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*Research Article*

# Practice Approach of the Integration of Confucian Ritual and Musical Thought into the Construction of Campus Culture in Colleges and Universities\*

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## Abstract

The extensive and profound Confucian ritual and musical thought is an important part of Chinese traditional culture, advocating standardizing people's behavior, communication between people, harmony and order. Integrating Confucian ritual and musical thought into the construction of campus culture in colleges and universities can regulate the behavior of college students, and promote the ideological construction of college students. This study integrates Confucian ritual and musical thought into the construction of campus culture in colleges and universities, and explores the practice approach. The results show that most of the students hold an open attitude to Confucian ritual and musical thought, but half of the students do not have an in-depth understanding of it. The integration of Confucian ritual and musical thought into campus culture needs to embody humanistic spirit and people-oriented characteristics. The practice approach should start from campus culture administrators, educators and college students and formulate the corresponding measures to enhance college students' consciousness to use Confucian ritual and musical thought and practice ability through the construction of campus culture. This study provides a theoretical basis for popularizing the application of Confucian ritual and musical thought in the construction of campus culture.

## Keywords

Confucian Ritual and Musical Thought • Construction of Campus Culture • Practice Approach • College Students • People-Oriented

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In order to develop, we must recognize that different. The outstanding Confucianism, as the mainstream of Chinese traditional culture, is extensive and profound and rich in content. The integration of the excellent traditional Confucianism into the campus culture is conducive to improving the effectiveness of ideological and political education for college students (Yu & Huang, 2016). Confucian ritual and musical thought is one of the core thoughts of traditional culture and the precious essence of Chinese traditional thoughts, but the excellent Confucian ritual and musical thought is seldom applied in the campus culture education of college students (Wong, 2008). At present, in the era of intense cultural exchange and collision, cultural thoughts and values collide with each other, which exerts an important influence on the construction of campus culture for college students. The excellent Confucian ritual and musical thought endow college students with new connotation (Geir, 2017). The construction of campus culture is closely related to college students' ideological and political education. Excellent campus culture creates excellent cultural and educational atmosphere (Zhan, 2016).

Some scholars have fully applied Confucian ritual and musical thought to the ideological and political education of college students, carried forward the educational concept of Confucian ritual and musical culture, enriched and improved the ideological and political education of college students, as well as given full play to the modern value of Confucian ritual and musical culture (Han, 2013). The combination of "benevolence" and "propriety" in traditional Confucianism advocates the idea of governing the country by virtue and people-oriented thought, advocates the idea of harmony, advocates attaching importance to cultivating learning ability, as well as vigorously publicizes the important role of knowledge (Wu, 2014). In order to better improve the creativity and effectiveness of cultural education in colleges and university, the traditional Confucian ritual and musical thought is integrated into the construction of campus culture so as to deepen the influence and dissemination of Confucian ritual and musical thought among college students (Lu, Lai, Lun & Cheng, 2012). This study integrates Confucian ritual and musical thought into the construction of campus culture to promote college students' behavior and ability to practice Confucian ritual and musical thought.

## **Value of Confucian Ritual and Musical Thought in the Construction of Campus Culture**

Confucian ritual and musical thought are conducive to training the personal moral cultivation of college students, standardizing the correct moral code of conduct, and improving the overall level of education and the political direction of ideological education (Museus, Zhang, & Kim, 2016). The people-oriented harmonious concept is the core content of the construction of campus culture, which require the establishment of a democratic, free and inclusive human environment, and advocates orderly and harmonious campus culture (Tan, 2011). The construction of campus culture always puts students' rights and interests in the first place, pays attention to the psychological changes of students in school, and adopts flexible and changeable ways to help students overcome difficulties and ensure the comprehensive and healthy physical and mental development of college students (Ho, 2017). The construction of campus culture emphasizes individuation and Confucian ritual and musical thought pays attention to the cultivation of individuation and development in cultural construction.

The individualized development should respect individual differences and teach students according to their aptitude so that every student can find their own value in campus culture and seek for their own way of development, promoting college students' self-learning, restraint, development and evaluation on the campus.

Campus culture is the embodiment of the connotation of colleges and universities, which can show the charm and personality of the campus. The integration of ritual and musical thought into the campus culture can show different charm and personality. In the construction of campus culture, Confucian ritual and musical thought is necessary to construct the open and flowing talent mechanism to realize the free academic research and freedom and to gather fresh blood through the flow of talents. Confucian ritual and musical thought can better build a tolerant and harmonious school spirit. Campus culture has strong appeal that influences every student imperceptibly. The effect of construction of campus culture is also presented through individual students. Confucian ritual and musical thought can also be reflected in the process of optimizing the campus environment. The material environment of the campus is the carrier of the harmonious cultural atmosphere, which can promote students' identity to the campus, enhance the cohesion of students, as well as promote the spiritual civilization better through the construction of material civilization.

## **Analysis of the Application of Confucian Ritual and Musical Thought in the Construction of Campus Culture in Colleges and Universities**

### **Status quo of the application of Confucian ritual and musical thought in the construction of campus culture**

In this study, a total of 650 undergraduate students are taken as the object, and a total of 650 questionnaires are issued. 607 valid questionnaires are collected and used to analyze the status quo of Confucian ritual and musical thought in the construction of campus culture. Table 1 is the investigation result of whether the Confucian ritual and musical thought is integrated into the construction of campus culture. 33.44% of students think that Confucian ritual and musical thought is greatly integrated in the construction of campus culture, and 46.95% think that it only involves a little while 10.71% still believe that Confucian ritual and musical thought is rarely involved in the construction of campus culture. Table 2 is the investigation result of whether Confucian ritual and musical thought should be integrated into the construction of campus culture. It can be seen that 63.26% of students insist that it is necessary to integrate Confucian ritual and musical thought into the construction of campus culture, and only 5.93% of students think it is unnecessary. More than 90% of students support the excellent Confucian ritual and musical thought.

Table 3 is the investigation result of whether it is necessary to carry forward Confucian ritual and musical thought in the construction of campus culture. 64.25% of students think it is necessary to carry forward Confucian ritual and musical thought in the construction of campus culture, 26.85% think it is not necessary, and only 5.93% of students think it is unnecessary at all. More than 90% of students still want to carry forward Confucian ritual and musical thought. Table 4 is the investigation result of the understanding of Confucian ritual and musical thought. 55.52% of students believe that Confucian ritual and music thought still has value and significance, 21.09% think that Confucian ritual and musical thought is somewhat outdated but it is necessary

to be observed, and only 6.92% think that it should be abandoned. It can be seen that college students do not have an in-depth understanding of Confucian ritual and musical thought, which need to be spread and communicated.

Table 1  
*Whether Confucian Ritual and Musical Thought is Integrated into the Construction of Campus Culture in Colleges and Universities*

Project	People number	Percentage
Integrate into many	203	33.44%
Involve some	285	46.95%
Rarely involve	65	10.71%
Unclear	54	8.90%

Table 2  
*Whether it is Necessary for Confucian Ritual and Musical Thought to be Integrated into the Construction of Campus Culture in Colleges and Universities*

Project	People number	Percentage
Necessary and support	384	63.26%
The necessity is not big	157	25.86%
Unnecessary	30	4.94%
Unclear	36	5.93%

Table 3  
*Whether it is Necessary to Carry Forward Confucian Ritual and Music Thought in the Construction of Campus Culture in Colleges and Universities*

Project	People number	Percentage
Necessary	390	64.25%
The necessity is not big	163	26.85%
Unnecessary	36	5.93%
Unclear	18	2.97%

Table 4  
*Confucian Ritual and Musical Thought*

Project	People number	Percentage
Still valuable and meaningful	337	55.52%
Some outdated but necessary to comply	128	21.09%
Conflict, should be treated rationally	100	16.47%
Should be abandoned altogether	42	6.92%

### **Analysis of the influence and reasons of the insufficient use of Confucian ritual and musical thought**

With the rapid development of economy, the material standard of living is improved fast but the cultural and spiritual level is improved slowly. In particular, college students do not have enough understanding of traditional excellent thoughts. Students pay attention to the training of professional knowledge but neglect the promotion of cultural education and theoretical education, which makes some students lack a correct understanding of Confucian ritual and musical thought, and also reflects the insufficient construction of campus culture from another angle. Confucian ritual and musical thought advocates standardizing human's behavior and communication. Good interpersonal relationship is necessary for the harmonious development of society

and excellent campus culture is conducive to the healthy development of students. Confucian ritual and musical thought is to cultivate college students on how to deal with the world so as to make them understand the importance of dealing with interpersonal relationships.

The reasons for the insufficient use of Confucian ritual and musical thought are various, including:

I: Social and family education neglects Confucian ritual and musical thought. School education does not create a good atmosphere to spread and carry forward Confucian ritual and musical thought, making it difficult to form a real cultural atmosphere. Moreover, family education attaches importance to the children's physical health and standard of behavior but pays little attention to thought and the moral standard.

II. Impact and influence of western culture. Along with the diversification, continuous communication and collision of culture, students' thoughts are gradually accepting western culture and ignoring China's excellent traditional thoughts (including Confucian ritual and musical thought). Therefore, excellent campus culture helps to guide the students to establish correct value orientation and moral standards.

III: Colleges and universities do not pay much attention to the education of Confucian ritual and musical thought. The cultivation of college students pays too much attention to the level of professional knowledge and ability but neglects the function of Confucian ritual and musical thought on the ideological and moral, physical and mental health and personality development of college students.

IV. Subjective reasons of college students themselves. Led by the times, college students are more willing to pursue hobbies and explore new things, but do not have a strong interest in Confucian ritual and musical thought subjectively and lack active awareness.

## **Approach to Construct Campus Culture in Colleges and Universities with Ritual and Musical Thought**

### **Problems and necessity of constructing campus culture**

Campus culture is the value of the campus and is the recognized idea and spirit of running a school, which takes campus spirit as the core, including spirit of running a school, school spirit and motto, interpersonal relationship and personality development. The construction of campus culture takes various cultural activities as the carrier, which is an important part of building a harmonious socialist society. Excellent campus culture should have humanity, inheritance and development, openness, inclusiveness and independence. Confucian ritual and musical thought emphasizes human spirit. Humanistic spirit and people-oriented idea is the important characteristic of construction of campus culture, and the long-standing Confucian ritual and musical thought is the treasure of construction of campus culture. Inheriting the tenet of ritual and musical thought can keep the lasting vitality of historical culture in campus culture. Generally speaking, it is an important part of harmonious society to integrate Confucian ritual and musical thought into the construction of campus culture, and it is also a necessary link to construct excellent campus culture.

In the practice of construction of campus culture, Confucian ritual and musical thought will meet many problems, including:

I: There are some problems in the institutional improvement of construction of campus culture, which is mainly reflected in the lack of democracy in campus culture and existence of some systems in name only.

II: Colleges and universities lack systematic humanistic education to students, and their educational pattern has reduced humanistic education to students, which has seriously restricted students' improvement of comprehensive quality.

III: The disharmonious factors of interpersonal relationship in colleges and universities, the indifference, economization and inequality of campus relationship aggravate the disharmony of interpersonal relationship.

IV: The social transformation leads to many problems in the construction of campus culture. The social transformation leads to the change of values and life style of teachers and students. The construction of campus culture must face up to these problems.

### **Using the ritual and musical thought to form characteristic campus culture**

College students are the most vulnerable group affected by various trends of thought. Campus culture guides the development of students' thoughts. Therefore, the construction of campus culture is closely related to the ideological situation of the whole country. The administrators of cultural construction in colleges and universities should learn from Confucian ritual and musical thought, recognize the differences, respect and tolerate different thoughts and values, insist on student-oriented, and encourage students to actively participate in the construction of campus culture so that students' sense of master can be reflected. Moreover, we should attach importance to the incentive function of people. Administrators of campus culture should meet the objective requirements of harmonious development of teachers and students and reflect the humanization of the system in the institutional improvement.

The campus that constructs Confucian ritual and musical thought should have unique campus culture characteristics. They should not only respect the reality and state of campus culture, but also have the vision of development, and implement the long-term planning of construction of campus culture. The ritual and musical thought is in pursuit of harmony and orderliness. Through standardizing people's behavior, it increases relationship between people through communication, realizes explicit education of college students' thoughts through moral education of rites and music, and also carries out invisible education to college students with the help of the campus culture activities.

### **Countermeasures of developing Confucian ritual and musical thought in the construction of campus culture**

In order to give full play to Confucian ritual and musical thought in the construction of campus culture in colleges and universities, we should formulate corresponding measures from the point of view of administrators, educators and college students themselves. First of all, it is necessary to create a good social environment and family environment of Confucian ritual and musical thought for college students because the social environment

and family environment influence the growth of college students. Secondly, to construct the campus culture environment of carrying forward the atmosphere of Confucianism, we can train the students to study Confucian culture by holding various and creative activities, or making full use of the campus carrier to propagandize Confucian ritual and musical thought so as to stimulate students' enthusiasm of learning. Finally, we should give full play to the main body role of college students in learning Confucian ritual and musical thought, improve the consciousness of using Confucian ritual and musical thought in construction of campus culture, encourage college students to carry forward Confucian ritual and musical thought, as well as cultivate college students' practice ability in carrying out Confucianism.

## Conclusions

This study integrates Confucian ritual and musical thought into the construction of campus culture to promote college students' behavior and ability to practice Confucian ritual and musical thought. The specific conclusions are as follows:

(1) The research shows that more than 90% of students support the excellent Confucian ritual and musical thought, and they also support in carrying forward Confucian ritual and musical thought. However, the degree of understanding of Confucian ritual and musical thought is not high. Only 55.52% of students believe that Confucian ritual and musical thought still has value and significance.

(2) The campus of Confucian ritual and musical thought should have unique campus culture characteristics. Ritual and musical thought is in pursuit of harmoniousness and orderliness, and to standardize people's behavior and communication. The explicit education of college students can be realized through the moral education of rites and music, and the invisible education of college students can be carried out with the help of campus culture activities.

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