# Research on the Teaching of Emotional Attitude and Values in Modern and Contemporary Literary Works

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Abstract: Contemporary literary works, as a cultural carrier, not only reflect the cultural atmosphere and artistic characteristics of the times, but also carry the emotional attitudes and values of contemporary people. Therefore, conducting teaching and research on emotional attitudes and values in contemporary literary works not only helps to deeply understand the culture of the times, but also guides students to establish correct outlooks on life and values. This study aims to explore the characteristics of emotional attitudes and values in contemporary literary works, as well as how to integrate them into literary teaching, helping students better understand and appreciate contemporary literature, while enhancing their literary and humanistic literacy.

**Keywords:** Contemporary and contemporary literary works; Emotional attitude; Sense of worth; Teaching Path

#### 1. Introduction

Chinese modern and contemporary literary works are not only an important part of human spiritual civilization, but also an important carrier of contemporary Chinese cultural construction, playing an important role in inheriting and carrying forward the excellent traditional Chinese culture [1]. In the course of modern and contemporary literature in colleges and universities, students should not only learn relevant knowledge content, but more importantly, analyze and summarize the emotions, attitudes and values reflected in modern and contemporary literature works, so that students can obtain more emotional experience and form correct value judgments [2-3]. However, in the current teaching of modern and contemporary literature in colleges and universities, the knowledge acquired by students from learning modern and contemporary literature works far exceeds the content of emotion, attitude and values that they want to learn [4]. In order to enable students to truly understand and master relevant knowledge, teachers must fully explore the emotions, attitudes and values contained in modern and contemporary literary works in the teaching process, so as to enhance students' interest in learning modern and contemporary literary works.

# 2. Analysis of the characteristics of modern and contemporary literary works

Contemporary literary works have unique emotional attitudes and social values [5] in expressing opinions on all aspects of society, which are manifested in the following aspects:

- (1) Keeping up with the pulse of the times: Modern and contemporary literary works closely integrate with the background of the times, and are close to the lives, thoughts, and emotions of contemporary people in terms of emotional attitudes and values, reflecting the practical problems of contemporary society.
- (2) Speculative, critical, and reflective: Modern and contemporary literary works have more reflection, criticism, and reflection on the practical problems of contemporary society, reflecting the author's profound insight and reflection on social phenomena.
- (3) Internationalization: Modern and contemporary literary works have gradually integrated into the trend of international literary development, enriching the form and pattern of Eastern literature, and these works are also more diversified and open in emotional attitudes and values.
- (4) Variety of styles: The forms and styles of modern and contemporary literature have become increasingly diverse and complex, and the diverse literary styles reflect the differences in the author's inner feelings and the heterogeneity of cultural landscapes of different social classes.

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- (5) Changes in language styles: The language styles of modern literary works are more diversified. Authors do not adhere to traditional language forms and narrative traditions, but pay more attention to the grasp and description of language details, and present diversified themes and emotions through new ways of language expression.
- (6) Pluralistic themes: modern and contemporary literary works, while gradually exploring multiculturalism and pluralistic values, also advocate the exchange and integration of multiculturalism, reflecting the trend of The Times and the influence, challenges and opportunities brought by cultural diversity. The themes of modern and contemporary literary works are more diversified, not only involving social and political issues, but also including personal growth, family relations, friendship and love, etc., reflecting the diversity of contemporary society through diverse themes.
- (7) Break through tradition: Modern and contemporary literary works also begin to pay attention to the problem of intergenerational relations, reflecting the differences and conflicts between the young generation and the old generation in values, lifestyles, cultural identity and other aspects, triggering people's discussion on tradition and modernity, cultural identity and diversification. Modern and contemporary literary works break through the paradigm and form of traditional literature, do not adhere to the traditional literary form and narrative tradition, the form is more diversified, liberalized and innovative. At the same time, modern and contemporary literary works pay more attention to the skills and experimental literary creation, the style is more novel and unique.
- (8) Multiple narrative perspectives: The narrative perspectives of modern and contemporary literary works are also more diversified. There are not only first person, second person, and third person narrative methods, but also emerging to explore the human thinking, emotion, and psychological world by nonlinear narrative, multi perspective narrative, and bizarre illusion narrative.
- (9) Emphasis on individual experience: Modern and contemporary literary works pay more attention to the portrayal of individual emotions and psychology, presenting the characteristics of independent thinking and personalized expression, reflecting the inner struggles and survival pressures faced by contemporary people. Modern and contemporary literary works emphasize individual experiences and emotions, showcasing different attitudes and emotional states through different characters, and interpreting different scenes of human value.
- (10) Attention to social culture: Contemporary literary works pay more attention to and reflect on social and cultural phenomena, and also intersect with contemporary culture, art, philosophy, and other disciplines, forming a more diverse, open, and interactive cultural field.

# 3. Analysis of teaching approaches of emotion, attitude and value in modern and contemporary literary works

Based on the background described in literary works, we can fully understand the qualitative change of human nature under the influence of various variables, so as to guide students to analyze and understand the feelings, attitudes and values of the characters in the works and achieve teaching results.

#### 3.1 Introduce the historical background and analyze the emotions, attitudes and values of the works

The creation of China's modern and contemporary literary works is deeply influenced by the social and historical background of China. Therefore, when teaching modern and contemporary literature, teachers should first introduce the historical background of the works and analyze the creative background of the works. For example, when teaching A Dream of Red Mansions, teachers can start from the social and historical background at that time, so that students can deeply understand the social and historical background at that time and have a deeper understanding of the thoughts and feelings reflected in the works. At the same time, teachers can guide students to analyze and study the characters embodied in the works. In the teaching process, teachers can analyze and study the main characters portrayed in A Dream of Red Mansions. For example, in the teaching of A Dream of Red Mansions, teachers can focus on Jia Zheng, Wang Xifeng, Jia Baoyu and other characters, so that students can have a deeper understanding of the living environment described by the author and what the author wants to express, and what kind of ending will be ushered in if the aristocratic family is lax in managing the family and has a bad style. Teachers can study the social and historical background at that time when explaining camel Xiangzi. For example, in Camel Xiangzi, the author found out what kind of oppression and helplessness the darkness and corruption of society brought to the bottom people at that time through in-depth study of the social and historical background. By analyzing and studying the emotional attitudes and values reflected in the works, students can substitute the deep meaning expressed in the works, have a deeper understanding of their thoughts and feelings, and also accumulate valuable experience for students by understanding and learning the hidden ways of dealing ISSN 2522-6398 Vol. 6, Issue 16: 138-141, DOI: 10.25236/FER.2023.061624

with people in literary works.

#### 3.2 Experience the author's emotional attitude and values through reading classics

In the teaching of contemporary literature in colleges and universities, teachers should fully explore the contents of the author's attitude and values towards the social environment at that time in China's modern and contemporary literary works, and feel the connotation and values expressed by the author by reading classic literary works, so that students can have a deeper understanding of the social environment, attitude and moral values of the author. For example, when teaching Mr. Lu Xun's hometown, teachers can let students read the classic novel Medicine, so that students can feel the money view and life values of rural people in feudal society. By reading classic literary works, it is very weak and ignorant for students to understand Lu Xun's rural people's views on money and life values. Under the restriction of feudal ethics at that time, people did not have a correct understanding of the value of money and life, and the most important thing was that they could not form a correct understanding under the influence of economic income, knowledge level and social atmosphere.

In addition, the chapter "Medicine" also reflects the destruction of human nature and human rights by feudal society. Under the social background at that time, the peasant class had no rights at all, and could only passively accept the unfair treatment imposed on them by feudal landlords. For example, the attitude of Hua Laoshuan and his son in the process of buying medicine in the novel is a typical feudal ethics that demands "benevolence, righteousness and morality". Although the novel criticized Hua Laoshuan and his son, the readers of the society at that time did not realize the mistakes of Hua Laoshuan and his son's behavior, and even regarded Hua Laoshuan and his son as correct examples of etiquette behavior. This also shows that feudal ethics destroyed human nature and reversed morality.

For this reason, it is more important to guide students to read excellent classical literary works, and to guide them to clear their minds, so that they can better understand the feelings, attitudes and values reflected in China's modern and contemporary literary works. By reading classic literary works, students can understand the problems of humanity and morality and ignoring judicial construction in society at that time from different angles. In addition, by reading classic literary works, students can have a deeper understanding of the existence of the concept of "cannibalism" in society at that time. Therefore, in the teaching process, teachers need to fully tap the emotions, attitudes, values and reflections on human nature contained in classic literary works, and comprehensively understand the connotations expressed in literary works from the historical track, social and economic development, upper-level power core, middle-level dependency, lower-level economic base, external influences and the nature of human nature. In addition to enabling students to better understand and master relevant knowledge, it is more important for them to accumulate reflections on life, so as to improve.

## 3.3 Improve students' moral sentiment according to the background of The Times

With the rapid development of China's economy and society, people's living standards are improving day by day. In China's universities, students are generally highly educated, but from primary and secondary schools to university education, most parents and schools lack moral education for students, which is obvious for utilitarian education and cultivates students' exquisite self-interest mentality, which is an important reason for the generally low moral level of college students and has a great impact on the society. In the teaching of modern and contemporary literature in colleges and universities, teachers must analyze and interpret modern and contemporary literary works in combination with historical background, and guide students to establish correct social values and three views on human beings, so that students can truly understand and master relevant knowledge. For example, when teaching Lu Xun's Hometown, teachers can guide students to feel the darkness of society and the miserable living conditions of the people at the bottom of society through their works. In the teaching process, teachers also need to combine the historical background and specific content of the works, so that students can learn empathy, reflect on and continue to think about how it will affect people in all aspects under different social and ideological backgrounds, and maintain their moral sentiments in the social environment.

# 3.4 Clarify the thoughts and emotions of the characters in the work based on the historical background

For example, when teaching Lu Xun's Blessing, teachers can help students understand and master the emotional attitudes and values contained in the works by analyzing the characters in the works. In the teaching process, the teacher, after analyzing the contents of the works, guided the students to dig deeply into the social background described by Lu Xun at that time. It tells the story that I, an intellectual writer who left my hometown, witnessed the tragic death of Sister Xianglin, the maid of the

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Fourth Uncle's family many years ago, when I returned to my hometown at the end of the lunar calendar and stayed in the home of Master Lu to prepare a "blessing". Under the ruined social and economic conditions, under the influence of social atmosphere and ideological direction, how will people act, what is their understanding of the social status at that time, how to implement the social moral standards at that time, the choice of human nature under the social class oppression system at that time, and the prospect for the future.

### 3.5 Combining the content of the work to help students establish correct moral values

When teaching Red and Black, teachers can guide students to understand the ideological and moral essence of the society at that time through the ideological and moral concepts of the characters in the works, so that students can better understand and master the moral thoughts expressed in the works. For example, when teaching Red and Black, teachers can guide students to reflect on the moral concepts and thoughts and behaviors of the protagonist Yu Lian in the text. By analyzing the comparison between Yulin and gypsy women in the article, teachers can guide students to understand the common moral concepts and thoughts and behaviors of people under the social class oppression system at that time, and why this moral concept was formed. This also laid the groundwork for Yu Lian's later decline. By reading Red and Black, students can truly understand the darkness of society and the hypocrisy and ugliness of human nature at that time, which makes students have a deep understanding of the formation of feudal moral concepts. In the future, when facing the oppression in life and the dark side of human morality, it is of vital importance to lay a strong resistance, face life with sunshine, remain upright in the mire, and establish a positive outlook on life.

#### 4. Conclusion

Modern and contemporary literature course is an important course for literature majors in colleges and universities, which plays an important role in cultivating students' literary literacy, moral sentiment and aesthetic ability. Through the teaching and research of emotional attitudes and values in modern and contemporary literary works, we can find that modern and contemporary literary works have unique characteristics in emotional attitudes and values. They closely follow the pulse of the times, reflect the real feelings, thoughts and emotions of contemporary people, and have the characteristics of speculation, criticism and reflection. In literature teaching, we should pay attention to stimulating students' thinking and emotional resonance, and guide students to deeply explore their emotional attitudes and values in literary works. Through interaction and discussion with students, we can help students establish a correct outlook on life and values, improve their literary and humanistic qualities, and enable them to better cope with various challenges in real life. Only when teachers explore the emotions, attitudes and values contained in modern and contemporary literary works in the teaching process, and carefully analyze and apply them to modern social life, can students' interest in learning modern and contemporary literary works be improved.

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