

## The Study of Thailand Chinese Teaching Policy in Chinese Teaching of the Faculty of Education, Khon Kaen University

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### Abstract

With the further strengthening of Sino-Thai cultural exchange, more and more people in Thailand started to learn Chinese, and Chinese culture, this drove Thailand “Chinese fever” arising, and many universities have opened Chinese professional undergraduate and MBA courses, to meet the current demand. This paper took Khon Kaen University foreign language teaching program as the research object, analyzed the project background, basic content, main existing problems and countermeasures, put forward the reference to other university Chinese teaching.

### Background

Thailand and China are friendly neighbor since ancient times. as far back as thirteenth Century, there is a large number of Chinese immigrants in Thailand that makes Thailand has become the world's major countries of Chinese population. Chinese education in Thailand has a long history. , more and more people in Thailand started to learn Chinese, and Chinese culture, this drove Thailand “Chinese fever” arising, and many universities have opened Chinese professional undergraduate and MBA courses. With the rapid growth of Chinese economy, the further enhancement of national strength, the international community paid more and more attention to China, the up-rising of China 's international status, people who are fond of learning Chinese all over the world grows day and day, and Chinese international

influence is also growing. In order to adapt to the various aspects of cooperation and exchanges between the two countries to meet the expanding demands, Thailand is committed to training talents of knowing Chinese for national development and construction services. People are keen on learning Chinese, the number of people learning Chinese is increasing rapidly. Many schools offer Chinese courses. But on the surface of prosperity at the same time we also can discover that Chinese teaching in Thailand has not formed the standard model. In order to solve the problem of lacking of Chinese teachers, Khon Kaen University started to establish a cooperative relationship with China Southwest University (西南大学), joint qualified Chinese teachers.

From the beginning of 2007, the Faculty of Education of Khon Kaen University opened a

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foreign Chinese language professional. With the establishment of Confucius Institute at Khon Kaen University, which have lay the Chinese professional in strength and influence on the walk in the forefront of the Facultys and universities in Thailand. Five years ago, Faculty of Education of Khon Kaen University has adapted the 2007 curriculum. The Thailand Commission on Higher Education stipulated that the university should make timely adjustment of education planning and policy every 5 years according to the changes of the world pattern, Asia economic and trade development, cultural and political changes, therefore, the Khon Kaen University Faculty of Education now are using Thailand Qualification Framework for Higher Education (TQF)of 2012. This paper focused on the study and analyses on this Thailand Qualification Famework for Higher Education.

### 2012 Chinese teaching policy of the Faculty of Education, Khon Kaen University

#### 1. 2012 Chinese teaching policy target

课程分类 Classification of Curriculum	学分 (至少) credits
非专业 General Education	30
-语言 Humanities and Social Sciences -文学 Language -科学 Sciences Mathematics	9 12 9
必修课 Specialization	139
-教师专业课 Teaching Profession -实习 Teaching Experience -汉语专业课 Major course(Chinese)	38 16 79
选修课 Elective courses	6

(see table below):

In 2012 the Chinese teaching policy aims to cultivate all-round development of talents for twenty-first Century and command of Chinese language literature basic theory, basic knowledge, basic skills, having more skilled Chinese teaching ability and advanced education concept, and judge who can be a teacher or high level of high-quality researchers and educators of Chinese language and literature teaching and research in the higher and middle school<sup>1</sup>.

#### 2. 2012 Chinese teaching content of policies

In 2007 Khon Kaen University Faculty of Education was developed the 2007 curriculum. According to the Higher Education Commission regulations, Faculty of Education in 2012 has made some adjustment of the scheme to adapt to the Faculty of Education of Khon Kaen University. That is,5-year Teacher Education Program.

##### 1) Curriculum:

The education system of teaching profession is for five years, offering a total of 64 courses, minimum credits reach 174 credits

<sup>1</sup> ໄປປີຄົນາ “ໜຸ້ມຸດທຳ” ໃນການເຮັດວຽກສອນພາສາຈີນໃນປະເທດໄທ. <http://www.manager.co.th/China/ViewNews.aspx?NewsID=9510000127646>

at the same time, according to the association of Southeast Asian Nations (referred to as the ASEAN --Association of South-East Asia: ASEAN) economic development, political development and the variation tendency of Chinese economy, trade and foreign influence, as well as the need of Chinese talent in the workplace, Faculty of Education Khon Kaen University started to make timely adjustment of the curriculum, so that it is timeliness.

2) Requirements for students as well as the development of students' comprehensive quality:

- Take the student as the center to promote the practice of classroom teaching.

- Arrange work based learning (Work-base learning) activities.

- Arrange teaching practice and establish academic service center.

- Take the student as the center to promote the classroom practice: develop the students' initiative and capabilities, improve students' problem solving skills. Straighten out the relationship between teachers and students is the key to deal with to teaching and learning.

- Arrangement of work based learning (Work-base learning) activities: specific educational function. The goal of the practice of extra-curricular learning is to help students to explore, taking innovation spirit and the practice ability, through guiding students to actively participate in the natural activities and social life, with the help of practice activities, to enrich the students with the knowledge, experience, the development of self, so as to better complete the personnel training target.

- The creation of students in practical work of teaching opportunities and establish academic service center: meet the needs of learners, the learning and work together, so that at the work site to create new opportunities for learning in the university curriculum plan. This kind of learning pattern targeted relatively strong, students can obtain very important experience, and better accomplish the learning goals, and enhance interest in learning, stimulate learning motivation, achieve a better teaching effect. But teachers of all educational institutions have their own education evaluation standards on the students internship, and requirements for the students are not the same, and the students are always influenced by the teacher 's subjective effects, therefore in practice, they do not truly reflect the actual teaching problems<sup>2</sup>.

3) Teaching Management:

- In classroom or extracurricular situation, encourage students to use Chinese to communicate and conduct Chinese communicative activities.

- In classroom or extracurricular situation, encourage students to use Chinese to communicate and organize activities: in the classroom and extracurricular activities to encourage students to use Chinese, cultivating students' Chinese ability. However, at present, Thailand are lack of overseas Chinese teachers, in addition to classroom activities, but also in the creation of Chinese extracurricular language environment, improve students' listening, speaking, reading, writing four aspects of language level, the teachers is.

<sup>2</sup> 2012 Thailand Qualification Framework for Higher Education in Chinese Teaching of the Faculty of Education.(2012). In Thai. Faculty of education, Khon Kaen University



#### 4) Requirements for teachers:

- According to the goal of the Basic Education Commission, set up foreign language and teaching master and doctoral degree.

- According to the goal of The Thailand Commission on Higher Education, set up foreign language and teaching master and doctoral degree: make the students to get a certificate of teaching profession. As the requirements and rules of The Thailand Commission on Higher Education to make the teachers to get professional knowledge of teaching, training Chinese language teachers and to solve the problem of lacking of teachers.

On Teachers' occupation code of ethics and behavior standards, arrange the related activities, so that they have the qualification of Chinese Teaching:

#### **The Chinese language teaching policy issues of the Faculty of Education, Khon Kaen University**

From language teaching policy point of view, in TQF that there are several aspects of the problem:

##### **1. The definition of “international education standard” is not clear**

The plan should be developed on the basis of the international education program. that in order to achieve the goal of “ International Education ”, the Commission on higher education should give the concept of the specific definition of the nature, scope and procedures.

##### **2. There are lot of Chinese activities inside and outside the classroom, but qualified teachers are not enough.**

In the classroom activities, in the free course of study ( Independent Study ), students

can take part in teaching activities according to their own interest in the topic, the author advocates “ - According to the arrangement of group performance with “ help each other concept ”, good students and poor students can work together.

#### **3. Each institutions of education internship evaluation standards are not the same, leading to the differences of the practical ability and their scores.**

All the time since, Faculty are continuing to holding students training before practice (course lecture: Orientation), but in practice, teachers are not subject to the same training and standards of practice education.

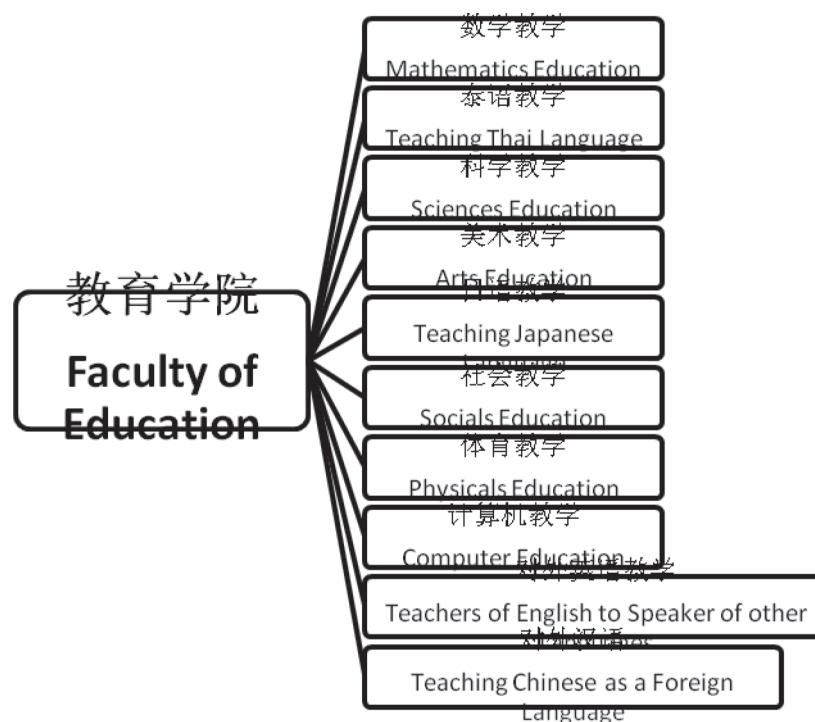
#### **4. There are not enough teachers and overloading work for them**

At present, only a few doctoral degree teachers who graduated in Thailand are teaching Chinese as a foreign language. The numbers are very small. Those few people are not willing to perform this heavy workload teaching work but with less pay. Therefore, the educational institutions were forced to accept the master's degree graduates finally, and these graduate students have to leave the position for the application of further study one or two years of teaching work.

#### **Foreign language policy on the promotion of design recommendations**

Department of Faculty of Education, Khon kaen University

Khon Kaen city is the center of northeast Thailand, also the education center. Khon Kaen University is located in Khon Kaen City, with a total of 17 Facultys.. Now the University 's Faculty of education has 10 majors, of which



the foreign language education department opens: 1, In 2004, Teaching English as a foreign language (TESOL), 2. in 2004 Japanese Teaching Professional (TJL),with the cooperation of Japanese university; 3, in 2007 Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language (TCFL). We can say, in order to encourage the students to get knowledge, practical ability training of Chinese language and experience accumulated in the purpose, therefore, Faculty of education, has made timely adjustment of policies, and launched a cooperation with the United States, Japan and China. For example, in accordance with the professional, we encourage students to go to China, the United States and Japan for the studies in abroad.

### 1. To establish a Chinese teacher training center in the Faculty of education

Khon Kaen University Faculty of education has received a national acclaim in cultivating teachers. In view of the current Thailand existing

domestic Chinese teacher professional knowledge and their professional skills are not ideal, with the use of high-quality teachers and the advanced teaching equipment, we have set up the teachers' training centre for Chinese teachers to encourage their professional skills.

### 2. Establishment of Faculty of education of Khon Kaen University as a comprehensive learning center

In addition to the establishment of teacher training center, we can also create a comprehensive learning center. Because the Khon Kaen University has a possession of modern communication teaching equipment, professional team of teachers and the right environment, it can encourage the learners to study.

### 3. More attending Thailand university students enrolling meeting

Because, each year in Thailand, every Faculty and university will hold exhibitions of

entrance examination, in order to make the students and other people have a clear understanding of each professional content, the educational Faculty should participate in the education exhibition.

#### 4. Expansion of media publicity

Advertising is a media. It can make people know, and understand the current situation. Advertising is now one of the media. The advertisement not only can appear in the press, but also can appear in TV, radio, magazine, network. Use of advertising to promote Chinese can achieve better results.

#### 5. Holding the Chinese Club for Chinese students

According to the teaching plan provision, encouraging students to use Chinese to communicate and conduct in activities inside or outside of the classroom. Teachers and schools may hold a joint camping, making the students learn more Chinese and better use of Chinese, at the same time make students clearly understand the teaching profession.

Through extracurricular activities, the school can also promote their language program, to encourage students join in the school Chinese club.

### Discussion

1. Take the student as the center to promote the classroom practice: develop the students' initiative and capabilities, improve students' problem solving skills. Straighten out the relationship between teachers and students is the key to deal with to teaching and learning. (The author thinks, if the student's main body consciousness is very strong, and full of the self-discipline of self-learning ability, then the

teaching taking the students as the center will beyond one extreme. In this case, the leading role of teachers is very weak, even if there is. It is also possible for a student to ignore. If the student's main body consciousness is not strong, and autonomic self-learning ability is very weak, then the students will be very difficult to effectively manage their learning. The leading role of the teacher is to increase relatively. In the most extreme case, the teacher goes back to a complete control of the students' learning activities. For this situation, teachers should try to enhance students' subject consciousness and learning ability, make the teaching back to the right track. Teachers should carefully observe the students' independent ability and learning ability changes, and do not always point their fingers on the students' learning

2. In classroom or extracurricular situation, encourage students to use Chinese to communicate and organize activities: in the classroom and extracurricular activities to encourage students to use Chinese, cultivating students' Chinese ability. However, at present, Thailand are lack of overseas Chinese teachers, in addition to classroom activities, but also in the creation of Chinese extracurricular language environment, improve students' listening, speaking, reading, writing four aspects of language level, the teachers is. The author think ,they need to make great efforts, burdening the great workload.

### Conclusion

With China's increasing enhancement of comprehensive national strength, and the deepen relationship with neighboring countries and even the world of politics, economy, culture

communication, the demand to learn Chinese all the countries in the world is also rising, Thailand walks in at least the forefront of Asian countries. In Thailand, the government is highly praised Chinese and Chinese culture policy has had a great impact on their enthusiasm for Thailand

people to learn Chinese. This article only cast a brick, and expecting people who love this piece of land of Thailand, and to deepen the Sino-Thai cultural exchanges, together providing the good plan for the development of Chinese teaching business plan with the Thailand University.

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