

Constructing Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) Playing Techniques Guidebook for Teaching Five Level Guzheng Students at Guangdong Guzheng Society

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Abstract

The objectives of this study were (1) To study the Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques from the key informants. (2) To construct Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques Guidebook for teaching five level Guzheng students at Guangdong province. (3) To experiment the Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques Guidebook for teaching five level, and (4) To evaluate the efficiency of using Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques Guidebook for teaching five level Guzheng students. The research methodology was conducted through mixed research method. The study examines the curriculum development at Chao Zhou Zheng School in Jingnan Province using a mixed-methods approach.

The research results found that (1) The Guzheng, an ancient Chinese zither, has evolved through traditional performance methods and modern advancements. Its distinctive charm and fusion of art forms influence music. Innovative approaches, including personalized learning, engaging activities, and big data analysis, can improve teaching quality. (2) Experts recommended content for a Zheng playing techniques guidebook, consisting of six units, sixteen lesson plans, and sixteen weeks of instruction. Topics include Chaozhou Zheng history, notation, performance techniques, practice repertoire, expressiveness, and ensemble. The guidebook was evaluated for accuracy. (3) The Chaozhou Zheng playing techniques guidebook experiment was conducted in 2023 with level 5 students at Chao Zhou Zheng School. Three experts predicted the training for guzheng professionals. Tests were conducted on 30 students, with scores corresponding to the manual. The study yielded an average score of 81.95. And (4) The study focuses on improving intermediate-level students' understanding of Chaozhou Zheng music through performance, knowledge assessment, and notation singing abilities. 15 students were purposively sampled and their learning stages were critically evaluated. Three Chaozhou Zheng specialists provided a summative evaluation and scoring for the participants. The formative tests covered classes 1 to 4, lessons 5 to 8, and lessons 9 to 12, with an average score of 81.66, indicating the training content's effectiveness in improving students' understanding.

Keywords: Constructing; Guzheng; Chaozhouzheng; Playing Techniques; Guidebook; Guangdong Guzheng Society

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Introduction

Chaozhou Zheng's contribution in promoting intercultural understanding needs to be considered in today's pursuit of increased global connectivity. The study aims to broaden the perspective of different ethnic groups in musical skills, particularly in Lingnan, and explore its potential as a global cultural ambassador (Wu, 2018). By looking at its historical development and adaptation to various musical styles, Chaozhou Zheng transcends geographical and cultural boundaries, serving as a treasure of Chinese culture and other cultures from around the world. Previous studies have identified the influence of institutions such as the Gu Zheng School on music education. However, a boarder reflection is required for Chao Zhou Zheng in designing its plan of music education, where it may influence broader trends in music education. This study provides valuable insights for educators and policymakers in relevant fields to consider the importance of effective teaching strategies and employing innovated technology (Cheng & Hu, 2022). While documenting and promoting Gu Zheng's unique characteristics is important, the Chaozhou Zheng's potential as a global music phenomenon deserves further investigation. The impact of Chaozhou Zheng's influence beyond national boundaries should be explored to increase global recognition and appreciation of its various styles and cultural significance.

This study highlights the importance of preserving and promoting China's traditional musical cultural heritage through innovative approaches to the Chao Zhou Zheng school curriculum. It aims to adapt to the changing landscape of music education by addressing new challenges and opportunities, ensuring that Chaozhou Zheng emerges continuously as a vibrant and culturally relevant art in today's new era. The Chaozhou Guzheng School Curriculum construction is crucial for preserving Chaozhou's rich musical heritage and promoting cultural self-reliance. To ensure efficiency and effectiveness, careful analysis of the curriculum construction's strategic planning and structure is required. The study aims to overcome barriers and challenges by improving its ability to increase cultural originality and awareness for the musical heritage of Chaozhou Zheng. Inspired by the historical careers of Chaozhou Zheng artists, the study aims to develop a comprehensive curriculum consistent with the mission of the school. The aim is to expand theoretical knowledge, deepen musical expression, and integrate regional musical styles. By exploring the background of Chaozhou Zheng artists, the study contributes to the continuous improvement of the program.

Preserving spiritual heritage, promoting cultural pride and identity, and ensuring the preservation of Chaozhou traditions for future generations are pressing issues. The study examines how these challenges can be positively addressed through the development and improvement of the Chao Chu Zheng School curriculum, contributing to the long-term preservation and revitalization of Chaozhou's musical traditions.

Research Objectives

1. To study the Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques from the key informants.
2. To construct Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques Guidebook for teaching five level Guzheng students at Guangdong province.
3. To experiment the Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques Guidebook for teaching five level.
4. To evaluate the efficiency of using Guzheng (Chaozhouzheng) playing techniques Guidebook for teaching five level Guzheng students.

Research Methodology

This research is a mixed-methods research approach that combines quantitative and qualitative methods to determine the significance and rationale behind the Chao Zhou Zheng School's curriculum development.

Quantitative Method: Quantitative research focuses on evaluating students' academic performance. To interview and observation for Chaozhou Zheng playing techniques from the key informants, this method, quantitative data is gathered to evaluate the effects of curriculum implementation.

Qualitative Method: By incorporating the experiences and professional opinions of Chao Zhou Zheng School to develop a successful curriculum, the qualitative study complements the quantitative findings. (Formative test, Summative test, Performance test, IOC form)

Conceptual Framework

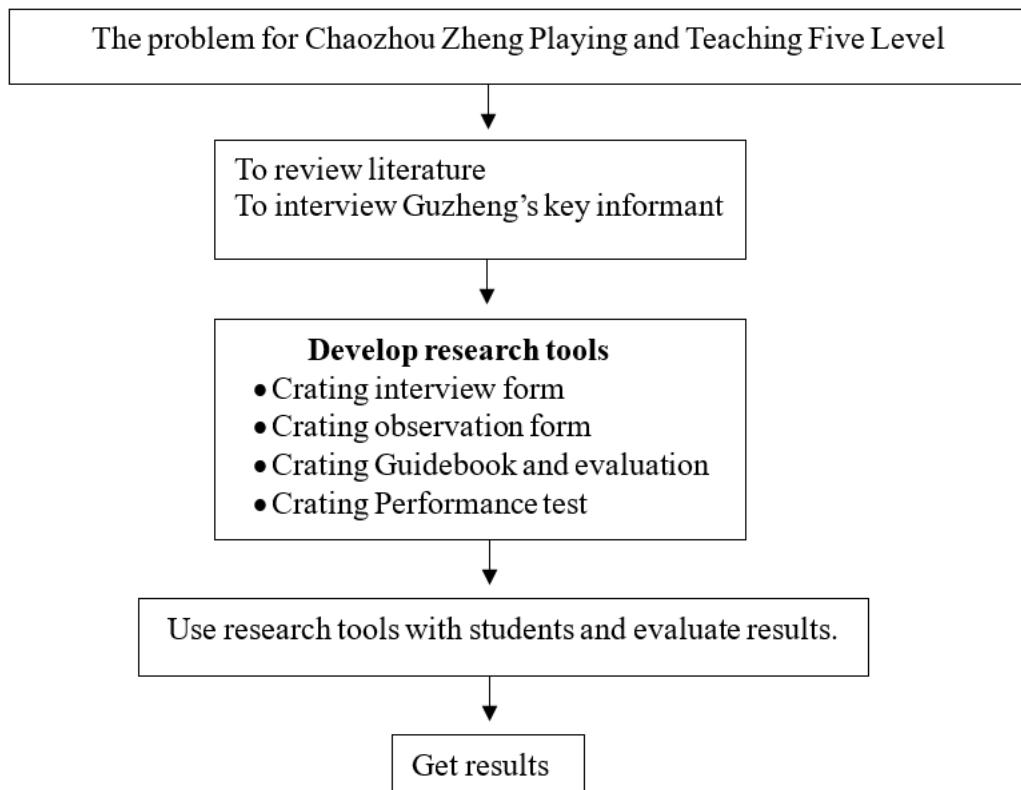


Figure 1 Conceptual Framework

Research Findings

Aim 1) The Guzheng, an ancient Chinese zither with a rich history of over 2,000 years, has evolved through traditional performance methods and modern advancements. The Chaozhou Zheng, a term referring to customs and innovations in the region, includes cooking techniques, herbaceous dipping sticky seasoning, and string adjustment devices. The distinctive national charm and charming manner of the Teochew Guzheng are a result of the traditional performing methods developed during the instrument's more than 2,000-year history.

Guzheng playing techniques include six fingerings like "Yao" and 100% accuracy using Random Forest. The fusion of different art forms, such as Kunqu Opera and Peking Opera, has influenced Guzheng music, leading to innovative adaptations like the Deep Night piece. Recent studies have proposed an end-to-end Guzheng playing technique detection system using Fully Convolutional Networks to detect playing techniques with high accuracy.

Teaching high-level Guzheng playing techniques can be improved through innovative approaches that emphasize personalized learning, fun teaching activities, technological integration, and big data analysis. By reforming the traditional Guzheng education model, incorporating teaching functions into the instrument for real-time accuracy feedback, designing engaging activities, utilizing big data analysis to optimize teaching quality, and implementing a Guzheng playing prompting system with indicator lights, educators can provide comprehensive and effective instruction in Guzheng playing techniques.

Aim 2) The experts provided recommendations for content creation for a Zheng playing techniques guidebook. The guidebook consists of six units, sixteen lesson plans, and sixteen weeks of instruction. The researchers created a sequential lesson plan and three tests, totaling 1 weeks. The guidebook includes topics such as the history of Chaozhou Zheng, notation, basic performance techniques, practice repertoire and training methods, cultivating expressiveness, and ensemble. The author developed a new book cover design and presented it to teachers and students for selection. The performance test items included 65% performance, 20% knowledge, and 15% notation singing. The guidebook was evaluated for accuracy and suitability by three highly qualified experts.

Aim 3) The Chaozhou Zheng playing techniques guidebook experiment was conducted in semester 2 of 2023 with pupils from the Chao Zhou Zheng School, level 5. The experimental training for guzheng professionals was evaluated based on predictions made by three experts before the training began. Tests were conducted on 30 students, six level Guzheng students' group, with scores corresponding to three sections of the manual. The researchers analyzed the average scores and conducted statistical sampling on these scores.

The examination consisted of three parts: performance, knowledge assessment, and notation singing abilities, each weighted at 100%. The researchers calculated the percentage scores of expert assessments and each test component to ensure accuracy in data analysis. After experts evaluated the research tool, the researchers tested it with another group of 30 students, resulting in an average score of 81.95.

Aim 4) The study consists of three parts: performance, knowledge assessment, and notation singing abilities. The researchers used purposive sampling of 15 intermediate-level students for the training, and each student's learning stage was critically evaluated. The final summative evaluation is essential for assessing the usefulness of this guideline. Three Chaozhou Zheng specialists will provide a summative evaluation and scoring for the participants at the course's conclusion.

The first formative test covers classes 1 to 4, focusing on the basic theoretical knowledge of Chaozhou Zheng music. The training content includes mastery of Ersi notation singing and playing Xi Jiang Yue and employing the light-three-six tuning scale. The second formative test, covering Lessons 5 to 8, focuses on training in the Chaozhou Zheng piece Sifan, which includes playing Sifan and basic theories of light-three heavy-six mode. The third formative test, lessons 9 to 12, focuses on the instruction of the Chaozhou Zheng piece Fen Die Cai Hua, which consists of the game of Fen Die Cai Hua and the distinction between light-six mode and heavy-six mode. The summative test is crucial for the final experimental results and is the definitive assessment of the efficacy of this guideline.

The summative test has an average score of 81.66, which is higher than the formative test, average 72.56. The results show that the training content is effective in improving students' understanding of Chaozhou Zheng music, with students scoring above 70 points in the first formative test and above 80 in the second formative test.

Discussion

Current Chaozhou Zheng learning challenges: The researcher concentrated on Chaozhou Zheng history, fundamental theoretical understanding, "Er Si" notation, practical performance training, and coordination with other instruments during instruction. Thus, the researcher will emphasize these points. In the early days, most Chaozhou Zheng instruction was passed down orally without a definite teaching system, resulting in dispersed teaching and the inability to build a scientific teaching system, which hinders its promotion and growth. Taochew zhengs are treasures of traditional Chinese music with rich cultural and historical roots. However, today's fast-changing culture presents several obstacles. One of the biggest issues facing the Chaozhou Zheng now is that modern multiculturalism has reduced public interest in it, especially among young people. Second, hereditary genius is scarce. As the elder generation of artists ages, fresh inheritors are few and their professional level must be raised. Thirdly, commercialization and utilitarianism have led some artists to prioritize economic gains over the traditional Chaozhou Zheng style's heritage and inventiveness. We should take certain steps to safeguard the Chaozhou Zheng (Chen et al., 2004). First, we should promote the Charm of the Chaozhou Zheng through various media outlets and educate more people about its unique musical worth. We can host multi-generational performances, seminars, and exhibitions online and offline. Second, we should consider educational inheritance and teach the Chaozhou Zheng in school and community music education to engage and develop young people. Also, we should stimulate inventive development, blending the Chaozhou Zheng with new musical components and creating compositions that fulfill current aesthetic needs while retaining its traditional beauty (Chen, 1978). Finally, the government and society should create a special protection fund to fund and defend inheritors and research institutes. We can only revive the Chaozhou Zheng in modern society and preserve its legacy by working together (Cheng & Hu, 2022).

Making a Chaozhou Zheng curriculum guide: After interviewing Chaozhou Zheng specialists and creating a practical teaching guide, the researcher wants to create a thorough teaching practice plan to improve teaching performance. Teaching guidelines are essential to university teaching and learning. (He, 2003; Li, 2004). However, many teaching departments and teachers ignore this component in the existing system. Teachers receive course instruction through teaching plans. The teaching plan is an essential tool for instructors and a more thorough teaching career. Chaozhou Zheng teaching guide growth has many profound and vital guiding meaning.

First, it establishes Chaozhou Zheng teaching standards. Streamlining the teaching process reduces unpredictability and blindness, assuring teaching quality consistency and reliability. Second, it gives teachers clear instructions and approaches. Senior instructors and new teachers may learn useful teaching ideas and tactics, enhance their teaching, and optimize and innovate teaching approaches. Thirdly, it preserves and promotes Chaozhou Zheng music. This guidebook may preserve the Chaozhou Zheng's distinctive skills, musical style, and cultural significance, letting this historic artistic gem to flourish in modern society. Four, it helps students master the Chaozhou Zheng. Clear teaching procedures, clear explanations, and examples may help students start fast, enhance learning efficiency, and ignite their Chaozhou Zheng love.

In conclusion, the Chaozhou Zheng teaching guide is a milestone in the area and has great value for the inheritance, development, and promotion of the instrument. This teaching guide is required and guides teaching plans. This curriculum learning guide is based on expert comments from field specialists and serves as the teaching guide.

Experimental group utilizing teaching guide: By studying the theoretical knowledge of the Chaozhou Zheng, its origins and evolution in zheng music history, its background significance and musical style characteristics, and its basic content, new works suitable for students to learn and perform can be created, preserving and promoting the music. (Rosdianto & Sumarli, 2021). First, the Chaozhou Zheng curriculum themes are chosen based on its musical style and regional style. Students can also learn the "Er Si" notation to better grasp Chaozhou Zheng style and charm. Additionally, students can watch and emulate great artists using numerous multimedia tools (Fu, 2021). Finally, students will understand the required theoretical knowledge and musical performance, think and invent, and establish the groundwork for their own Chaozhou Zheng art and its new growth.

Recommendations

Practical Recommendations

It should be tested by applying to other educational institutions and continuously and sincerely improving the research tools. according to the needs of students and is modern.

Students should perform and learn differently. Students can develop a persistent interest in learning Chaozhou Zheng, positive psychological traits, and a love of music by practicing with various instruments.

1. Recommendation for future research

The origins and evolution of Teochew and Lingnan zheng art must be studied. Chaozhou Zheng training emphasizes actual performance, although theoretical understanding is also essential.

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