# Research on Legal Education Mode of Illegal College Students

Tan Xu and Guoqing Yang\*

School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Harbin Engineering University, Harbin, China Email: kyotann2602@yahoo.co.jp (T.X.); yangguoqing@hrbeu.edu.cn (G.Y.) \*Corresponding author

Abstract—The in-depth implementation of the concept of governing the country according to law puts forward higher requirements for contemporary college students' legal literacy. Therefore, how to cultivate college students' legal literacy in the discipline construction of universities is a subject that universities must think about. From the perspective of serving teaching, under the background of governing the country according to law, this paper studies how to make law enter the classroom of illegal college students, actively publicize legal knowledge, and improve the overall legal literacy of college students. Combined with the actual situation of local colleges, it puts forward specific measures for illegal college students to popularize legal knowledge.

*Keywords*—governing the country according to law, college students, legal literacy, cultivation mode

# I. INTRODUCTION

Building a country ruled by law is the century-old dream of the Chinese nation. Under the current background of college reform, how to make the concept of "rule of law" enter the hearts of contemporary college students and how to cultivate talents with high-level legal literacy in various fields are topics that contemporary universities must think about in personnel training. Therefore, it is an important link that contemporary universities must carry out in the implementation of teaching reform to let the law enter the lecture hall of universities, actively publicize legal knowledge, and enhance the overall legal literacy of college students [1].

Harbin Engineering University brand curriculum construction project "Labor and Social Security Law" phased research results. At present, China is carrying out in-depth reform of higher education, which includes the transformation of educational concepts, the adjustment of teaching materials, the renewal of teaching methods, and the application of high-tech means. Facing the new needs of the new era, how to seize the teaching opportunity and improve students' legal literacy and legal basis is a problem that schools often think about. Especially under the background of governing the country according to law, we should fully realize the importance of legal education in the whole educational reform and development. As far as the present situation of our country is concerned, it has become a very important subject how to orientate legal education and how to make a comprehensive judgment according to the requirements of the times, so as to cultivate a group of compound talents of science and technology-law, economy-law, management-law and foreign language-law [2].

#### II. THE IMPORTANCE OF LAW INTO THE CURRICULUM OF ILLEGAL COLLEGE STUDENTS

With the idea of governing the country according to law put forward, more and more college students realize the importance of law. For example, a university in Shanxi once made a survey on the rule of law education. The subjects of the survey are freshmen to seniors in this school, with 100 students in each academic year, totaling 400 people. The survey results show that 72% of freshmen, 77% of sophomores, 76% of juniors and 90% of seniors believe that the rule of law is closely related to life and should learn some basic common sense; it is believed that the rule of law is a highly professional thing, and it is good to give it to professionals. There are 13% freshmen, 20% sophomores, 18% juniors and 5% seniors; 12% of freshmen, 3% of sophomores, 4% of juniors and 4% of seniors think that learning the common sense of rule of law has no practical effect in real life [3]. It can be seen that college students have fully realized the importance of studying law. Therefore, it is an effective method and way to deepen education reform and promote quality teaching in an all-round way to let law enter the classroom of students majoring in illegal studies. It is the fundamental place to fully implement the Party's educational policy and improve the national quality, and it is the general trend to raise quality education to a strategic height. Therefore, we must recognize the situation clearly, actively promote legal education, transform the potential advantages of illegal college students into practical advantages, and make efforts to promote the cultivation of diversified talents who know, understand and abide by the law needed by the development of socialist market economy with Chinese characteristics. Next, this paper will take labor law as an example to elaborate on the importance of legal education to non-legal college students.

Manuscript received January 17, 2023; revised March 25, 2023; accepted June 28, 2023; published January 16, 2024.

With the establishment of the socialist market economic system, the labor relations in China have shown a trend of diversification and complication, and the number of labor dispute cases has also increased sharply. According to the 2020 China Labor Statistics Yearbook, from 2008 to 2019, the number of labor dispute arbitration cases accepted in China is as follows:

TABLE I. NUMBER OF LABOR DISPUTE ARBITRATION CASES ACCEPTED IN CHINA FROM 2008 TO 2019

Year	Number of cases
2008	693,465
2009	684,379
2010	600,865
2011	589,244
2012	641,202
2013	665,760
2014	715,163
2015	813,859
2016	828,410
2017	785,323
2018	894,053
2019	1,069,638

As shown in Table I, we can see that from 2008 to 2019, although the number of labor dispute arbitration cases accepted in China sometimes decreased, the overall trend was still on the rise. By comparing the data of 2008 and 2019, we can see that 693,465 labor dispute arbitration cases were accepted nationwide in 2008, and soared to 1,069,638 in 2019. In other words, there were more than 376,000 pieces in 2019 than in 2008. Moreover, according to China Labor Statistics Yearbook 2020, during the 10 years from 2008 to 2019, the scope of labor dispute arbitration cases includes: labor remuneration, social insurance, change of labor contract, dissolution and termination of labor contract, etc. It can be seen that labor disputes involve a wide range and a large number.

It can be said that every one of us is always a laborer at a stage in our life. Since we are laborers, we have to deal with employers. If we master relevant legal knowledge, such as labor remuneration, social insurance, performance of contracts, etc., then the relationship between us and employers will be smoother, thus reducing the occurrence of labor disputes. Moreover, once a labor dispute occurs, if we have the corresponding legal knowledge, then we will know what ways we should adopt and how to solve it. China's labor law is precisely a law that protects workers with the main purpose of explaining China's labor standard system, labor dispute settlement system, and labor contract performance system in an all-round way. Therefore, it is very necessary for labor law to enter the classroom of illegal college students. This will not only guide college students in employment, help them solve their own problems, but also help their relatives and friends around them

Similarly, social security law, intellectual property law, criminal law, and other laws can also help us to know the society well, understand the society, and enter the society.

### A. Social Security Law

Every one of us is old and sick, and sometimes we even encounter a more special situation, such as unemployment, disability, natural disasters, and so on. At this time, we need the society to give us protection. Social security law is to emphasize the responsibility of the state, China's social security law fully embodies the idea that the state maintains social stability by providing relevant social security benefits. It carries out macrocontrol on national social security by means of endowment insurance, medical insurance, maternity insurance, industrial injury insurance, unemployment insurance, social assistance, social welfare and social special care [4].

If the Social Security Law enters the classroom of nonlegal college students, it can not only give students a comprehensive understanding of China's social security system before they go to work, but also promote and promote the future publicity, compliance and implementation of China's social security system.

# B. Intellectual Property Law

College students are the main force in the future development of science and technology, and intellectual property law is a law to protect intellectual achievements. Obviously, there is a very close relationship between college students and intellectual property law. Our copyrights, patents, and trademarks all need to be protected, and intellectual property law is a law to protect these intellectual achievements. Therefore, let intellectual property law enter the classroom of contemporary college students, Undoubtedly, it can improve college students' understanding of intellectual property rights and cause them to attach great importance to intellectual property rights, so that they can master the initiative in the future competition, protect their high-tech intellectual achievements, better solve problems under the legal framework, better undertake scientific research tasks and better serve the society.

# C. Criminal Law

Criminal law is a law for punishing crimes and protecting people in China. With the development of society and science and technology, the number of college students' crimes is also increasing, especially high IQ crimes. Therefore, college students' crimes have become a social problem that can not be ignored. To solve this problem, students must know which behaviors are illegal, which behaviors are crimes, and how to avoid breaking the red line of the law. Because after some college students commit crimes, they don't know that their actions are crimes, and their actions violate the red line of the law. Therefore, we must let criminal law enter the classroom of illegal college students, so that students can know which behaviors can be done and which behaviors can not be done; what can be done and what can't be done; if you break the law, what kind of consequences will arise and what kind of responsibilities should you bear?

To sum up, we can see that it is very important and necessary for law to enter the classroom of non-law

majors. Universities should pay attention to students' legal education, and make in-depth research and planning on how to guide students to carry out legal education and improve their legal literacy. Below, we will discuss how to make the law better, faster and more accurate into the classroom of illegal college students from the perspective of legal education.

# III. PRESENT SITUATION OF LEGAL EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS MAJORING IN ILLEGAL STUDIES IN CHINESE UNIVERSITIES

### A. Inadequacies of Legal Education for Non-law Majors in Universities

At present, there is a serious lack of legal education for students majoring in illegal studies in many universities, and the independence and internal needs of students are often ignored in the process of imparting legal knowledge, which leads to the fact that most legal education is condescending theoretical education. This kind of education is divorced from real life and lacks practicality. Therefore, it can not fully integrate students' theory with practice, and can not fully associate students with the close relationship between studying law and their future development. It is not closely integrated with the idea of ruling China by law and governing the country according to law, and is far from the educational idea of "peopleoriented". At the same time, in some universities, Moral education instead of legal education also happens [5], which leads to the confusion between law and morality among college students, and makes them not getting full learning opportunities in legal education, which not only causes students' weak legal awareness, but also increases the possibility that students can't adapt to social development after they enter the society.

# B. The Goal of Legal Education for Non-law Majors in Universities

Legal education in universities should belong to thinking legal education [6]. That is, while telling the theory, join the case, and let the students discuss the case itself and the court judgment through the analysis of the case and the court judgment, so that the students can express their opinions and expound their own opinions; Let students integrate theory with practice, and understand the application of legal provisions in practical cases more clearly and thoroughly; Let students feel the fun of participating in case analysis. In this way, students can not only deepen their impression of the law, and quickly understand the ins and outs of disputes and contradictions, but also fully understand and master the ways and methods to solve disputes and deal with contradictions.

Governing China is the great goal for which our Chinese nation strives. Under the background of governing the country according to law, our universities, our jurists, and our educators should always implement legal education in universities based on the policy of "good legal education is the foundation of building a modern country" [7]. This kind of legal education for nonlegal college students should be concentrated in legal education and theory, so that students can fully understand the basic principles of law, the relationship between power and obligation of law, the dominant position of law, the level of courts, the jurisdiction of courts at all levels over cases, the procedures for accepting cases by courts, the procedures for hearing cases by courts, and so on; In practice, students can be led to attend court trials at all levels, so as to combine theory with practice, so that students can experience the solemnity of law, the professionalism of judges and the serious atmosphere of courts.

# IV. PATH ANALYSIS OF IMPROVING LEGAL LITERACY OF Illegal College Students

In order to improve the legal literacy of students majoring in illegal studies and make legal education really enter the classroom of contemporary college students, we should start from the reality of Chinese universities, make rational use of teaching resources, and at the same time explore the legal courses that are really suitable for students majoring in illegal studies. Next, we discuss the personnel training mode of legal education for illegal college students from the aspects of training goal reform, training scheme reform, curriculum system reform, teacher construction reform and examination direction reform.

#### A. Reform of Training Objectives

Change the duplication of training objectives between non-law majors in universities and law majors in political and legal colleges and comprehensive colleges in the past, the training goal is to train applied talents with highquality legal literacy. While teaching legal knowledge to students majoring in illegal studies, we should focus on cultivating students' legal literacy and legal awareness, so that students can fully know the necessity of knowing, understanding, and abiding by the law [8]. At the same time, it cultivates students' ability of organization, coordination and cooperation, information processing, adaptability and contingency in solving contradictions and handling disputes within the legal framework.

#### B. Reform of Training Scheme

The template is designed so that author affiliations are not repeated each time for multiple authors of the same affiliation. Please keep your affiliations as succinct as possible (for example, do not differentiate among departments of the same organization). This template was designed for two affiliations.

The law study of undergraduate students majoring in illegal studies is divided into two stages.

The first stage is the learning stage of relevant legal knowledge. This stage is mainly based on theoretical narration, and universities can adopt flexible and diverse teaching methods according to their own conditions. In offering courses, multi-department methods can be set up according to the school's own conditions, and students can make their own choices according to their own preferences and interests, and the credits can meet the requirements. The second stage is the practice stage. At this stage, according to the research direction of the instructor, several groups can be set up, such as intellectual property law group, labor law group, social security law group, etc., and then students choose groups according to their own interests and hobbies. Under the guidance of instructors, each group goes deep into courts at all levels, watches the work flow of judges, attends court trials, participates in the actual trial of cases, and finally puts forward their own views, opinions or experiences in the form of small papers.

# C. Curriculum System Reform

Universities should make clear the following two points in setting up the curriculum system of legal education for students majoring in illegal studies, that is, first, the idea of governing the country according to law should be set in the lecture hall of college students. Its purpose is to improve the legal literacy and awareness of college students majoring in illegal studies, provide basic guarantee for the effective implementation of governing the country according to law, and escort the college students who are about to enter the society to know and abide by the law. Second, the educational paradigm of pluralism is reflected in the curriculum system. That is, teachers are not limited to law teachers in schools, we should make full use of social resources, and hire professional lawyers, judges, arbitrators and other experts and scholars engaged in legal profession outside the school to explain the law to students. Especially the application of law in practice, in order to deepen students' understanding of practical legal knowledge such as the procedure of law application, the effect of law, the way of judgment execution, etc., so that students' study can not only stay on the theoretical level and books, but can integrate theory with practice, and can apply law to analyze and deal with legal problems encountered in the future.

#### D. Reform of Teacher Construction

Teachers are the key link to effectively carry out legal education for students majoring in illegal studies. Therefore, schools need to be equipped with corresponding teachers to engage in legal education for illegal college students. Most of the law teachers in our school correspond to professional law education, if this is added to the legal education for illegal majors, the workload of teachers will increase. Therefore, while effectively arranging our teachers to teach illegal majors, we should fully contact professional lawyers, judges, arbitrators, and other legal professionals who are keen on teaching to teach students. In this way, it can not only alleviate the problem of heavy workload of law teachers in colleges and universities, but also broaden students' horizons, so that students can lift legal practice earlier and in depth.

#### E. Reform of Examination Methods

At present, most of the undergraduate examinations in universities are closed-book and theoretical examinations, especially for students majoring in illegal studies. If the legal examinations are only closed-book and theoretical examinations, it is easy for students to memorize legal knowledge, so the investigation of students can be said to be not comprehensive and effective. Therefore, we should start to consider the reform of examination methods. For example, in the first stage of the above-mentioned study. the original closed-book and theoretical examination mode is adopted, and this part of the examination accounts for 50%. In the second stage of study, it focuses on the investigation of students' ability to use legal knowledge. For example, it examines students' case analysis ability, practical ability to solve disputes and contradictions under the legal framework, coordination ability, language expression ability, etc. At this stage, students can be assessed by small papers or mock courts according to the actual conditions of the school and the actual situation of students, and the assessment results account for 50%. In this way, we can not only examine students' mastery of theoretical knowledge, but also examine students' ability to solve practical problems under the legal framework, so that students can get an allround investigation.

#### V. CONCLUSION

Governing the country according to law is a great goal of the Chinese nation. It is an important link in the cultivation of talents in Chinese universities to carry out legal education for college students and improve their legal literacy. How to bring law into the classroom of students majoring in non-law is a subject that must be considered in the training of talents in colleges and universities in China.

It is a key link of legal popularization education in Chinese universities to let legal study enter the classroom of illegal college students, it is one of the effective ways to realize the rule of law, which is not only conducive to cultivating college students' awareness of using law to think about problems, but also conducive to improving college students' ability to solve contradictions and disputes under the legal framework.

University is not only a place to learn professional knowledge, but also the cradle for the Party and the country to train socialist successors. Therefore, we should pay special attention to the legal education of non-law majors in universities. Enable students to get close contact with the law in college, Form a correct legal consciousness, Cultivate your ability to solve problems by law, fully understand the close relationship between personal dignity and law, we should know our rights and fully clarify our obligations, and understand our obligations while driving our rights, so as to establish a correct outlook on life and values, know, understand and abide by the law, contribute our knowledge and strength to socialist construction, and contribute to the realization of governing the country according to law.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

#### AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Tan Xu and Guoqing Yang conducted the research, analyzed the data, and wrote the paper. All authors had approved the final version.

#### FUNDING

This paper is a research project of postgraduate teaching reform in Harbin Engineering University in 2021, "Application of Xi Jinping's Thought of Rule of Law in Postgraduate Jurisprudence Classroom (JG2021Y097)", the high-quality construction project of ideological and political courses for graduate students in Heilongjiang Province – "Jurisprudence Special Research" on the construction of ideological and political cases of courses, and "Law of the Sea", a school-level ideological and political case of Harbin Engineering University in 2021, "Deeply understand the profound connotation of General Secretary Xi Jinping's important speech on marine environmental protection". Phased research results of "Labor and Social Security Law", a brand curriculum construction project of Harbin Engineering University.

#### REFERENCES

 J. Jin, M. Xi, Z. Yu, and J. Li, "Research on the current situation and solutions of college students' legal literacy," *Science and Education Journal (mid-issue)*, no. 29, pp. 11–12, 2020.

- [2] F. Zhang, "Several problems to be clarified in the training of foreign-related legal professionals," *Research on New Liberal Arts Education*, no. 4, pp. 5–15+141, 2021.
- [3] R. Ma, "Investigation and analysis on the present situation of college students' rule of law education," *Legal System and Society*, 2016.
- [4] H. Wang, "Constructing a multi-level social security system consisting of social relief," *Social Insurance and Social Welfare*. *China Social Security*, no. 6, p. 7, 2019.
- [5] J. Zhang and Z. Li, "Dilemma and outlet of cultivating college students' spirit of rule of law," *Journal of Beihua University* (*Social Science Edition*), vol. 15, no. 2, pp. 146–149, 2014.
- [6] X. Guan, "Thoughts on practical legal education--Refutation and reflection on the theory of cancellation of legal edition," *Journal* of South China University of Technology (Social Science Edition), no. 6, pp. 27–32, 2007.
- [7] L. Chen, "On the teaching reform of law course and the cultivation of college students' legal awareness," *Education and Occupation*, no. 18, pp. 129–131, 2010.
- [8] X. Bai, "Innovation of talent training mode in colleges and universities based on the improvement of legal literacy," *Human Resources Development*, no. 16, pp. 9–11, 2022.

Copyright © 2024 by the authors. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License (<u>CC BY-NC-ND 4.0</u>), which permits use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided that the article is properly cited, the use is non-commercial and no modifications or adaptations are made.