Research on “Three Entries” of Xi Jinping’s Thoughts on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in New Era Promoted by Activity-oriented Blended Teaching Mode

—Taking Chapter 8 of 2018 Edition of Introduction to Maoism and the Theoretical System of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics as an Example

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Abstract: With the completed revision of 2018 version of Introduction to Maoism and the Theoretical System of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics (hereinafter referred to as “Introduction”), and the implementation of training on new edition use in the whole country, how to effectively promote Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics to “enter textbooks, enter classroom and enter mind”, especially “enter classroom and mind”, is the major task to be solved by colleges and universities. This paper, taking Chapter 8 of the third part of the course, combining Moso Teach, explores the design and application of activity-oriented blended teaching mode in Chapter 8, so as to break through discourse system and establish featured teaching method to promote the “three entries” of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era from various channels and by various ways.

1. The Connotation and Significance of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era

The 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China opened the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Since the 18th National Congress, the new generation of CPC central leading body with Xi Jinping as the core, through the continuous practice, exploration and innovation over the five years of hard work, has introduced a series of new policies and put forward a series of new ideas and strategies, systematically explained what kind of socialism with Chinese characteristics we adhere to and develop in the new era, and how to persist in and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics, which is a major issue of the times, and created Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era. Its core principle is to adhere to and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics, mainly including “eight clarify and fourteen adhere to”. The former mainly explains what kind of socialism with Chinese characteristics we adhere to and develop in the new era from macro ideology, and the latter is about how to persist in and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era, which is the integration of theory and practice.

Xi Jinping’s socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era is the latest theoretical achievement of Marxism in China. It is the inheritance and development of Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, Jiang Zemin’s three represents theory, Hu Jintao’s Scientific Outlook on Development, the crystallization of the party and people’s practical experience and collective wisdom, an important part of the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and a guide for the whole country and the people of China to realize the Chinese Dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, which must be sustained and developed for a long time [1].

2. The Current Status and Direction of “Three Entries”

Chen Baosheng, Minister of the Ministry of Education, pointed out in the speech of the opening ceremony of the training of 2018 edition of the textbooks for the national ideological and political
theory course of the Ministry of Education in colleges and universities that “three entries” is to enter
textbook, enter classroom, and enter mind. “Enter textbook” is to transform theory system to
textbook system by some teaching methods and means to become discipline-oriented. “Enter
classroom” is to transform textbook system to teaching system to become specific knowledge
system. And “enter mind” is to transform textbook and teaching system to value system by
education and teaching practice. Textbook is the basis, classroom is the core and the mind is the
objective. In essence, “three entries” is to solve three major problems, which is construction in
textbook, reform in classroom and brainstorm in mind. Among them, textbook construction is a
complicated systematical project with innovations. The revision of teaching materials shall be
combined with the latest achievement of Marxism in China and adapt to the development trend of
the times. The 2018 edition of Introduction to Maoism and the Theoretical System of Socialism with
Chinese Characteristics, adapts to the development trend of the era, combined with China’s
national conditions, and mainly solves the entry of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese
characteristics in new era in textbook. Experts like Prof. Qin Xuan, based on inheritance and
development of original textbook, conduct a comprehensive research on new development and new
dynamics of socialism with Chinese characteristics since the 18th national congress, and revise the
2015 edition according to relative requirements of Party Central Committee and related departments.
The new revision is divided into three parts, fourteen chapters, with Xi Jinping’s thoughts on
socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era as the key point. It can be said that the
transformation from theoretical system to textbook system is realized. Therefore, with the
completed 2018 edition and training, the entry of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese
characteristics in new era in textbook has achieved a series of effective results. At the same time,
how to promote Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era to enter
classroom is the urgent and core link, and the classroom reform directly influences and decides the
implementation of brainstorming of mind and effectiveness of ideological and political course. It
requires teachers in colleges and universities to deeply understand the spirits of the report of the 19th
national congress and guide students to carefully study, to learn Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism
with Chinese characteristics in new era. It is required to take classroom as the main battlefield,
change traditional teaching in a vivid way, combine online and offline classroom, physical and
intangible classroom in teaching design, perform teaching reform, enrich teaching contents and
transform textbooks to specific knowledge frame and system. Brainstorming of mind requires us to,
led by classroom teaching, guide students’ value thinking and emotional identity, encourage
students’ ideological inspiration and strategic enlightenment, and strengthen students’ four
confidence, so as to realize students’ identification of course value and enhance their sense of
obtaining of learning “Introduction”.

3. The Connotative Characteristics of Activity-oriented Blended Teaching Mode

In terms of solving the entries of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics
in new era in classroom and mind, this paper believes that, with the advent of big data era and its
wide application, the application and practice of information technology greatly promotes China’s
education and teaching reform. In 2016, General Secretary Xi pointed out that “network
information technology has been comprehensively integrated into economic and social life, which is
the information artery to promote national development” [2]. It requires teachers in colleges and
universities to adapt to the development of the era, actively practice the strategic ideology of
“cyberpower”, innovate teaching concepts by combining modern information technology, such as
Internet, cloud computing and big data with teaching activities inside and outside class, and build
teacher-students-centered and coordinated blended teaching mode.

Activity-oriented blended teaching mode, at present, has become the main tendency of current
informationized teaching. It requires teachers, based on constructivism theory, to design
identification activities inside and outside class combining students’ psychological recognition
characteristics, according to established topic teaching. Under teachers’ guidance, students build
study groups, cooperate to complete online and offline identification activities in a way of
interactive learning, so that their enthusiasm, initiative, creativity and participation as the subject of learning can be fully mobilized to realize the understanding of teaching contents and the internalization, application and innovation of knowledge.

4. “Introduction” Course and Activity-oriented Blended Teaching Mode

Introduction to Maoism and the Theoretical System of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics, is the most important course among ideological and political theory courses in colleges and universities, and a compulsory course of public political theory for undergraduates with a total of 96 class hours, including 56 class hours of theory and 40 class hours of practice. According to 2018 edition, this curriculum is, “led by the localization of Marxism in China, to help college students accurately and systematically understand and grasp the theoretical achievements of Marxism in China; have a deeper recognition of the historical progress, historical reform and historical achievements of revolution, construction and reform of people led by CPC; have a more thorough understanding of basic theories, basic routes and strategies that CPC adheres to in new era; to train and cultivate students to establish historical viewpoints, world vision, awareness of national conditions and problem consciousness, strengthen their ability to recognize, analyze and solve problems with the standpoint, viewpoint and methods of Marxism” [3].

In order to realize the teaching objectives and requirements and improve the effectiveness of “Introduction”, it is necessary to perform teaching reform. Therefore, the implementation of activity-oriented blended teaching mode, based on respecting basic teaching contents and basic requirements of this course, can realize the ultimate teaching objectives by establishing online and offline blended teaching mode.

5. The Design of Activity-oriented Blended Teaching Mode –Taking Chapter 8 of 2018 Edition as an Example

Chapter 8, the key of the whole textbook, is the leading chapter of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era in the third part. This chapter mainly explains the basis and significance of socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era, and describes the core content, main contents and theoretical and practical significance of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era combining “eight clarify and fourteen adhere to”.

5.1 The guiding ideology and thinking of curriculum design

In curriculum design, to take the goal of cultivating students’ seven abilities and qualities and strengthening their sense of obtaining, including political literacy, independent thinking ability, knowledge acquisition and self-learning ability, knowledge application and innovation ability, international vision and communication, ability to express and communicate, professionalism and cooperation ability; and to take the means of application-oriented course and integrating professional demand. In teaching contents, it is required to be based on the background, connotation and significance of socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era, main contents and historical status of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era combining “eight clarify and fourteen adhere to”.

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system and promote the transformation of teaching system to student value system.

The teacher-students-centered and coordinated curriculum procedures is implemented. Through teachers’ tasks, students’ search of news or document, analysis, discussion, planning and labor division in groups, teachers’ guidance, various types of results, PK in various ways in class and after class between students, the transformation of static storage of knowledge to dynamic application is realized. Finally, teachers and students give mutual evaluation, teachers or expert judges make conclusions, to promote students to master knowledge theory, realize the leap from phenomenon to essence and correspondingly enhance students’ seven abilities and qualities.

5.2 The design of blended teaching mode oriented by seven activities

After clarifying learning contents of the course, online and offline blended teaching combining network and classroom teaching can be implemented by the aid of Moso Teach to build the platform. Specific steps are described.

5.2.1 Before class (online and offline blended teaching)

The teacher shall first create a class number, inform students to join the Moso Teach class, and transfer relevant information in Moso class platform resources through computer. Specific contents are detailed.

First, PPT of Chapter 8. It is loaded by teachers and students can learn at any time and place.

Secondly, videos of Chapter 8, including Xi Jinping Depicts a New Era, Digital Five Years: The New Peak of Made-in-China, The Promise, Amazing China, Four New Inventions in the Eyes of Foreigners, New Era- The Report of 19th National Congress of CPC, Youth Model: Xi Jinping, The Big Parade in South China Sea: To Build World-class Navy, Five Minutes to Know Comprehensive strengthening of Party discipline, Fourteen Basic Strategies to Adhere to and Develop Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in New Era and so on. These are loaded to Moso resources by teachers and students can download and online watch these videos by themselves at any time.

Thirdly, classics reading, including Building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and achieving the great victory of socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era – The report at the 19th national congress of CPC, Selected Important Speeches and Articles of Xi Jinping, Communique of the second plenary session of the 19th central committee, Suggestions on Revising Constitution by CPC Central Committee, The third plenary meeting of the 19th Central Committee, Xi Jinping: The Governance of China (Volume 1 and Volume 2), Constitution of the Communist Party of China, (October, 2017), and Amendment to the Constitution of the People's Republic of China (March, 2018). These are loaded to Moso resources by teachers and students can download and online watch these videos by themselves at any time.

Fourthly, topics for in-depth discussion, including how to recognize socialism with Chinese characteristics into a new era and how to grasp the main content and historical status of Xi Jinping’s socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era. This part is done by groups before class, including finding corresponding supporting materials, making PPT, writing the speech, and determining the reporter.

Fifthly, upload the knowledge contest of Chapter 8 to Moso classroom activity-testing session, and set the scoring standard, assessment content, assessment focus, assessment objectives, and upload the classroom activity project, but do not start the task.

Sixthly, shoot I Love –You Anchor (news broadcasting) video, called Voice from 19th National Congress. This part is completed by student groups’ cooperation, according to the 19th national congress of CPC, to shoot related video, edit and produce, and transfer it to the teacher through Moso before class. The teacher audit videos and select excellent broadcast content for classroom presentation, and popularize those by the official account “Aesthetic Ideological and Political Course”.

Students will receive corresponding experience value after completion of these tasks as the final process assessment data. Teachers can also check the completion of students at any time through Moso, and effectively urge students to complete the work. These activities truly promote the entries of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era in classroom and
mind.

5.2.2 In class (online and offline blended teaching)

First of all, the teacher plays excellent I love-You Anchor videos of students, leads students to learn about the report of 19th national congress of CPC, and guides students to score different groups through Moso classroom activities. Secondly, the teacher conducts 3 topic lectures, and combines the brainstorming and Q&A discussion functions of Moso to guide each student in the whole process to interact with the teacher on the content of the whole course. Teacher will display the scene drama and classics reading videos that students have taken when necessary according to teaching content and goals to enhance students’ interests in learning. Thirdly, after the teacher’s special topic lecture, students participate in the knowledge contest and obtain the corresponding credits through Moso activities. The teacher uses the smart label function of Moso to analyze according to students’ question answering status. With the help of Moso, to implement hierarchical teaching for different classes and different contents. In order to enhance the classroom atmosphere, the knowledge contest can also be carried out online and offline. Finally, teachers and students enter the in-depth discussion. Each group of student representative comes to the stage and combines the PPT made by the group to make presentations. The teachers and students evaluate and interact through Moso by raising their hands, answering questions, selecting people, and group evaluation. These activities truly promote Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era to enter classroom.

5.2.3 After class (offline teaching)

Students complete their innovative work by independent learning and analysis according to topic lectures and online learning materials. For instance, students of animation major need to complete the drawing of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era, students of Chinese language and literature are required to accomplish poetry creation of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era, students from English and Japanese major of School of International Education shall translate Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era into English and Japanese, students of drama major shall shoot scene play of “Youth Model: Xi Jinping”, students from multi-media major shall establish the official account of “Aesthetic Ideological and Political Course” and make and popularize students’ works. All works of students will be included into work collection of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era, and excellent works will be selected for visualization competition of ideological and political course with the cooperation of teachers and related departments. Students present their concept and content of their innovation works, professional judges score and give awards. These activities truly promote Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era to enter mind and enhance students’ sense of obtaining from ideological and political course.

5.3 The implementation of blended teaching mode oriented by seven activities

In the specific implementation of course, shoot I Love –You Anchor to improve knowledge literacy and to increase the sense of reality to Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era; classics reading is conducted to strengthen knowledge literacy and to add concordances; knowledge contest is performed to examine knowledge literacy and to increase sense of vigor; in-depth discussion is conducted to enhance political literacy and to increase sense of depth; scene play is to enhance knowledge, ability and political literacy and to add sense of interestingness; innovation work is taken as carrier to combine topic lectures of Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era with students’ professional courses, so that students can better absorb, internalize and enrich topic lectures and increase sense of creativity; the visualization competition of ideological and political course is considered as the carrier to promote more people to learn Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era and to increase sense of effectiveness; the diversified process evaluation in all aspects is taken as the means, so that students can learn in doing and do in learning, to
enhance their seven abilities and qualities and increase their sense of obtaining from ideological and political course.

6. Conclusion

The application of activity-oriented blended teaching mode in the teaching of Chapter 8 in *Introduction to Maoism and the Theoretical System of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics* is fruitful. Its implementation effectively popularizes, studies and practices Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in new era and strengthens students’ four confidence so that they can fully realize their great mission and responsibilities in the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. At the same time, the teaching general indicators like attendance is higher, and individualized indicators are more and more with higher specifications, such as students’ participation in school-enterprise cooperation and discipline competition. Students’ interests in learning are more intense, and their classroom enthusiasm, participation and value identification are higher, so students’ sense of obtaining from ideological and political course is greatly enhanced.

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