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# A Case Study on the Integration of Moral Education and Fine Arts Disciplines

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**Abstract:** This study explores the integration of space spirit into art education for first-year students. Through case design and implementation, five thematic activities (e.g., solar system exploration, universe adventure) were developed using multimedia appreciation, interactive games, and physical cognition. The results show that students' understanding of space spirit deepened, leading to more innovative and visually rich artworks. The approach not only enhances artistic creativity but also cultivates national pride and moral values. Lessons learned emphasize the need for teachers to deeply grasp the space spirit's core, adopt diverse teaching methods, and encourage student autonomy.

**Keywords:** Low-age students; Space spirit; Art education; Moral education

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## 1. Students' demand for the integration of space spirit and art creation

Students' demand for the integration of space spirit and art creation is the core of this course design. In order to better meet this demand, we first conducted an in-depth investigation and research. The first-year students' understanding of the spirit of space travel and the picture effect is still on the surface. There are a large number of repetitions of elements in the relevant theme paintings. There is no self-innovation, but they have a strong interest in expression through art creation. Based on this, we have designed five theme activities, such as planet exploration in the solar system, planet design in the universe, understanding the development process of space, space adventure and distant starry sky, aiming to guide students to gain an in-depth understanding of the spirit of space travel and inspire their creative inspiration. At the same time, we have adopted a variety of teaching methods, such as multimedia appreciation and interactive games, to enhance students' sense of participation and experience.

During the implementation of the case, we found that students' understanding of the spirit of spaceflight gradually deepened, and they began to try to integrate this spirit into their work. For example, in the planetary exploration of the solar system, students created many dynamic solar system diagrams by observing the movement and characteristics of the planets. In the universe adventure, they used their imagination to create many narrative cosmic scenes. These works not only show students' understanding of the spirit of space travel, but also reflect their unique artistic perspective and creativity [1].

In order to further meet students' needs for the integration of space spirit and art creation, we will continue to explore more diversified expression techniques and teaching methods in future courses, and constantly optimise our teaching resources such as multimedia courseware and art materials to provide richer and higher quality creative materials.

# 2. Literature review

## 2.1. Research status of aerospace spirit at home and abroad

The research status of the spirit of spaceflight at home and abroad shows that the spirit of spaceflight plays a crucial role in the process of human exploration of the universe. With the continuous development of aerospace technology, more and more scholars have begun to pay attention to the study of the spirit of aerospace. In China, the spirit of space travel is regarded as a national spirit and is an important support for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. For example, the spirit of "two bombs and one star" and the spirit of manned spaceflight formed by Chinese aerospace science and technology workers in their long-term practice have become the spiritual treasures of the Chinese nation. In foreign countries, the spirit of space travel has also been widely studied. For example, the spirit of solidarity and cooperation and courage shown by NASA in the Apollo moon landing program has had a profound impact on American society and culture.

## 2.2. The expression of the spirit of space travel in art creation

The spirit of space travel is expressed in a variety of methods in art creation, which can be expressed in concrete and abstract ways. The concrete performance is mainly to let the audience intuitively feel the real scene of space travel by depicting the shape of the spacecraft, the dress and demeanour of the astronauts, etc. For example, in a space-themed art exhibition held by the National Museum of China, there is a concrete work depicting astronauts working in the space station. The picture is meticulous and amazing. Abstract expression is to express the concepts of exploration, innovation and transcendence in the spirit of space travel through the use of elements such as colour, lines and composition. For example, in a work with "black hole" as the creative theme, the author uses deep blue and twisted lines to show human desire to explore the unknown area of the universe and the spirit of challenge [2].

The expression of the spirit of space travel in art creation can also be realised through the combination with other art forms. For example, in installation art, artists can create unique visual effects by designing space-themed installation works and combining space elements with sculpture, painting and other art forms. In addition, digital art can also provide more possibilities for the expression of the spirit of space travel. For example, through virtual reality technology, the audience can experience the magnificent scene of space exploration and feel the power of the space spirit more deeply.

# 3. Case design

## 3.1. Course objectives

Guide students to understand the spirit of space travel, expand their creativity and imagination of the universe, and cultivate national pride.

In the process of guiding students to understand the spirit of space travel, we have adopted a variety of methods. Through physical cognition, we let students directly contact the spacecraft model and understand its structure and working principle, so as to have a more intuitive understanding of the spirit of space travel.

Secondly, we use multimedia resources to play documentaries and popular science videos about the history of space travel so that students can deeply understand the connotation and value of the spirit of space travel. In addition, we also organised group discussions to deepen understanding through communication and collision. In order to expand students' creativity and imagination of the universe, we have designed thematic activities such as solar system exploration and universe adventure.

In these activities, students can freely use their imagination to create pictures of the universe in their minds. At the same time, we also encourage students to use mind maps to present their own universe stories and cultivate their innovative thinking and expression skills. In terms of cultivating national pride, we focus on the development process and achievements of China's aerospace industry so that students can feel the pride of being Chinese. By playing videos of the life and work of Chinese astronauts in space, we let students have a deeper understanding of the brilliant achievements of China's aerospace industry [3].

## 3.2. Course content

### 3.2.1. Planetary exploration in the solar system - Understanding the movement, composition and planetary characteristics of the solar system

Planetary exploration of the solar system is the first lesson of this large unit course. Through this part, students can gain an in-depth understanding of the movement, composition and planetary characteristics of the solar system. In order to enhance students' cognition, teachers use Shiwo's multimedia resources to display detailed images and dynamic models of the solar system to help students intuitively understand the structure and movement laws of the solar system. At the same time, in combination with scientific knowledge, teachers guide students to analyse the appearance characteristics and reasons for the formation of various planets, which stimulates students' curiosity and desire to explore the universe. To quote the famous words of American astronomer Carl Sagan, "We are made up of stardust, and the universe is a part of us". Through such guidance, students can realise their close connection with the universe and cultivate their view of the universe.

### 3.2.2. Planet design in the universe - Design the planet in your heart

In the process of planet design in the universe, teachers guide students to use their imagination, understand the different types of planets in the universe, and design the planets in their hearts. This link can cultivate students' creativity and artistic aesthetic ability. In order to help students design better, teachers can provide some creative guidance and design suggestions to guide students to consciously and ideate the shape, climate, halo, pattern and other aspects of the planet. At the same time, teachers also guide students to refer to the knowledge of astronomical phenomena in reality to make their designs more realistic and credible. Through such activities, students' interest in space exploration can be further stimulated and their innovative thinking and problem-solving ability can be cultivated [4].

### 3.2.3. Cosmic adventure - Mind map to imagine the story of the universe

The story of space adventure is divided into two parts. One is the process of aerospace development, which will lead students to review the history of human exploration of space and understand the progress and future development direction of aerospace technology. Teachers use timeline charts to show major breakthroughs and milestones in aerospace technology so that students can have a comprehensive understanding of the development process of aerospace. In this part, in combination with China's aerospace achievements, students' sense of national pride is cultivated. Quoting the famous words of Qian Xuesen, the father of Chinese aerospace, "Aerospace technology is an important sign of a country's scientific and technological development level". Through such teaching, help students set up the lofty ambition of science and technology to contribute to the country.

The second is the way of mind mapping, which guides students to imagine four stories about the universe. This part will cultivate students' imagination and story creation ability. Through heuristic questions, appreciation of artists' works, etc., guides students to gradually develop their rich imagination and conceive interesting universe stories. At the same time, students are encouraged to apply the knowledge they have learned and the scenes in life into the story to make the story more realistic. In the process, students can also be guided to have group discussions and share so that they can inspire and exchange ideas with each other. Through such activities, students' cooperative learning and communication skills can be cultivated [5].

#### 3.2.4. Distant starry sky - Final creation, cosmic story presentation

In the distant starry sky, students will carry out the final creation - the presentation of the story of the universe. This link will comprehensively apply the content learned before so that students can present their own cosmic stories in the form of painting. In order to help students complete their creation better, some creative guidance and skill sharing will be provided, such as how to use colour, composition and detail performance. At the same time, students are encouraged to give full play to their personal style and creativity to make their works more unique and attractive. In this process, guide students to evaluate and appreciate each other's works so that they can get inspiration and enlightenment from other people's works. It can cultivate students' artistic appreciation and creativity.

### 3.3. Teaching methods

In the course of integrating space spirit and art creation, the application of innovative teaching methods is crucial to improving students' learning effects. As an intuitive teaching method, physical cognition can help students better understand the structure and function of spacecraft and improve their understanding of the spirit of aerospace. For example, VR technology shows high-definition three-dimensional rockets, allowing students to understand their structure face-to-face and deepen their understanding of spacecraft. At the same time, you can also enjoy high-definition planets through Shiwo multimedia so that students can have a deeper understanding of the movement, composition and planetary characteristics of the solar system and stimulate the creativity and imagination of the universe. In addition, watching space videos allows students to experience the magnificent scenes of the universe and enhance national pride. Completing the theme learning list can help students systematically sort out the learning content and deepen their understanding of the spirit of space travel. Appreciating the artist's creation can help students learn the creative skills and ideas of professional artists and improve their artistic level. Discussion and communication among students can promote the collision of ideas and expand the understanding of the spirit of space travel. Interactive multimedia games can allow students to learn knowledge in a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere and enhance the fun of learning [6].

As important teaching resources, multimedia courseware and art materials provide strong support for the implementation of teaching cases. First of all, the multimedia courseware shows students the content of the planetary exploration of the solar system, the design of the planet in the universe, the development process of space and the adventure of the universe through rich pictures, videos, and animations. These multimedia resources not only help students better understand the spirit of space travel, but also inspire their creative inspiration. For example, by watching videos of astronauts working in space, students can understand the mysteries of the universe more intuitively, so that they can more realistically express their characteristics when designing the planet in their minds.

We make full use of the advantages of multimedia courseware and art materials to provide students with a creative and imaginative learning environment. Through carefully designed multimedia courseware, we can vividly display the knowledge of the movement, composition and planetary characteristics of the solar system, helping students build an intuitive understanding of the universe. At the same time, rich art materials provide students with a wide creative space so that they can express their ideas through brushes [7].

## 4. Case summary

In the case summary section, we will focus on analysing the implementation effect of the case, lessons learned, and future development prospects. First of all, we will evaluate students' understanding and recognition of the spirit of space travel and analyse how they reflect the spirit of space travel in their art creation. Secondly, we will summarise the lessons learned in the implementation of the case and discuss how to better integrate the spirit of space travel and art creation. Finally, we will look forward to the future development and discuss how to further expand the application of the aerospace spirit in art creation.

### 4.1. Case implementation effect: Student picture effect

After the implementation of the case, we evaluated the picture's effect on the students. Most of the works are no longer the same creative structure as before. The works are not only visually more impactful, but also richer and more in-depth in story expression. For example, in paintings, students begin to pay attention to the relationship between the background and the subject and make a reasonable layout of rockets, planets, aliens, astronauts and other elements so that the whole picture has a clear hierarchy and a prominent theme. At the same time, they also pay more attention to details in the creative process, such as the distance between the planet and the colour transition, which reflects their attention to detail. In the story, we found that through the study of thematic courses, students showed surprising innovation in the creation of works. They are no longer limited to traditional creative ideas, but boldly try various novel storylines and character settings. For example, some students use a unique perspective to combine aliens with daily life to create cosmic stories full of life. In addition, some students try to integrate aviation elements into fantasy, science fiction and other unrealistic themes, making the works full of imagination. According to statistics, in this theme course, about 70% of students' works have different innovations in the content of the story, which is far higher than the average of similar courses. This shows that through the study of thematic courses, students have significantly improved in story creation. In terms of rich pictures, students skilfully use colours and lines to create pictures with visual impact. For example, the universe scene described by a student uses bold colours and flowing lines to create a dreamy atmosphere, making people feel like they are in an endless imagination. These works fully prove the students' excellent performance in picture creativity and imagination and reflect the continuous exploration and innovation in the spirit of aerospace.

### 4.2. Case lessons learned: How to better integrate the spirit of space travel and art creation

In the lessons learned from the case, we found that in order to better integrate the spirit of aerospace and art creation, we need to pay attention to the following aspects. First of all, teachers need to deeply understand the core value of the spirit of spaceflight and closely combine it with art classes. Think about how teachers can guide students to deeply explore the elements of exploration, innovation and hard work in the spirit of space through learning space classes and integrate them into their work. Secondly, teachers need to adopt more diversified teaching methods and means to stimulate students' interest in learning and creativity. For example, VR, AI, interactive games and other ways allow first-year students to feel the progress of aerospace spiritual science and technology and the charm of art creation in a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere. Finally, teachers need to give students full independent exploration, respect students' unique ideas and guide students to express and create their own ideas, encourage them to give full play to their imagination and creativity and organically integrate the spirit of space travel with art creation.

### 4.3. Future development prospects of cases: How to further expand the application of space spirit in art creation

In the future development outlook part of the case, it is necessary to further explore in depth how to further expand the application of space spirit in art creation. First of all, we need to continue to deepen students' understanding of the spirit of space travel. By adding relevant reading materials and field visits, students can feel the connotation of space spirit more intuitively. Secondly, in order to better integrate the spirit of space travel and art creation, we can introduce more innovative teaching methods to let students experience the mysteries of the universe or invite space experts and artists to jointly carry out creative guidance to stimulate students' creative inspiration. In addition, we can also encourage students to actively participate and improve their creative enthusiasm by holding exhibitions and selection activities on space-themed artworks. In order to evaluate the expansion effect, we can establish a comprehensive evaluation system including students' creative achievements, understanding of the spirit of space travel, and the improvement of art creation ability, so as to better guide future teaching work.

## Disclosure statement

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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