students' comprehensive understanding of patriotic feelings (He & He, 2023). The value of literary works is rich and diverse, but the current application of literary works in the ideological and political education of colleges and universities pays too much attention to the social value of literary works, while ignoring their personal value. For example, in the Song of Youth, Lin Daojing shows patriotism, and also has a firm belief and the pursuit of truth.

### 3.3 The ideological and political education in colleges and universities does not use literary works artistically enough

Literary works have distinct artistic characteristics, which take text as the medium and objectively reflect realistic problems. They belong to an artistic means that can express the author's subjective thinking. In the form of words, the ideology is embodied, and an interaction is realized with the reader, which triggers the resonance of the reader from many aspects such as emotion. Ideological and political teachers in colleges and universities use literary works in teaching to infect students through literary works, arouse students' resonance and stimulate students' sense of identity, so as to realize students' moral education, aesthetic education and other aspects of education. For example, in the teaching of anti-corruption, teachers can use the book in the Name of the People. This work mainly tells the story of fighting against the black and anti-corruption, among which there are many protagonists, such as Hou Liangping, Ji Changming, Sha Ruijin and so on. Through the close plot description, it promotes the spirit of justice in our country. When teachers explain the characters, they generally affirm the practice and spirit of positive characters through simple praise, and the overall artistic quality is relatively lack. In fact, this literary work uses a lot of contrast, satire and other techniques to compare the positive and negative characters, and the distinctive artistic techniques highlight the character characteristics and social background of the characters. If the teaching lacks the application of artistic methods and only explains the content of literary works, the teaching will lack the artistic sense and the use of literary works will have certain limitations, which will be slightly boring (Zhao, 2018). The application of ideological and political education in colleges and universities to literary works is single. Literary works have educational functions and can actually play a positive role in promoting ideological and political education in colleges and universities. However, in the current ideological and political education in colleges and universities, there are certain deficiencies in the use of literary works, mainly reflected in the single aspect of the method, which affects students' subjective initiative in learning (YAN, 2022). First, some teachers adopt the "crammer" teaching method, and students accept it passively. There is not enough interaction between teachers and students in teaching, so the interest of the class is low. Some students want to express their views on literary works in class, but lack the opportunity to do so. Secondly, in the process of using literary works, ideological and political teachers excessively give literary works policy color, which will also affect students' understanding of literary works. In the literature works of our country,

there are a large number of excellent works with rich connotation. The writers use words as the carrier to show the readers their perception of the world, society and life. It would be too biased if teachers only analyze from a political point of view (Jian, 2023).

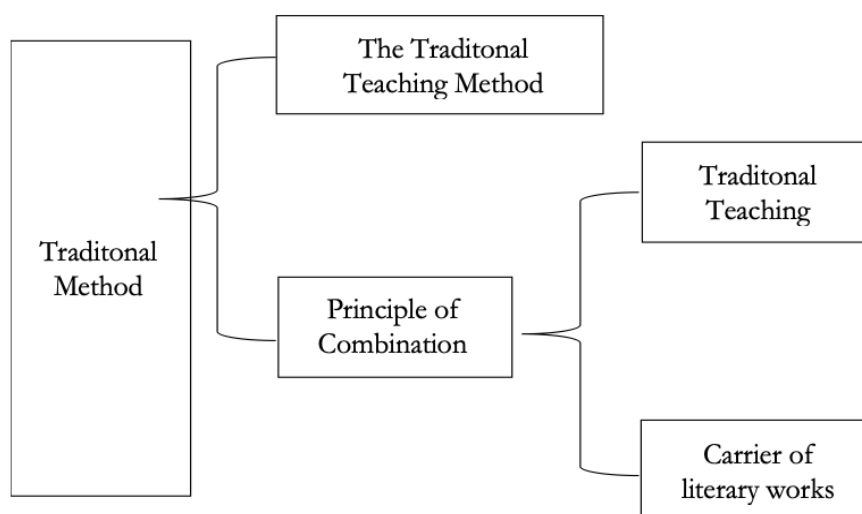
#### 4. UNIVERSITY IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION TO THE USE OF LITERARY WORKS OF THE PRINCIPLE

##### 4.1 The principle of selective utilization

Selective utilization has strong pertinence and specificity, which is not indiscriminate use of the content, form and method of modern and contemporary literary works, but requires university ideological and political education personnel to make choices according to the actual educational needs and educational purposes, so as to improve the educational effect of college students.

##### 4.2 the principle of combined use

Combined use has certain basic nature, which belongs to the university ideological and political education and modern and contemporary literary works of a more common form of use. The effect of ideological and political education in colleges and universities when using modern and contemporary literature works may be different from any educational effect brought by using them alone. Simply speaking, the essence of the so-called combined use is the combination of modern and contemporary literary works to enhance the effectiveness of ideological and political education in colleges and universities. As shown in Figure 2 below.



**Figure 2:** Principle of combined utilization

Modern and contemporary literature works and other carriers have a variety of combination forms, so the carriers of college ideological and political education also have many types. From the traditional educational carrier, the main forms include training, heart-to-heart talk, party activities and report writing. From the perspective of modern educational carriers, the main forms include new media, cultural carriers and mass media, etc. With the advancement of modernization, new carriers of ideological and political education are gradually increasing. As for the carriers of ideological and political education, different types of carriers have certain uniqueness and can adapt to different occasions. In other words, there is no "universal carrier". But at the same time, we need to realize that any carrier of ideological and political education does not exist independently (Luo & Liu, 2022). They are closely related to each other and can complement each other. Therefore, they can be comprehensively utilized in the practice of ideological and political education (Chi & Yang, 2023). For modern and contemporary literature, in addition to its strong permeability and infectivity, it also has flexibility. These characteristics make it complementary to other carriers. Therefore, it can be used in combination in the actual use.

#### 4.3 The innovative use of principle

Innovative utilization has the characteristics of non-repetitive, stylized and patterned. Therefore, ideological and political education workers in colleges and universities should also realize the importance of this form of innovative use of modern and contemporary literature. For example, "The White-Haired Girl" was originally a classic opera, which is the inheritance of the folk song and dance of our country (Boyd, 1997). With the progress and development of The Times, the form of the White-Haired Girl began to innovate, such as film and television, stage and drama. These new forms were rearranged on the basis of the original opera, adding the corresponding elements to adapt to The Times, making the red classic White-Haired Girl have the characteristics of The Times (Rose, 1992). The formal innovation of the White-Haired Girl gives important enlightenment to the ideological and political education in colleges and universities (SHAMSHADINKYZY, 2024). The ideological and political education should not be limited to direct indoctrination when using modern and contemporary literature works, but can allow students to truly participate in it through role play, so that they can deeply understand the profound connotation, so as to achieve the purpose of ideological and political education.

## 5. THE STRATEGIES OF USING MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE WORKS BY IDEOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL EDUCATION IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

### 5.1 Improving the humanistic quality of teachers

Teachers, as the guide of education, play an important role in the ideological and political education in colleges and universities. In order to give full play to the value and function of literary works, it is necessary to improve the humanistic quality of teachers and effectively "educate people with literature". Literature works and ideological and political education have a great correlation, mainly reflected in the dissemination of politics, ideology and morality, but there are still differences in the value content and the form of transmission. The differences between literary works and ideological and political education are shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Differences between literary works and ideological and political education

<b>Contrast</b>	
Works of Literature	To describe in the form of art, from the aesthetic and emotional aspects to meet the reader
Ideological And Political Education	Guide people to understand the world through objective facts and theories

Literary works depict the world through artistic forms, which can satisfy people's aesthetic needs as well as their emotional vacancy. Ideological and political education is to guide people to understand the world and the laws of nature through rigorous theory and implementation. Ideological and political teachers in colleges and universities have professional theoretical knowledge and political literacy. Therefore, they are prone to over-explain theoretical knowledge in practical teaching, and humanistic care is less reflected in comparison (Wu, 2024). There is a strong literary atmosphere in literary works.

Therefore, teachers can cultivate their sentiments by reading literary works in the process of practical teaching, so that they can not only have professional literacy and theoretical system, but also cultivate humanistic literacy. In addition, the teacher teaching, can build a culture of learning environment for students, and then from the Angle of teaching literature, undertake to the student positive guidance, let the students to think in a real environment and learning, strengthen the enthusiasm of students in ideological and political aspects (Zhang & Teng, 2020).



## 5.2 To improve ideological and political educators' awareness of the value of literary works

To improve the value awareness of literary works in ideological and political education, first of all, we must strengthen the insight of the ideological and political teachers in colleges and universities. College ideological and political teachers should dig deeply the value of literary works and expand the scope of cognition. Insight refers to the ability to go deep into things and problems. Insight is more mixed with the ability of analysis and judgment, it can be said that insight is a comprehensive ability. It can be seen that insight needs to go deep into things or problems and accumulate a lot of knowledge. Otherwise, you will not be able to go deep into the connotation of modern and contemporary literary works, but only see the surface of things. The idea is also true when applied to the analysis of literary works. In short, insight is strengthened, which has specific requirements, that is, teachers should have a high level of professional political knowledge and discipline research ability. After a relatively rich accumulation, when college ideological and political teachers encounter the same or similar problems, they can use their own knowledge and experience to deal with them. Secondly, we should deepen ideological and political teachers' cognition of literary works, let them make full use of literary resources in the society of our country, so as to improve the application effect and value of literary works in ideological and political education, and thoroughly and comprehensively analyze the value of literary works to ideological and political science, so as to strengthen the utilization level of literary works in ideological and political education. The good combination of ideological and political teaching and literature works can strengthen the characteristics of ideological and political education of The Times (Han, 2023). Finally, it needs to be improved from the perspective of funding, that is, increasing financial input. This point mainly refers to strengthening the material conditions of ideological and political education in colleges and universities, so as to improve the efficiency of the main body, and improve the quality of education at the same time. Ideological and political educators in colleges and universities should enhance the information input of literary works, and constantly strengthen the written materials of modern and contemporary literary works and all kinds of teaching related software materials. In addition, they can also collect the public resources of famous universities through the Internet, or obtain teaching resources in the form of knowledge payment. In order to strengthen the utilization of literary works in ideological and political education in colleges and universities, it is necessary to strengthen the

cognition of teachers and make teachers and students realize the value of literary works, so that literary works can be effectively applied to ideological and political teaching.

### 5.3 Grasp the ideological and political education methods of college students' psychological improvement

In view of the improper use of ideological and political education methods, the lack of aesthetics, the artistic quality is not strong and other problems, take the corresponding ways. According to the characteristics of ideological and political science, we should select suitable literary works, combine the characteristics of literary works and ideological and political science, adopt appropriate teaching methods, so that college students can get penetration and cross education, and strengthen the learning effect. Firstly, teachers can achieve the goal of teaching from the aesthetic perspective, which requires college teachers to have professional political literacy and literary quality, such as diversified experience, sincere emotion and so on. In addition, teachers should also have a high degree of respect for students, build a good relationship between teachers and students, and carry out teaching and communication on the basis of equality. Secondly, teachers can set dynamic teaching goals, and the process of accomplishing teaching goals should also have dynamic characteristics. The simple use of aesthetic means is far from enough, but also need to pay attention to the method of theoretical explanation, not only emphasize the individual field and understanding in literary works, but also need to follow the general law of education. After reading literary works, ideological and political teachers in colleges and universities can choose fragments or wonderful parts related to ideological and political courses and integrate them into classroom teaching, so as to stimulate students' interest. In the process of actual teaching, teachers should also pay attention to "blank space" for students and staff to play their own space, so as to cultivate the potential ability of students.

## 6. CONCLUSION

To sum up, with the development of science, computing and information, the resources of ideological and political education of college students are becoming more and more abundant. Using literature works to carry out ideological and political education is a new way. Many literary works are close to the daily life of college students, so they can bring great

influence to college students. Our country is in the key stage of social transformation, the development of The Times, the integration of foreign culture, etc., can affect the value concept of college students. Literary works actually have educational functions. Ideological and political teachers can make rational use of literary works in the teaching process, so that they can serve ideological and political education, enrich the methods of ideological and political education in colleges and universities, and achieve the goal of improving the effect of ideological and political education in colleges and universities.

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