

Research on the Reform and Innovation of International Settlement Teaching in Colleges and Universities Based on School-enterprise Integration

Guangqin Li

Department of Economics and Management, Weifang University, Weifang ,China
Gaomuzi66@163.com

Keywords: International settlement; University-enterprise integration; Collaborative education; Single window

Abstract. In 2018, the total value of import and export in China has exceeded 30 trillion yuan, which ranked on the top of countries in the world again. As a consequence, the volume of business in the field of international settlement has also exploded. At the same time, the requirement for international settlement talents on the qualification, quantity and their business operation skills have been upgraded as well. Colleges and universities are taking the heavy responsibility of cultivating high-quality international settlement talents. The Ministry of Education in China has promoted the reformation that combines the original education path with practical training since 2014. It aims to make full use of enterprises' different teaching environments and teaching resources, taking the advantages of personnel training and apply classroom-based knowledge to practical experience directly. This paper uses a normative analysis method, and the research results suggest several beneficial proposals :Constructing the international settlement university-enterprise cooperation platform Developing a teacher-student interactive training platform based on enterprise training softwareStrengthening the construction of the faculty team.

Introduction

In the context of big data, along with economic booming and the sizeable international trade capacity, the Internet economy and cross-border e-commerce developed quickly in China. Meanwhile, the external environment of international settlement has undergone rapid changes. The "One Belt, One Road" strategy not only puts forward new requirements for international trade but also raises new challenges on business diversification and risk control for commercial banks', which also leads to a higher requirement for international settlement talents. With this background, the content of the international settlement course must be updated simultaneously to adapt to the current "single window" trend and the trade facilitation pattern under the new economic situation.

The Significance of the Topic

In 2014, the Higher Education Department of the Ministry of Education collected cooperation projects for enterprises, provided financial support from enterprises, and promoted the reform of talent training in universities with the latent demand for industrial and technological development. With the publication of ""Several Opinions of the General Office of the State Council on Deepening the Integration of Production and Education" (Guo Ban Fa [2017] No. 95)" in 2017 and "Ministry of Education, High School Letter [2018] No. 8" in 2018, a series of policies have been issued, which is a clarion call for deepening the integration of production and education, university-enterprise cooperation, and collaborative education. It is also the initiation of supporting college comprehensive reform education innovation by utilizing enterprise resources. Therefore, in the spirit of the "Outline of the National Medium- and Long-Term Education Reform and Development Plan (2010-2020)" and

according to the requirement of talent training, it will become a golden key for students' careers to make full use of the different teaching environments and teaching resources of schools and enterprises and their respective advantages in personnel training, providing school education with classroom-based knowledge and direct access to practical experience and practical ability. It is also beneficial to combines the simple mode of theoretical teaching with the cultivation of practical ability and uses the school-enterprise education platform to drill into the real business scene.

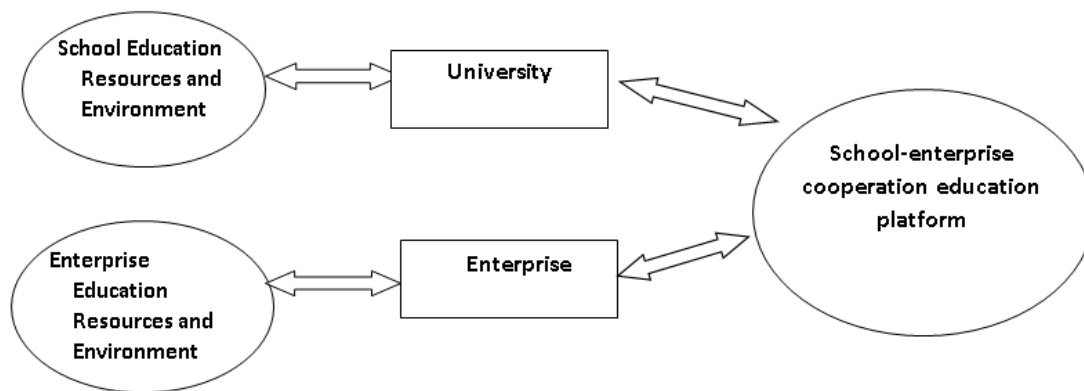


Figure 1: Thoughts on the Construction of School-enterprise Cooperation Education Platform

Characteristics of the International Settlement Course

The international settlement is a compulsory course for international trade. It aims to cultivate practical talents with substantial theoretical knowledge and practical operational ability to meet the needs of export-oriented economic development in various places. It has the following characteristics:

1. Higher requirements for comprehensive knowledge

The international settlement is a combined discipline. The knowledge required by practitioners involves accounting, finance, international trade, marketing, business negotiation, and foreign languages. Since the texts that are in contact are in English during the process of reviewing the documents, the English requirements for practitioners are quite high. At present, among financial institutions in China, the English level of most of the international business departments can reach professional level 4, and even the professional level 8.

2. A large amount of work for document operations

The modern international settlement requires more and more types of documents, no matter they are remittances, collections or letters of credit, they all require a large number of documents for verification. The more complete the documents provided, the better it will be for the trade. What followed was that the requirements for the settlement clerk's operational ability were significantly improved, and the workload will be increased consequently.

3. Course content is updated fast

The traditional international settlement is mainly based on L/C, and the draft is used as a settlement tool to transfer funds between the two countries for trade and non-trade transactions. With the development and improvement of international settlement, the simple settlement by L/C method cannot meet the requirements of risk control of current settlement methods. Especially in the context of the pressure of RMB appreciation, it is necessary to have a more improved and method. Therefore, on the basis of L/C, it appears with a lot of guarantees and factoring methods, and banks have increased the risk control of themselves. Besides, due to the global economic downturn, the shortage of funds is no longer a problem for individual countries and enterprises. The function of international settlements has

evolved from transferring funds between countries to combining trade and finance together. For this reason, it requires employees in international settlement to acquire more financial knowledge, including financial products, derivatives, and risk control measures.

4. More complicated and more practical than the domestic settlement

Since the birth of the subject of international settlement, there are two distinct forms: trade and non-trade. Buyers and sellers have their rights and obligations after reaching the trade contract. The buyer's responsibility mainly includes opening L/C, paying the purchase price and obtaining the documents corresponding to the goods. The seller provides the certificate of payment and pays the amount of the goods. Thus, it is more practical than domestic settlement. On the other hand, international settlement will also involve insurance, freight forwarding, customs clearance, etc. Its complexity is much higher than domestic settlement. The primary manifestation is that the scope of activities is much broader than domestic settlement, involving different currencies, different legal environments, and cultural environments.

The Realistic Conditions and Existing Problems in the Study of Topics

At present, China is promoting the construction of a "single window" for international trade. After Shanghai, the "single window" of Tianjin and Fujian international trade was launched in 2015. The Nansha Port Area of Guangzhou Port and the Dachaowan Port Area of Shenzhen Port followed closely with the "single window" construction of international trade. Shandong, a coastal port, has also followed the construction of "single window". As a strong promoter of trade facilitation, talent development programs for international settlement must keep up with the pace of "single window" construction. However, the course content is mainly based on traditional settlement methods and settlement tools. The cases using in the teaching process are based on traditional trading partners such as Europe, America, Japan, and South Korea. The bilateral and multilateral trade between the countries along the "One Belt and One Road" will continue to rise, and the international settlement methods and settlement instruments will continue to be enriched. Therefore, the content of international settlement teaching must follow the current reform rhythm, deepen the reform of teaching content and curriculum system, and start from the aspects of teaching methods, teaching content, assessment methods, event teaching mode and even teacher reform, and promote the substantial updating of teaching content.

1. Almost all universities have introduced software for international trade, but few of them are specifically targeted at international settlement. The software cannot be updated to meet the actual needs of the development of international trade, and the software application cannot be well-shared among universities.

At present, colleges and universities actively organize students to participate in various discipline competitions, such as the "Challenge Cup" National College Student Entrepreneurship Competition, the National College Students Network Business Innovation Application Competition, and the National College Student Foreign Trade Professional Ability Competition (POCIB). It provides a good condition for the school-enterprise integration and the improvement of the international settlement business.

2. Almost all universities have initiated teaching reforms, but there are fewer papers and projects related to the international settlement.

At present, almost all universities have different high-level application-oriented projects and professional-related research institutions. They have several open laboratories, a mature echelon of teaching and research faculty and a more significant number of teaching and research projects published. Nevertheless, there are few related to the international settlement. School-enterprise integration and collaborative education mode have provided new thoughts for the research of teaching and publication of papers.

3. The lack of off-campus training base and the quality of training is hard to guarantee.

Nowadays, universities are paying more and more attention to the off-campus practical training and the cultivation of students' ability. Although instructors are trying to provide opportunities for extracurricular practice for some specific courses, this link is currently the hardest part of the course. First of all, the location of off-campus practice is not well arranged. For international trade professionals, even if there is a counterpart practice base, students are unlikely to experience every trade and settlement link. They may only watch and listen but cannot do it because of the limited number of open positions. Secondly, even if companies that allow students to experience the settlement process can be found, it is also very doubtful that each student will have an internship.

The solution to this Topic

In order to establish school-enterprise cooperation and education platform, and to establish a scientific and lasting collaborative education model, it is recommended to work from the following aspects:

1. Under the facilitation of trade, optimizing the content of international settlement training guided by the needs of enterprises.

According to the employment statistics of previous graduates of and the feedback from previous employers, seek the actual requirements and needs of employers for international settlement talents, and adjust the teaching plan accordingly. At the same time, based on the "single window" of international trade, cultivate international settlement talents with enterprises. Based on the real business of commercial banks under the SWIFT system, the company develops a commercial bank international settlement VR practice teaching system, and conducts specific business-style training for international settlement staff in trade settlement and non-trade settlement. Besides, it should be paid attention that enterprise plays an essential role in the formation of effective mechanism and formulation of research and development. The level model of talent development ability is shown in Figure 2:

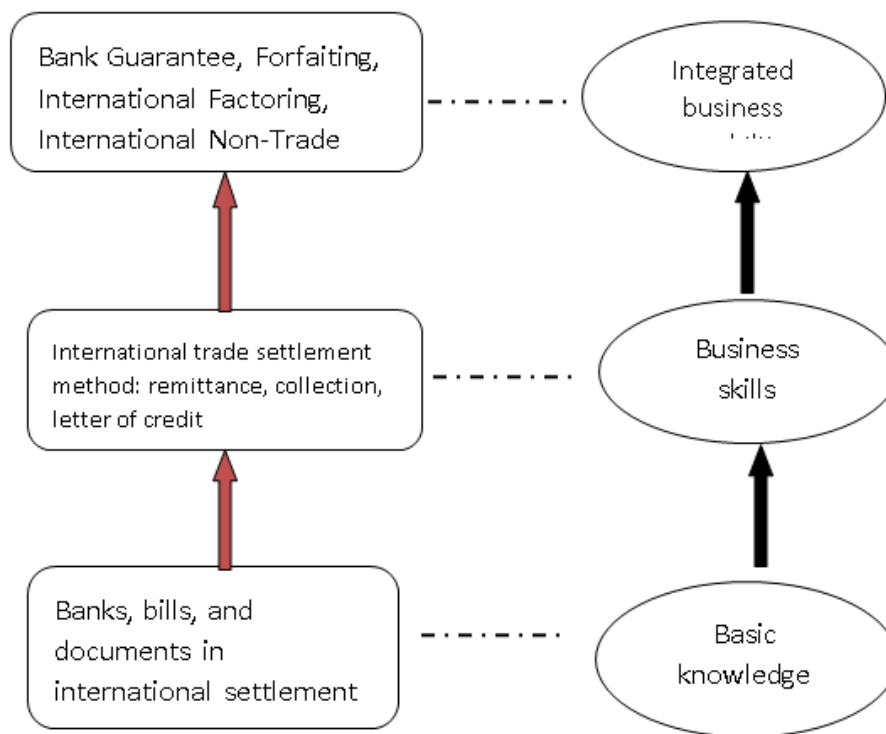


Figure 2. The level model of talent development ability

2. Focusing on the educational goals and strengthening the reform and construction of the curriculum system, teaching content, teaching materials, teaching methods and means following the new developments and new requirements in the field of international settlement.

According to the university's school orientation and professional construction goals, the company absorbs the participation in curriculum research, design and development, reasonably determines the proportion of the teaching of the international settlement theory teaching and practice teaching, and forms a curriculum system with reasonable structure and distinctive characteristics. In the teaching reform, we will continue to promote the optimization of the personnel training program, the reform of the curriculum system, teaching content, teaching methods and means. In order to cultivate talents that meet the needs of local economic and social development, we will highlight high-quality applied talents with high social responsibility, innovative spirit of exploration, and practical ability to solve practical problems. Strengthen the intersection and integration between the international settlement course and other related majors, integrate and optimize the teaching content, and promote the innovation of the curriculum and practice teaching system. Actively promote the reform of teaching methods and means to improve students' ability to learn independently. In teaching, we will try more teaching methods such as heuristic, inquiry, discussion, case teaching and cooperative learning, increase teacher-student interaction, guide students to pay attention to the latest developments in the subject area, conduct research teaching, and strive to cultivate students' innovation. Sexual thinking and mastering methods of exploring knowledge, discovering knowledge, and innovating knowledge. Vigorously promote the modernization of bilingual teaching and teaching methods, and promote the application and popularization of modern educational technologies and means such as network and computer technology.

3. Strengthening industry-university cooperation, reforming innovative practice teaching system

Exploring the model of teaching through subject research, injecting research results and research thinking into practical teaching, and improving students' practical ability. Strengthen the construction of laboratories, improve experimental teaching conditions and environment, and improve the overall construction level of laboratories. We will broaden the channels of practical teaching, actively build internships and practical training bases with enterprises, and promote students' training in joint labs of enterprises or enterprises, increase opportunities for college students to contact the society, and enhance their ability to serve the society. In the practice teaching reform, give full play to the characteristics of running a school and study, strengthen the practice of teaching links to reform and improve the practical teaching system, and improve students' practical ability.

4. Multi-dimensional exploration of students' off-campus training opportunities to help students pick up employment as soon as possible

Schools and teachers should actively contact various foreign trade enterprises to explore effective methods of cooperation, and fully mobilize student resources, including the social relations between students and graduates, and flexibly choose practical teaching bases. In addition to establishing cooperative relationships with foreign trade companies and banks, it is also an excellent way to choose intermediary companies with settlement services such as securities, insurance and leasing companies. During the lecture period, the instructor can take the students to the company to observe the relevant staff to use the letter of credit in the actual business, and to conduct business with the bank and customers. At the same time, in the teaching, the three forms of teaching are cross-cut to form a three-dimensional teaching system. For example, after the bill of exchange theory is completed, it is possible to follow the off-campus practice to learn the bill of exchange, and then return to the laboratory for training so that the students can make the bills themselves. In this process, students can apply their theoretical knowledge to the training course, and at the same time compare with their own off-campus practice income, and truly achieve the theory and practice. It is obvious that the three-dimensional

teaching system will make students feel that the curriculum is efficient and the learning steps are compact. The pace of the course must be followed carefully to complete the learning tasks and improve professionalism.

5. Adapt to the strategic needs of the “One Belt and One Road” and explore new ways to teach.

Actively encourage instructors and relevant enterprises to carry out industry-university cooperation, follow up the frontiers of market demand, and hire outstanding experts and senior personnel of the company to teach part-time in this major. In this way, it could form a variety of teacher growth mechanisms such as exchange training, cooperative lectures, and part-time teaching. At the same time, further expand the teaching ideas of “bringing in and going out” of international settlement courses, and deepen the cooperation between schools and enterprises: enterprise employees enter the campus, go to the podium, and the professional teachers of colleges and universities enter the enterprise and enter the department to realize the shortcut link of theory and practice. These procedures aim to build a high-level teaching team that is familiar with social needs, rich teaching experience, and combines part-time work.

Conclusion

In summary, colleges and universities should follow the frontiers of international settlement front-end courses, track the frontiers of disciplines, and aim at new developments and new requirements for international settlement at home and abroad. At the same time, universities should actively carry out the reform of the curriculum system and teaching content, teaching methods and personnel training mode. It is useful to encourage and organize teachers to write papers on teaching reform and experimental teaching reform, promote teaching reform and exchange of experience, improve teaching quality, improve experiment and training levels, integrate various teaching resources of international settlement courses, and share resources with brothers and universities. In the meantime, it is beneficial to draw on the experience of international settlement teaching and practice of other institutions, and strives to make the international settlement course teaching a unique course of the international trade profession. The reform of teaching will further contribute to the local economy and serve the local community.

Acknowledgement

Thanks to the Education Department's Industry-University Cooperation and Education Project, and thanks to Kaiyuan E-Commerce (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. for providing training materials.

Reference

- [1] Xiao Min: “Research on Bank of China International Settlement Business Process Reengineering” [D]. Changsha: Hunan University, 2011: 29.
- [2] Hongdong Zhang: “Changes and development trends of international settlement methods”[J]. Financial Theory and Practice, 2010(7): 44-45.
- [3] Xiaoyu Shu: “Research and Practice on the Construction of Higher Vocational Course Training System 1 Take the International Settlement Course as an Example” [J]. Educational Exploration, 2009 (10): 98-99.
- [4] Li Shu: “Case analysis of domestic settlement business in Chin” [J]. China Foreign Exchange Management, 2007 (10): 34-35.
- [5] Yong Jiang “Analysis of the application of the basic methods of international settlement and its influencing factors” [J]. Heilongjiang Foreign Trade, 2008 (12): 61~62.

- [6] Xubin Zhang: "Characteristics and selection criteria of new international settlement business" [J]. Enterprise Vitality, 2010 (6): 40-41.
- [7] Wei Wang: "The Risk of Foreign Exchange Collection and Its Prevention" [J]. accounting Research, 2008(10): 78-80.
- [8] Haizhen Wu: "International Factoring: The Ideal Choice for International Settlement of Private Foreign Trade Enterprises" [J]. Research on Productivity, 2009(7): 258.
- [9] Zhubin Zhai.: "Discussion on the Modernization Reform of the Teaching Content of International Settlement" [J]. Journal of Wuhan Agricultural College, Agricultural Bank of China, 2007(2): 47-49.
- [10] Information on <http://www.baike.baidu.com>