



# EXPLORING THE TEACHING SYSTEM OF CHINESE PAINTING COURSE IN CALLIGRAPHY EDUCATION MAJOR UNDER TEACHER CERTIFICATION BACKGROUND: A CASE STUDY OF ZHAOQING UNIVERSITY

Tang Shina<sup>1</sup>, Cao Ziqi<sup>2</sup>, He Jianping<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1, 2</sup>Zhaoqing University, Zhaoqing, Guangdong, China

<sup>3</sup>Zixing Municipal Middle School, Hunan Province, China

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## ABSTRACT

*This study focuses on constructing the teaching system for Chinese painting courses in the calligraphy education major at Zhaoqing University under the teacher certification framework. Adhering to the principles of "student-centered, output-oriented, and continuous improvement", it recognizes the crucial role of Chinese painting courses in calligraphy education, which is vital for inheriting excellent Chinese traditional culture and enhancing students' comprehensive qualities and teaching abilities. The course objectives encompass theoretical knowledge, skills, teaching competency, cultural inheritance and innovation, aesthetic appreciation, and comprehensive qualities. The teaching content includes Chinese painting theory, technique training (brush-ink skills and composition), appreciation, and creative practice. The study establishes a "copy-comprehend-create-apply" teaching model, specifically addressing various issues students encounter in Chinese painting learning and teaching practice, comprehensively improving their professional qualities and teaching application abilities in Chinese painting. This system, centered on training calligraphy education students, considers both their professional growth and future educational needs. Its implementation will enhance course teaching quality and cultivate high-quality educational talents.*

**KEYWORDS:** Chinese Painting Course, Teacher Certification, Teaching System, Calligraphy Education

## 1. INTRODUCTION

To fully implement the Party's educational policy, fulfill the fundamental task of moral education, and construct a distinctive Chinese and world-class teacher education quality monitoring certification system, teacher certification is conducted at different levels and categories. This system aims to promote improvement and enhancement through evaluation, comprehensively ensuring and improving the quality of teacher education, providing strong support for cultivating a high-quality, professional, and innovative teaching force that meets the requirements of the Party and the people. Under this guiding ideology, the basic certification concept of "student-centered, output-oriented, and continuous improvement" has been formed. Normal universities at various levels and regions are actively exploring how to integrate the certification concepts into their training systems. Through persistent exploration, experts and scholars have discovered that talent cultivation relies on curriculum, and professional talent development is formed through the integration of various courses, including basic theoretical courses, general foundation courses, and practical training courses. By organically combining these courses, talent training systems for various majors can be formed. Therefore, curriculum design is particularly important in teacher certification. Taking the calligraphy education major at Zhaoqing University as an example, this paper explores the teaching system of Chinese painting courses in university calligraphy education from the perspective of Chinese painting courses.

"Literature carries the Way, and art cultivates the self". Art education holds profound significance for individual growth and cultural inheritance. The construction of a teacher certification system is a core task in normal education, aiming to enhance the quality of teacher education talent cultivation. The Chinese painting course in the calligraphy



education major at Zhaoqing University stands at a crucial junction for inheriting both calligraphy and Chinese painting, two traditional cultural treasures. The construction of its teaching system relates to the cultivation of future calligraphy educators' qualities and cultural confidence, requiring in-depth exploration.

## **2. COURSE POSITIONING**

As one of the important courses in the calligraphy education major, the Chinese painting course, under the background of teacher certification, shoulders the important task of cultivating art education talents with high artistic literacy and teaching ability. This course aims to enable calligraphy education majors to master the basic theory, techniques, and teaching methods of Chinese painting, enhance students' artistic accomplishment and educational teaching ability, and meet the needs of future calligraphy education.

From the perspective of talent training objectives and future work requirements in calligraphy education, the Chinese painting course is a key link in professional talent training. This course requires students to master knowledge in various aspects of Chinese painting, including history, theory, and techniques, and learn to integrate Chinese painting elements into calligraphy teaching practice. Through this course, students will develop the following abilities:

1. Understanding and mastering the basic principles and techniques of Chinese painting, providing rich artistic nourishment for calligraphy creation.
2. Applying Chinese painting knowledge to calligraphy teaching to improve teaching effectiveness.
3. Cultivating students' aesthetic interests and artistic appreciation abilities, comprehensively improving the overall quality of calligraphy education students.

## **3. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

As a guiding program for course cultivation, course objectives play a fundamental leading role in the construction and implementation of the entire teaching system. Based on teacher certification concepts, Zhaoqing University's calligraphy education major has carefully planned the following course objective system for Chinese painting:

Objective 1: Students can deeply comprehend Chinese painting theory, clearly organize its historical context from origin to modern transformation. They can accurately interpret various painting schools' styles, backgrounds, values, and influences, such as literati painting and academy painting. They master the characteristics of brush, ink, paper, and inkstone, as well as theoretical elements like modeling, composition, and color, enabling them to precisely analyze works with theory and guide creation, laying a theoretical foundation for in-depth learning and practice.

Objective 2: Students can skillfully master brush and ink techniques in Chinese painting creation. Through extensive practice, they comprehend the charm of brush and ink, such as line aesthetics in fine-line drawing and ink techniques in landscape painting, flexibly using various brushwork skills and ink variations. They can accurately extract forms in modeling and composition, create with spiritual resemblance, and flexibly apply both traditional and innovative composition rules. They integrate mastered calligraphy skills organically into Chinese painting creation, fully displaying the charm of "unity of calligraphy and painting", thus creating works with both formal beauty and profound artistic conception, demonstrating superior artistic standards and creative talent.

Objective 3: Teaching ability cultivation. It focuses on shaping students into excellent educational guides, enabling them to skillfully teach Chinese painting knowledge to primary and secondary school students. Teaching designs should be based on primary and secondary students' cognition and needs, cleverly integrating interesting interactions to plan content and procedures, stimulating learning enthusiasm. During teaching implementation, they can effectively use various methods to precisely impart knowledge and skills, such as demonstration creation and group cooperation, cultivating students' multiple abilities. In the teaching evaluation phase, they can establish objective and fair standard systems, comprehensively and accurately assess learning effectiveness and progress, provide timely feedback and guidance, effectively leading primary and secondary school students to explore Chinese painting, becoming their good teachers and friends in artistic growth.

Objective 4: Cultural inheritance and innovation. Students need to have enthusiasm and a sense of mission for traditional culture, dedicating themselves to Chinese painting inheritance and innovation. In creation, they cleverly integrate contemporary elements and personal thinking, incorporating modern elements into traditional Chinese



painting, showcasing the charm of ancient-modern fusion, conveying core values through subjects like plum, orchid, bamboo, and chrysanthemum, becoming pioneers in cultural communication and innovation. Meanwhile, they actively explore novel expression and communication paths through new media and digital art, injecting new vitality into traditional culture, promoting Chinese painting's innovative development and widespread dissemination in the new era, making this ancient art shine with new brilliance and continuing cultural lineage.

Objective 5: Enhancement of aesthetic appreciation. Cultivate students' elegant and keen appreciation abilities. Through systematic learning and practice, they develop advanced aesthetic and appreciation capabilities, able to deeply analyze Chinese painting works from different periods and schools, perceiving works' connotations and implications from multiple perspectives, such as interpreting contemporary social culture through ancient paintings. They can skillfully guide primary and secondary school students to appreciate Chinese painting's beauty using their learning and insights, opening their aesthetic horizons, inspiring love and reverence for Chinese painting, enhancing artistic literacy and aesthetic realm, laying a solid foundation for lifelong artistic pursuit, letting students continuously grow and comprehend in the aesthetic world of Chinese painting art.

Objective 6: Comprehensive quality cultivation. Nurture educational models of both moral and artistic excellence, with students possessing good professional and moral qualities, demonstrating normal education concepts in future education, integrating teaching with moral cultivation. In Chinese painting teaching, they cleverly incorporate moral education elements, using Chinese painting masters' stories to cultivate perseverance and diligence, using patriotic themes to inspire patriotic sentiments, nurturing aesthetic sentiment and social responsibility like spring rain nourishing hearts, promoting the mutual growth of artistic and moral education, shaping comprehensive personality and moral development, laying a solid internal foundation for becoming excellent calligraphy and Chinese painting teachers, enabling them to guide students' growth and artistic pursuit with noble character and comprehensive qualities.

#### **4. TEACHING CONTENT**

After establishing the course objectives, the next issue to address is how to achieve these objectives and what teaching content is needed to support them and meet these teaching requirements. When constructing the Chinese painting course teaching system, the calligraphy education major at Zhaoqing University must closely follow the requirements of teacher certification, planning the following five major teaching content blocks:

##### **(A) Chinese Painting Basic Theoretical Framework**

The basic theoretical framework of Chinese painting is the foundation for students to master Chinese painting artistry. The course's primary task is to guide students in deeply understanding the historical development context, school characteristics, technique classification, and aesthetic criteria of Chinese painting. Through clear and systematic lectures, students will be able to master professional terminology, symbolic marks, and technical principles in Chinese painting, laying a solid theoretical foundation for subsequent skill development. Meanwhile, following the spirit of teacher certification, the teaching content particularly emphasizes the deep integration of theory and practice, further enhancing students' Chinese painting art cognition and emotional experience through vivid case analysis and classic work appreciation.

##### **(B) Chinese Painting Technique Practice**

Chinese painting technique practice constitutes the main phase of the course. During this stage, students will learn basic skills such as the flexible use of brush and ink, clever color matching, and exquisite composition design, gradually comprehending the deeper mysteries of Chinese painting creation through extensive practical exercises. In technique training, teachers fully implement the principle of teaching according to individual aptitude, tailoring personalized training plans based on each student's different foundation and interests. Meanwhile, closely aligning with teacher certification standards, the course also emphasizes the mutual transformation between technique and teaching ability, encouraging students to transform learned techniques into practical teaching abilities, laying a solid foundation for future engagement in primary and secondary school Chinese painting education.



(C) Integration of Calligraphy and Chinese Painting Arts

Calligraphy and Chinese painting, as two treasures of Chinese traditional culture, contain profound cultural heritage and unique aesthetic value. The calligraphy education major at Zhaoqing University particularly emphasizes integrated teaching of calligraphy and Chinese painting in the Chinese painting course. Through in-depth analysis of the historical connection, technical interchange, and aesthetic commonality between calligraphy and Chinese painting, students are guided to cleverly integrate calligraphy skills into Chinese painting creation, thus creating unique works of calligraphy and painting. This integrated teaching model not only greatly enhances students' artistic taste but also provides them with more diverse teaching methods for future art education in primary and secondary schools.

(D) Chinese Painting Appreciation and Critical Thinking Development

Chinese painting appreciation and critical thinking development are important ways to enhance students' aesthetic appreciation and artistic literacy. The course will carefully select numerous classic and contemporary Chinese painting works for student appreciation and analysis. Through detailed interpretation of works' historical origins, creative techniques, and aesthetic characteristics, students are guided to learn how to examine and evaluate Chinese painting works from multiple dimensions. Meanwhile, students are encouraged to engage in free discussion and exchange based on personal experiences and emotional responses, thereby cultivating their independent thinking ability and critical thinking skills.

(E) Chinese Painting Creation and Teaching Practice Exploration

Chinese painting creation and teaching practice exploration are key steps in testing students' learning effectiveness. The course will set up a series of creative tasks and practical teaching activities, including thematic creation, assigned creation, and simulated teaching. Through these diverse practical activities, students will comprehensively apply learned knowledge and skills in creation and teaching practice. Meanwhile, teachers will provide detailed comments and guidance on students' works and teaching practice, helping them discover and solve existing problems, thus continuously improving their creative ability and teaching level. Additionally, the course actively encourages students to participate in various art exhibitions and competition activities, thereby showcasing their talents and achievements while broadening their artistic horizons.

## 5. TEACHING MODE

Under the background of teacher certification, after determining the teaching content, the calligraphy education major at Zhaoqing University actively explores how to effectively impart knowledge to students, constructing a distinctive "copy-comprehend-create-apply" teaching mode. This mode precisely targets teaching pain points that students may face in Chinese painting learning, such as insufficient technique comprehension, lack of innovative thinking, and weak practical application. Student-centered and based on teacher certification concepts, it is dedicated to comprehensively improving students' Chinese painting learning and teaching practice abilities.

(A) "Copy"

As an art discipline emphasizing skill inheritance and accumulation, "copying" holds irreplaceable importance in the initial learning stage of Chinese painting. Teachers need to guide students in deeply copying classic Chinese paintings, from ancient masterpieces to modern masters' excellent works. For example, when students copy Gu Kaizhi's *Nymph of the Luo River*, they can carefully study the delicate brushwork and unique charm in figure depiction, experiencing the exquisite use of lines. When copying Huang Gongwang's *Dwelling in the Fuchun Mountains*, they can feel the creation of landscape ambiance and subtle variations in brush and ink. During the copying process, students are like devoted apprentices, earnestly studying basic techniques such as brushwork, ink methods, and composition while deeply comprehending the cultural connotations and artistic styles of Chinese painting. To avoid the monotony of pure copying, diverse copying forms can be integrated, such as partial copying, paired copying, and back copying combined with regular appreciation and exchange activities of copied works to stimulate students' enthusiasm for copying. Through extensive systematic copying practice, students establish a solid foundation for subsequent Chinese painting learning and creation, gradually accumulating painting experience and enhancing artistic perception, like laying the cornerstone for a tall building.



(B) "Comprehend"

After students have gained a certain mastery of Chinese painting techniques, "comprehension" becomes a key link in the teaching mode. Teachers should guide students to think deeply and comprehend the essence of Chinese painting art, not just at the technical level but also including deeper connotations such as cultural heritage and aesthetic realm. For example, when studying landscape painting, teachers can lead students into natural landscapes, allowing them to personally experience the grandeur of mountains, the changes of clouds and mist, and the vitality of vegetation, thus comprehending the profound meaning of "learning from nature, gaining from the heart". Meanwhile, organize students to conduct in-depth analysis and discussion of classic Chinese paintings, interpreting works' creative background, artistic style, expressive techniques, and conveyed emotions and thoughts from different angles. For instance, when appreciating Bada Shanren's works, understand the lonely mood and unique perception of the era behind his concise composition and distinctive brush and ink. Through this process of "comprehension", students can gradually form their unique insights into Chinese painting art, enhance aesthetic appreciation ability, cultivate artistic perception and creativity, laying groundwork for creating works with personality and depth.

(C) "Create"

"Brush and ink should follow the times, innovation leads art". In the "creation" stage, teachers should actively encourage students to innovate boldly based on inheriting Chinese painting tradition, incorporating personal emotions, life experiences, and contemporary elements to create Chinese paintings with unique personality and contemporary characteristics. Teachers can set diverse creative themes and tasks, such as using "City New Look" as a theme, guiding students to combine traditional Chinese painting techniques with modern urban landscapes to display urban prosperity and vitality; or using "Traditional Culture and Modern Technology" as a theme, inspiring students to explore their possible integration in Chinese painting creation. In the creative process, students need to integrate previously learned techniques and insights from copying and comprehension, attempting innovative brush and ink expressions, composition methods, and color combinations, breaking through traditional creative boundaries. Students can combine Western painting's color concepts with Chinese painting's brush and ink charm to create novel and unique visual effects, or use modern materials with Chinese painting techniques to expand expression forms. Through creative practice, not only is students' creative ability enhanced, but their innovative thinking and artistic personality are also cultivated.

(D) "Apply"

The ultimate goal of the Chinese painting course is to cultivate professionals capable of teaching calligraphy and Chinese painting, making the "application" phase crucial. Students need to integrate and transform previously learned Chinese painting knowledge, techniques, creative experience, and aesthetic appreciation ability into teaching practice. Through simulated teaching and educational internships, they transmit their learning in vivid, understandable, and creative ways to future students. In simulated teaching, students carefully design Chinese painting courses, comprehensively honing their teaching abilities from clear setting of teaching objectives, reasonable selection of teaching content, clever use of teaching methods to scientific implementation of teaching evaluation. For example, design interesting Chinese painting enlightenment teaching activities for primary school students, such as using Chinese painting stories and simple brush and ink games to guide students in experiencing Chinese painting's charm; for middle school students, focus on cultivating their Chinese painting creation ability and aesthetic appreciation ability, organizing thematic creation and work appreciation activities. During educational internship, students delve into frontline school teaching, continuously accumulating teaching experience in real teaching environments, timely reflecting on problems and deficiencies in the teaching process, constantly improving teaching methods and strategies.

## 6. CONCLUSION

The calligraphy education major at Zhaoqing University has deeply explored and successfully constructed a Chinese painting course teaching system under the teacher certification background. Student-centered, it fully considers calligraphy education students' professional growth and future primary and secondary education needs. Regarding course positioning, Chinese painting courses occupy a core position in calligraphy education, holding extraordinary significance for inheriting excellent Chinese traditional culture and enhancing students' comprehensive artistic literacy and professional teaching ability. Course objectives are comprehensively set, emphasizing both knowledge and skill transmission and cultivation while considering emotional attitude shaping, dedicated to creating calligraphy and Chinese painting educators with innovative spirit and practical ability. Teaching content is rich and diverse, including





Chinese painting basic theory, practical techniques, calligraphy and Chinese painting integration, teaching design, and artistic appreciation and criticism, helping students comprehensively master Chinese painting professional knowledge and skills. The teaching mode is innovative, with the "copy-comprehend-create-apply" teaching mode effectively strengthening students' practical operation, innovative research, and teaching practice abilities. Overall, this teaching system comprehensively cultivates students' professional skills and teaching abilities, laying a solid foundation for them to become excellent primary and secondary school teachers.

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