

Research on the Connection between French Major Curriculum and International Education Standards

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Abstract: This paper aims to explore the connection between the curriculum of French major and international education standards, with a view to providing useful reference for the reform and development of French major education. In this paper, the current situation of French major curriculum is deeply analyzed, and its docking strategy with international education standards is discussed. It is found that the curriculums for French majors are comprehensive and practical, but there is still a problem that they do not fully match the international education standards. In view of these problems, this paper puts forward some improvement suggestions, such as optimizing curriculum, updating teaching methods and perfecting evaluation system. The conclusion is that through continuous optimization and improvement, French education will better adapt to the international trend and cultivate high-quality French talents with international competitiveness. This paper is of great practical significance for promoting the internationalization of French professional education and enhancing the international competitiveness of French talents in China.

1. Introduction

Under the background of globalization, French, as an important international language, not only occupies an important position in political, economic and cultural exchanges, but also is one of the key languages in many academic fields [1]. With the increasingly frequent international exchanges, French professional education is facing unprecedented opportunities and challenges [2-3]. However, whether the current curriculum of French majors is in line with international education standards and whether it can cultivate high-quality French talents with international competitiveness has become an urgent problem [4].

The purpose of this study is to deeply explore the current situation of French major curriculum and analyze its connection with international education standards, so as to provide useful reference for the reform and development of French major education in China. It is hoped that through this study, the problems existing in the curriculum of French major can be revealed, and effective suggestions for improvement can be put forward, so as to promote the internationalization of French major education and enhance the international competitiveness of French talents in China.

The main purposes of this study include: combing the development history and present situation of French major, analyzing typical cases of French major curriculum, discussing the general characteristics and existing problems of French major curriculum, and studying the docking strategy of French major curriculum with international education standards.

Specifically, this study will focus on the following core issues:

- (1) What is the development of French major? What is the current development situation?
- (2) How are the typical French courses set up? What are the successful cases?
- (3) What are the general features of the curriculum for French majors? What are the main problems?
- (4) How to effectively connect the curriculum of French major with international education standards? What are the specific strategies and suggestions?

2. An analysis of the current situation of curriculum setting for French majors

French major, as an important part of foreign language education, has gone through the process of starting, developing and gradually improving [5]. In the early days, French majors mainly served traditional fields such as diplomacy and international trade. However, with the acceleration of globalization and the integration of multi-cultures, the application fields of French major have been continuously broadened, covering literature, history, philosophy, sociology and other disciplines.

At present, French majors are developing vigorously around the world [6-7]. French is spoken not only in traditional French-speaking countries like France, Belgium, and Canada, but also in non-traditional French-speaking countries. In China, as a part of foreign language education, French major is also growing and making positive contributions to cultivating high-quality French talents with international vision and intercultural communication ability.

On the basis of summarizing the typical curriculum of French majors, we can sum up the general characteristics of the curriculum of French majors, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of Common Characteristics of French Language Program Curricula

| No. | Common Characteristics | Description |
|-----|---|---|
| 1 | Comprehensive Coverage of Foundational Courses | French language programs typically include foundational courses such as Basic French, French Listening, French Speaking, French Reading, and French Writing, ensuring students develop a comprehensive skill set in the French language. |
| 2 | Emphasis on Language Practice and Application | The curriculum emphasizes language practice, including oral communication, writing exercises, listening training, etc., aiming to improve students' practical abilities in French. |
| 3 | Integration of Cultural and Literary Content | French language programs not only teach language skills but also integrate French culture, history, literature, etc., helping students gain a more comprehensive understanding of France and its language background. |
| 4 | Advanced Courses and Specialized Pathways | In addition to foundational courses, advanced French courses are offered, allowing students to choose specialized pathways based on personal interests, such as Business French, Translation French, French Education, etc. |
| 5 | Interdisciplinary and International Opportunities | Students are encouraged to participate in interdisciplinary studies and international exchange activities, such as collaborations with universities in French-speaking countries and international internship opportunities, to broaden their horizons and enhance cross-cultural communication skills. |
| 6 | Focus on Autonomous and Lifelong Learning Skills | The curriculum emphasizes the importance of autonomous learning, encouraging students to continuously improve their French proficiency through extracurricular reading, self-practice, etc., and fostering a habit of lifelong learning. |
| 7 | Comprehensive Assessment and Feedback Mechanisms | Effective assessment and feedback mechanisms are established to regularly evaluate students' French proficiency and provide targeted feedback and suggestions to help students progress continuously. |

However, there are still some problems in the curriculum of French major [8]. First of all, some courses pay too much attention to the training of language skills and neglect the cultivation of students' comprehensive quality. Secondly, the connection between curriculum and international education standards is not close enough, which leads to students' lack of international competitiveness. Finally, some French professional courses are lack of innovation and foresight, and can not adapt to the rapidly changing social needs. In view of these problems, we need to further study and explore effective improvement strategies.

3. Overview of international education standards and its application in French language education

International education standards refer to a set of educational norms and guidelines formulated by international organizations or countries in order to ensure the quality of education, promote the transnational flow of students and recognize academic degrees [9]. These standards cover all levels of education, including curriculum, teaching methods and evaluation system, aiming at ensuring the fairness, transparency and effectiveness of the education process.

The framework of international education standards usually includes core concepts, specific objectives, implementation guidelines and evaluation mechanisms, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Detailed Description of the International Education Standards Framework

| No. | Component | Specific Description |
|-----|---------------------------|--|
| 1 | Core Concepts | The core concepts of international education standards typically include whole-person education, lifelong learning, cross-cultural understanding, global citizenship, etc., emphasizing the cultivation of students' comprehensive qualities and international perspective. |
| 2 | Specific Objectives | Based on the core concepts, specific educational objectives are set, such as improving students' language skills, cross-cultural communication abilities, critical thinking skills, innovation capabilities, as well as fostering their social responsibility and global citizenship. |
| 3 | Implementation Guidelines | Provide guidelines and strategies for achieving specific objectives, including suggestions on teaching methods, curriculum design, textbook selection, teacher training, etc., to ensure the effective implementation of education standards. |
| 4 | Assessment Mechanisms | Establish assessment mechanisms to regularly evaluate students' learning outcomes, teachers' teaching effectiveness, and the implementation of education standards. Through feedback and improvement measures, continuously enhance the quality of education to ensure the achievement of education standards. |

In France, language education, especially French education, has always been highly valued [10]. In order to be in line with international standards, France has also actively adopted and applied international education standards. In French language education, international education standards are mainly reflected in the following aspects:

(1) The curriculum focuses on comprehensiveness and practicality, emphasizing the comprehensive training of listening, speaking, reading, writing and translation, and the cultivation of cross-cultural communicative competence.

(2) Teaching methods emphasize student-centered, interactive and practical, and encourage students to actively participate in classroom activities and autonomous learning.

(3) The evaluation system pays attention to diversity and objectivity, and comprehensively evaluates students' learning achievements and comprehensive quality by adopting various evaluation methods.

In the French curriculum in France, international education standards have been fully reflected. The curriculum not only pays attention to the comprehensive cultivation of language skills, but also emphasizes the cross-integration with other disciplines to broaden students' knowledge and horizons. At the same time, the curriculum also pays attention to keeping pace with the times and constantly updates the teaching content and methods to adapt to social development and international needs. In addition, French courses in France also pay attention to internationalization, actively cooperate with foreign educational institutions, and carry out international exchange and cooperation projects to enhance students' international competitiveness.

4. The docking strategy between French major curriculum and international education standards

With the acceleration of globalization and the increasing frequency of international exchanges, it

is particularly necessary to connect the curriculum of French major with international education standards. Docking can not only improve the internationalization level of French professional education, but also enhance students' international competitiveness and employability. At the same time, docking is also an important way to promote the reform and development of French professional education. From the feasibility point of view, it is completely feasible to connect the curriculum of French major with international education standards. On the one hand, international education standards provide useful reference for the curriculum reform of French majors; On the other hand, French professional education has accumulated rich experience and resources in the long-term development process, which provides a solid foundation for docking.

In order to realize the connection between French major curriculum and international education standards, the following specific strategies can be adopted:

(1) The curriculum should be optimized: Based on the requirements of international education standards, the French major curriculum should be optimized, focusing on comprehensiveness and practicality. It should emphasize comprehensive training in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and translation, as well as the cultivation of cross-cultural communication ability.

(2) Teaching methods must be updated: Educators should adopt student-centered teaching methods, emphasizing interactivity and practicality. They should encourage students to actively participate in classroom activities and engage in autonomous learning, thereby enhancing teaching effectiveness and improving learning quality.

(3) The evaluation system needs improvement: A diversified and objective evaluation system should be established. This system should comprehensively evaluate students' learning achievements and overall quality through various evaluation methods, ensuring fairness and accuracy in the assessment process.

In the process of docking, there may be some challenges, such as the incomplete matching between curriculum and international education standards, and the difficulty of reforming teaching methods and evaluation system. In response to these challenges, the following measures can be taken:

(1) Research and exploration should be strengthened: Experts should deeply study the characteristics and requirements of international education standards and the French major curriculum, exploring more effective alignment strategies and methods.

(2) Teacher training should be enhanced: Efforts should be made to improve teachers' internationalization level and teaching ability, enabling them to better adapt to the requirements of the aligned curriculum and teaching methods.

(3) International exchanges and cooperation should be strengthened: Educational institutions should actively collaborate with foreign counterparts, undertaking international exchange and cooperation projects. By learning from international advanced experiences and methods, they can promote the in-depth development of alignment efforts.

5. Conclusions

This study makes an in-depth analysis of the current situation of French major curriculum, and discusses its connection with international education standards. Through the research, it is found that the current curriculum of French major has been reflected in comprehensiveness and practicality, but there is still a problem that it does not completely match the international education standards. In particular, the comprehensiveness of curriculum, the interactivity of teaching methods and the diversification of evaluation system need to be further improved.

In view of the problems found in the research, this paper puts forward the following suggestions for improvement: further optimize the curriculum of French major, pay attention to comprehensiveness and practicality, and ensure that it matches the international education standards; Update teaching methods, adopt student-centered teaching mode, and pay attention to interaction and practicality; Improve the evaluation system, establish a diversified and objective evaluation mechanism, and comprehensively evaluate students' learning achievements.

Looking forward to the future, the connection between French education and international

education standards will be a continuous process. With the acceleration of globalization and the increasing frequency of international exchanges, French education needs to constantly adapt to international trends and improve its internationalization level. By continuously optimizing the curriculum, updating the teaching methods and improving the evaluation system, French education will better cultivate high-quality French talents with international competitiveness.

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