

Research Article

# Practice and Exploration of Education Reform in College Furniture Design Courses: Taking the Course of "Furniture and Display" as an Example

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## Abstract

With the development of society and economy, people's demand for the quality of furniture and display design is constantly increasing. Display plays a crucial role in enhancing the atmosphere and mood of interior decoration, and is a key component of interior design. Furniture and display design is a discipline that studies the relationship between interior design and people, but its theory and practice are relatively lacking. With the improvement of productivity and people's living standards, people not only pursue practicality, but also beauty. Furniture and furnishings are in an upward and developing trend, playing an important role in our modern and contemporary design life. In this context, we need to conduct theoretical and practical research and sorting on the display of interior spaces in Chinese and foreign buildings, so as to apply them to practice. Such research has theoretical and practical significance. The main purpose of the study is to better cultivate students' abilities in furniture design and display design. When completing proposition training, students should understand the relationship between furniture design elements, display design components, design expression content and form in homework, and enhance their innovation ability and craftsmanship spirit. The research conclusion suggests that traditional Chinese culture, artistic accomplishment, ecological environment concepts should be integrated into the teaching design of the curriculum, in order to meet the needs of students' professional knowledge while combining practical teaching with industry university research integration. The curriculum reform of furniture and display courses in this study has achieved satisfied practical results.

## Keywords

Furniture and Display, Curriculum Reform, Design

## 1. Introduction

With the improvement of living standards, people's demand for the quality of furniture and display design is constantly increasing, and display plays a key role in enhancing the atmosphere and mood of interior decoration, and is a key component of interior design. Nowadays, interior design is exploring diverse developments without restraint, with design

concepts that are both contemporary and draw on traditional characteristics [1, 2].

Furniture and furnishings convey a unique traditional aesthetic culture to us. Furniture and furnishings are a way to change life, always accompanying human society and serving various aspects of human life faithfully. With their own

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laws and social and cultural background, they emerge and develop, playing a role in shaping a beautiful and civilized social life. Providing comfortable and convenient services for people's learning, work, and life, while also creating beautiful visual arts [3-5].

In foreign countries, both furniture and furnishings are gradually developing and growing. The social ideology of each era has a profound impact on the interior space decoration of residential buildings, and the decoration art of different countries and ethnic cultures is also vastly different. With the improvement of productivity and people's living standards, people not only pursue practicality, but also beauty. Furniture and furnishings are in an upward and developing trend, playing an important role in our modern and contemporary design life [6].

There are differences in furniture and furnishings in the interior space of residential buildings between China and foreign countries, but in terms of the essence of furniture and furnishings, they are all designed to better meet human functional and spiritual pursuits [7]. Furniture and display design is a discipline that studies the relationship between interior design and people, but its theory and practice are relatively lacking. In this context, we need to conduct theoretical and practical research and sorting on the display of interior spaces in Chinese and foreign buildings, so as to apply them to practice. Such research has theoretical and practical significance [8-10].

The composition of furniture and furnishings is the main aspect of its exploration, and its ultimate development trend is the integration of cultural diversity such as history, time, region, and the Chinese nation, ultimately expressed in the latest language form, rather than just the integration and combination of visual elements in terms of characteristics and form [11, 12]. This project aims to find solutions to promote the development of complementary design solutions and make them popular in the future. Promoting the integration and independent innovation of cultural industries coincides with the transformation of traditional Chinese culture towards economic globalization [13-15].

This paper elaborates on the factors related to the organic integration of furniture and display courses from the perspectives of historical development and social hotspots. This paper argues that traditional Chinese culture, artistic accomplishment, ecological environment concepts should be integrated into the teaching design of the curriculum, in order to meet the needs of students' professional knowledge while combining practical teaching with industry university research integration.

## 2. Research Objectives

### 2.1. Knowledge Objectives

Understand the emergence of furniture, the development and evolution of display styles. Studying the types and characteristics of traditional Chinese furniture, such as patterns, can be said to be an essential decorative language for many

arts and crafts both domestically and internationally, and traditional Chinese furniture is no exception. Decorations can be symbols or images that have been simplified, deconstructed, and reconstructed. Train students to master the methods and basic rules of extracting design elements.

### 2.2. Capability Objectives

To cultivate students' abilities in furniture design and display design, and to enhance their understanding of the relationship between furniture design elements, display design components, design expression content, and form in homework when completing proposition training, thereby enhancing students' innovation ability and craftsmanship spirit. Encourage students to do more hands-on work, use composition methods, and use the internet to search for relevant design content, basic rules, and design techniques to showcase the charm of design.

## 3. Research Contents

Taking the course of "Furniture and Display" as the entry point for the reform of education in college design majors, this paper analyzes the ideas of education reform in this course, discusses the effective implementation path and phased achievements of education reform in this course, and based on the background of ecological environment, proposes clear goals for education reform in the course of "Furniture and Display", repeatedly discusses the teaching outline and content of this course, optimizes the teaching mode, and innovates the evaluation system of education in the course (Figure 1).

### 3.1. Enrich Reaching Content by Combining Information in Design

Develop teaching objectives and tasks for the course, based on the actual problems of the subject, major, and course, deeply explore the information contained in the teaching knowledge points, follow the principle of mutual promotion between professional technology and education in teaching, and integrate information into teaching through systematic design and optimization. The teaching reform adheres to the principle of taking the objective laws of the new era society as the foundation and student needs as the main focus, combined with the teaching of information in the curriculum.

### 3.2. Enrich Teaching Content by Combining Professional Ethics in Design

One of the essential conditions for every student to succeed in the future workplace is to have good professional ethics. Curriculum and teaching reform must be linked to objective social development laws, not only to cultivate students' theoretical knowledge and professional skills as de-

signers, but also to systematically and comprehensively cultivate students' communication and cooperation abilities; Cultivate students' forward-looking awareness and business management awareness; Cultivate students' spirit of hard work, perseverance, craftsmanship, innovation, etc., laying a foundation for their future career prospects.

### 3.3. Enrich Teaching Content by Combining Design Ethical Standards

The teaching content of curriculum reform needs to keep

pace with the times. In addition to cultivating students' thinking, abilities, skills, and theoretical knowledge, emphasis should also be placed on cultivating students' design ethics and morality. If the design should be "people-oriented" and pay attention to ethical norms such as environmental ecology and vulnerable groups, it is also necessary to strengthen the cultivation of students' professional ethics of abiding by laws and regulations, so that students can clarify their own responsibilities and responsibilities, establish correct artistic and creative views, and better serve society.

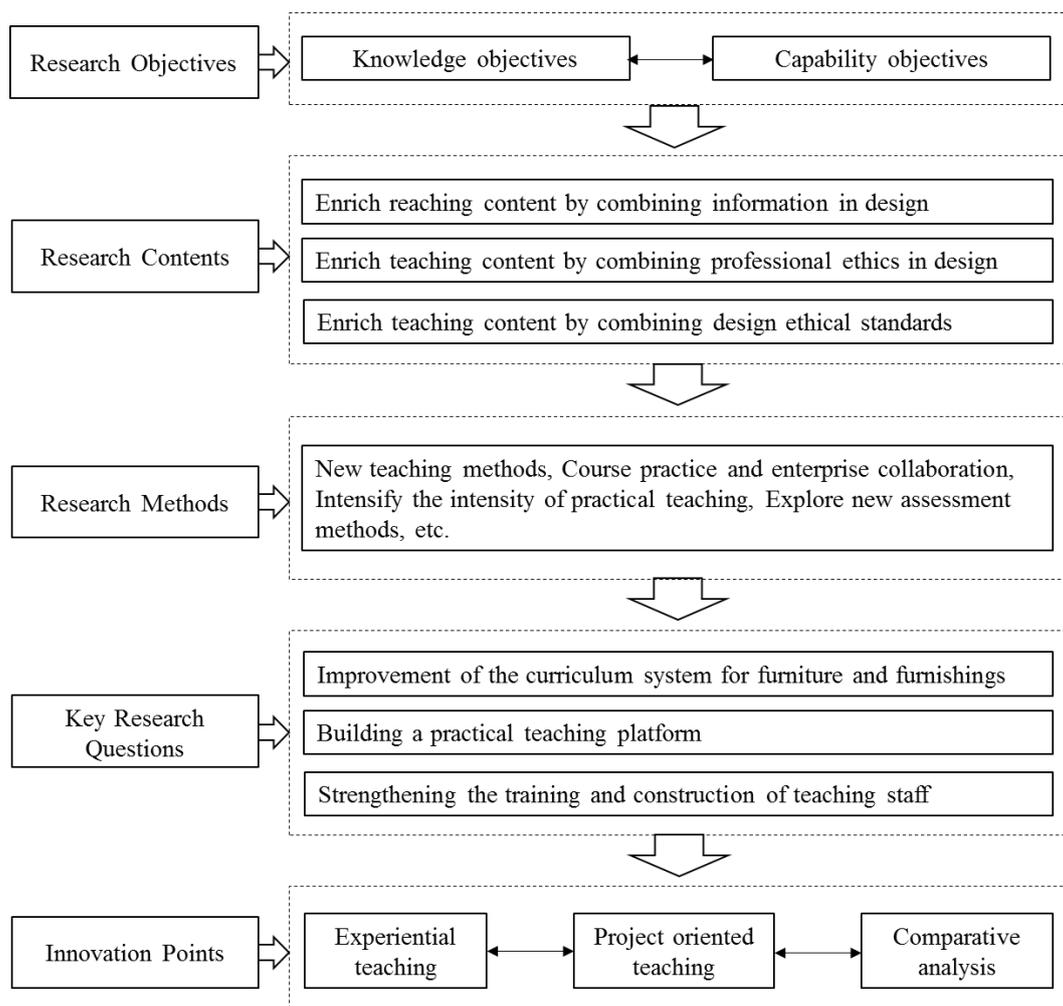


Figure 1. Research flowchart.

## 4. Research Methods

The intervention of new teaching means, such as building online quality courses, relying on emerging media platforms to assist offline teaching. Courses can use online platforms (Superstar Erya, Wisdom Tree, WeChat, WeChat official account, Bilibili, Tiktok, etc.) to create online course media matrix, assist offline teaching, fully radiate the audience, and

can also use the combination of Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) and flipped classroom teaching. At the same time, by combining a series of special lectures to enhance students' horizons, renowned experts, scholars, and outstanding entrepreneurs from both inside and outside the school can be invited to give lectures to college students. After completing the course, the teacher team can discuss and interact with them offline, and after passing the assessment, corresponding credits can be obtained.

Combining course practice with enterprises, increasing school enterprise cooperation, and creating experiential physical field training.

On the original teaching method, increase the intensity of practical teaching and its proportion in the entire curriculum system, such as adding the proportion of competition awards in grades; Enhance the intuitiveness of the course through means such as course exhibitions.

In terms of assessment methods, in accordance with the teaching reform suggestions of the Provincial Department of Education, we should actively explore new assessment methods, break the old rote memorization knowledge assessment form, and integrate practice and theory to focus on examining students' dialectical thinking ability, questioning ability, oral expression ability, language organization ability, logical thinking ability, induction, reasoning and deduction ability, practical hands-on ability, etc. Through this teaching method, students can indeed make great progress in comprehensive quality and ability.

The course design results are combined with social market demand to form the purpose of integrating industry, academia, and research, mobilizing students' innovation enthusiasm, and promoting the dissemination of traditional culture.

## 5. Key Research Questions

### 5.1. Improvement of the Curriculum System for Furniture and Furnishings

Improving the curriculum system of furniture and furnishings can start from the combination of theory and practice, information teaching and project-based learning.

First of all, the curriculum system should focus on the combination of theory and practice. The basic knowledge, design principles and methods of furniture and furnishing design are taught through theoretical courses, and practical courses are set up to let students design and manufacture furniture and furnishings by themselves, so as to deepen the understanding of theoretical knowledge and improve the practical ability. For example, we can learn from the practice of some colleges and universities, set the mid-term homework to complete the mortise and tenon structure production of traditional Chinese furniture for individuals, and the final homework is group cooperation to design and produce multifunctional furniture according to the learning and office space environment.

Secondly, the use of information-based teaching means is also an important part of improving the curriculum system. By establishing a three-dimensional curriculum resource system, such as document resource database, furniture model database, courseware database, etc., we can provide students with rich learning resources and convenient learning ways. At the same time, using information technology means to implement online and offline mixed teaching can effectively improve the

teaching effect and learning experience.

Finally, project-based learning is also an effective way to improve the curriculum system of furniture and furnishings. By setting specific project tasks, such as building a tea space with both practical and unique design style, students can comprehensively use the knowledge they have learned in the process of completing the project and improve their ability to solve practical problems. At the same time, project-based learning is also helpful to cultivate students' teamwork spirit and innovation ability.

### 5.2. Building a Practical Teaching Platform

Building a practical teaching platform is an effective way to improve the quality of education and cultivate innovative talents.

#### 5.2.1. Importance of Practical Teaching Platform

Practical teaching platform is an important means to support practical teaching activities. It plays an important role in improving students' practical ability, innovation ability and comprehensive quality. Through the practical teaching platform, students can be exposed to the actual working environment and combine theoretical knowledge with practice, so as to better understand and master the knowledge they have learned.

#### 5.2.2. Types of Practical Teaching Platform

Practical teaching platform can be divided into on campus practical teaching platform and off campus practical teaching platform. Different types of platforms have their own characteristics, which can meet the needs of different practical teaching activities.

#### 5.2.3. Methods of Constructing Practical Teaching Platform

**Cooperation and Co Construction:** the university can cooperate with enterprises, scientific research institutes and other institutions to jointly build a practical teaching platform. This way of cooperation can make full use of the resources and advantages of both sides to realize resource sharing and complementary advantages. For example, Huawei has cooperated with many domestic universities to establish a teaching practice platform to transform advanced technology into practical courses oriented to market demand.

**Independent construction:** schools can also independently build practical teaching platforms according to their own teaching needs and resources. This requires the school to invest certain funds and manpower to plan, design and build the platform.

**Make use of existing resources:** the school can also make full use of existing laboratory, training base and other resources to integrate and optimize and build a practical teaching platform. This way can save construction costs and im-

prove resource utilization efficiency.

### 5.3. Strengthening the Training and Construction of Teaching Staff

Strengthening the training and construction of teaching staff is the key measure to improve the quality of education and promote the modernization of education. To strengthen the training and construction of teaching staff, we need to:

- 1) Innovative education and teaching methods: schools should encourage teachers to explore new teaching methods, such as modular teaching, project-based learning, etc., in order to improve students' learning interest and effect.
- 2) Optimize talent training mode: pay attention to the cultivation of students' comprehensive quality and ability, and improve students' innovation ability and practical ability through the combination of theory and practice.
- 3) Strengthen teacher training and further education: provide teachers with diversified training and further education opportunities, including attending academic conferences, seminars, overseas study visits, etc., to improve teachers' professional quality and teaching ability.
- 4) Rational allocation of teacher resources: rationally allocate teacher resources according to the development needs of the school and the actual situation of teachers to ensure the balance of teachers in all disciplines.

## 6. Innovation Points

### 6.1. Experiential Teaching

Experiential teaching method: based on "experience", allowing students to actively participate, personally experience and think independently, emphasizing the cultivation of students' innovative ability, emphasizing interactivity, learning by doing, and ultimately achieving the teaching effect of integrating knowledge and action. Teachers collaborate with schools and enterprises to build an experience platform, where students use furniture design, production, furnishings, and spatial backgrounds to practice the application of interior decoration design techniques and express theme spaces. During the setup process, teachers and business mentors provide appropriate guidance. The evaluation of course grades adopts the forms of student self-evaluation, student peer evaluation, and teacher enterprise evaluation, reflecting fairness and impartiality.

### 6.2. Project Oriented Teaching

Project oriented teaching method: refers to the use of specific practical projects in enterprises to teach professional knowledge, allowing students to participate and learn theo-

retical knowledge through practice. Its characteristics are project oriented, teacher guided, and student-centered. Teachers bring corporate design projects into the classroom, allowing students to participate in the workflow of display design together, and enrich spatial personality by combining their own learning, life, and social experiences. Through practice, they continuously improve their knowledge system. Those who have the conditions can invite project leaders from enterprises to jointly guide teaching practice, achieving dual track learning of on campus and enterprise case practice. Through project-based teaching, students can become process oriented and participate in targeted projects to enhance their social competitiveness after employment through diverse practical experiences.

### 6.3. Comparative Analysis

Comparative analysis method: In the teaching process, the teacher first displays and analyzes excellent interior decoration design works at home and abroad, and then allows students to evaluate and explore the case works, so that students can truly understand the design concept and essence of each excellent case. Appreciating excellent display design works can enhance students' design aesthetics, broaden their design horizons, and inspire design inspiration. By using case comparative analysis and continuously combining theoretical knowledge with design practice, one can enhance their aesthetic and design application abilities.

## 7. The Effects of Curriculum Reform

The reform of furniture and furnishings curriculum has achieved significant results:

- 1) Firstly, the curriculum reform has significantly enhanced students' innovation and practical abilities. Through project-based teaching and task driven teaching methods, students have completed the entire process from design to production in the course, not only mastering theoretical knowledge, but also enhancing innovation ability, practical ability, and emotional literacy through practical operation. For example, students need to consider the learning and office space environment during the design process, and design and produce 1:1 sized multifunctional furniture. This virtual and practical approach has significantly improved students' knowledge, skills, and emotions.
- 2) Secondly, curriculum reform has strengthened the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture. The integration of traditional elements and modern design is introduced in the course, and students not only use modern design concepts and techniques in their creations, but also incorporate traditional cultural elements to create furniture works that have both cultural heritage and modernity. This combination of traditional and modern creative methods not only enhances students'

design skills, but also allows them to have a deeper understanding and inheritance of traditional culture.

- 3) In addition, curriculum reform also focuses on cultivating students' awareness of sustainable development. In the course, students used environmentally friendly materials for their creations, reflecting their concern for sustainable development. This educational approach not only allows students to consider environmental factors in their design, but also cultivates their sense of social responsibility and environmental awareness.
- 4) Finally, curriculum reform has improved teaching quality and students' learning experience. Through project-based teaching and task driven teaching methods, students actively participate in the course and complete design tasks through group discussions, brainstorming, and other means. This interactive learning approach not only improves teaching quality, but also enhances students' teamwork and communication skills through collaboration.

## 8. Conclusions

This paper organically integrates factors related to furniture and display courses, and studies them from the perspectives of historical development, social hotspots, etc. It integrates the latest elements into the teaching of the "Furniture and Display" course, allowing students to understand the development trends of culture, economy, society, art, and design fields in developed countries and China. The Study results suggest that traditional Chinese culture, artistic accomplishment, ecological environment concepts should be integrated into the teaching design of the curriculum, in order to meet the needs of students' professional knowledge while combining practical teaching with industry university research integration.

In summary, the curriculum reform has significantly enhanced students' innovation and practical abilities, strengthened the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture, focused on cultivating students' awareness of sustainable development, and improved teaching quality and students' learning experience. In summary, the reform of furniture and display courses in this paper has achieved significant practical results.

## Abbreviations

MOOC Massive Open Online Course

## Author Contributions

**Lei Miao:** Conceptualization, Writing – original draft

**Shaohua Liu:** Writing – original draft

**Meimei Zhang:** Funding acquisition, Writing – review&editing

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## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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