

# Creative Yangjiang Folk Music Solfeggio Guidebook in Music Education Major of Yangjiang Polytechnic at Guangdong

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## Abstract

The purposes of this study were 1) to study the Yangjiang folk music, 2) to study Solfeggio course, 3) to create a Yangjiang folk music Solfeggio guidebook, 4) to use the guidebook for teaching music education students, and 5) to evaluate effective of guidebook or learning. This research was the mixed method research which combine the qualitative and experimental research method. The key informants were 2 Yangjiang folk music experts, 3 Solfeggio experts.

The research findings were Yangjiang folk music mainly includes Yangjiang folk songs, flower paper, nursery rhymes, saltwater songs, Bai Lan, boatman's number and so on. Among them, Yangjiang folk song, saltwater song, flower paper and boatman's number are listed as intangible heritage. The general music is based on the Pentatonic Yu mode and Zhi mode. It also gives 23 Yangjiang folk music pieces suitable for college students to learn. The test results show that the students have a better understanding of Yangjiang folk music solfeggio, national mode, dictation music, Yangjiang folk music, music composition has made great progress, all aspects have been greatly improved.

**Keywords:** Creative; Yangjiang Folk Music; Solfeggio; Guidebook; Yangjiang Polytechnic; Guangdong

## Introduction

Solfeggio lessons originated in European. According to the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, Solfeggio is "A term orminally referring to the singing of seales, Interyals and melodic exereises to solemnization Syllables". It's basic mission is to "*organize and develop students' musical hearing and train them to actively apply their hearing to creative and performance practice*". This course is one of the most important basic disciplines for music major. In addition to dictation, Solfeggio and auditory analysis, the Solfeggio course will also involve basic musical forms, harmony, polyphony and music background culture, so that students can fully understand music, improve the aesthetic ability of music, and apply the knowledge learned to artistic practice. At present, Solfeggio courses have been taught in the western music system in the university. Most of the teaching content is western music materials, while folk music materials are rarely used. The guidebook used for the Solfeggio course in Yangjiang Polytechnic is the *Monophonic Solfeggio* published by Shanghai Music Publishing House. The book mainly focuses on the major and minor key system. In my opinion with a Solfeggio Guidebook in Chinese folk music training, it is far from enough. In the multi-cultural background, we should learn from foreign music culture at the same time, we must not ignore the study of our national culture (Li, 2022).

School music education as an important way of national music culture. Solfeggio as a basic course of music education major, brings folk music materials into teaching, guides students' interest in folk music, and accumulates rich folk music language, which is of great significance to the inheritance and development of folk music. In recent years, scholars attach great importance to the study of combining folk music with Solfeggio. The relevant literature research found on CNKI includes 71 postgraduate papers and 88 journal papers. However, there are not many Solfeggio books related to Chinese folk music. Based on Solfeggio, these guidebooks combine Chinese folk music in a scientific way, making traditional Solfeggio teaching more national. However, the content of Solfeggio training materials is still not enough in terms of localization (Feng, 2014).

Yangjiang folk music is listed as the intangible cultural heritage of Guangdong Province. It is a kind of original music culture in Yangjiang, which has important historical and cultural value. It can be seen that the research on Yangjiang folk music is in the beginning stage, and the research theory is not yet mature. Therefore, it is of great significance for the inheritance and development of Yangjiang folk music to compile the guidebook of Yangjiang folk music solfeggio course, excavate representative Yangjiang folk music, enrich the localized content of Solfeggio teaching, and apply it in the Solfeggio course to improve students' aesthetic ability and appreciation of local music culture (Ma, 2021).

## **Research Objectives**

1. To study the Yangjiang folk music
2. To study Solfeggio course
3. To create a Yangjiang folk music Solfeggio guidebook
4. To use the guidebook for teaching music education students
5. To evaluate effective of guidebook or learning

## **Research Methodology**

The research methodology is mix method research.  
Qualitative research collected data by observation and interview  
Quantitative research was the experimental research which collected data by using formative and summative test to evaluate the result of teaching by using guidebook.

### **Key informants**

Key informants: 2 Yangjiang folk music experts, 3 Solfeggio experts.

### **Population**

Second year students in music education, two class, 79 people.

### **Sample**

20 people (1 Class 10 people)

Student in the Solfeggio course by purposive sampling as follow:

- 1) Students who have learned solfeggio.
- 2) Students willing to participate in the experiment.
- 3) Each class was randomly divided into 4 groups with about 10 students in each group, and one group was selected as the sampling. There were two groups of samples, 20 people in total.

**Place**

Yangjiang Polytechnic, Yangjiang city Guangdong, China.

**Data collection**

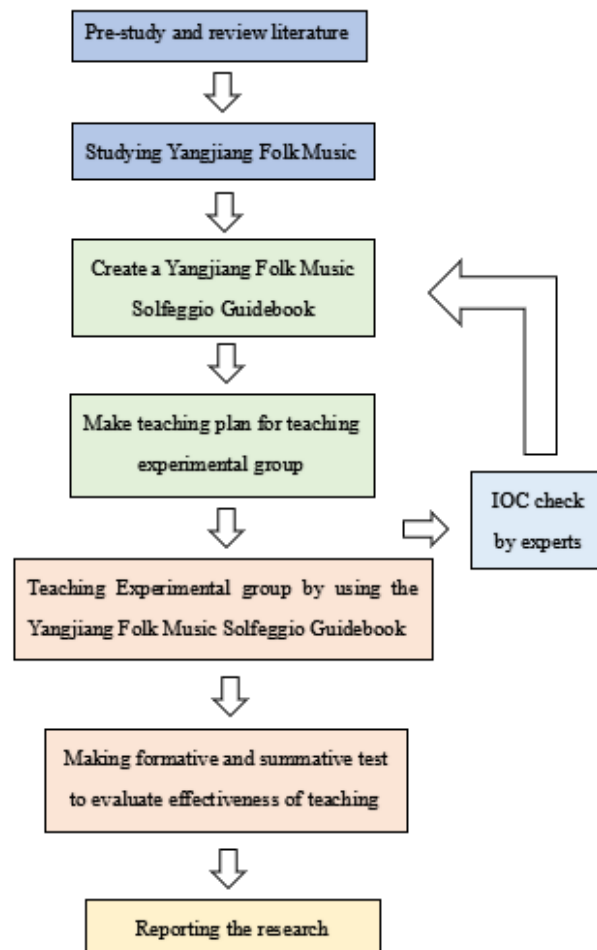
1. Pre-study and review literatur and study guidebook method

First of all, start with the research topic, collect a lot of relevant literature, and then through reading, analysis, induction, sorting out the current topics and problems. Also learn how to write a guidebook.

2. Studying Yangjiang folk music

There are many kinds of folk music in Yangjiang, which is generally passed from mouth to mouth. Firstly, the types of folk songs are sorted out from the literature, and then the experts are interviewed to learn, and the appropriate folk songs are selected for the guide book.

**Conceptual Framework**



**Figure 1** Conceptual Framework

## Research Findings

### 1. The analysis interviewed with expert of Yangjiang folk music

After four interviews with two Yangjiang folk music experts about the teaching of Yangjiang folk songs, the following conclusions are reached.

1) The method of evaluation is generally based on examination, and the students' familiarity with Yangjiang folk songs is investigated before the class starts. After a period of study, mid-term exams are carried out to evaluate the learning effectiveness. According to the evaluation of the mid-term exam, the teaching plan should be adjusted appropriately to make the teaching results better. Finally make the final exam, the overall evaluation of the learning effect. In addition, it is also a good way to show the learned folk music through stage activities.

2) Yangjiang folk music is generally sung in Yangjiang dialect, Yangjiang folk songs have more than ten kinds of songs, different songs have different melodies and expression techniques, the most common modes are Pentatonic Gong mode, Yu mode and Zhi mode, and there are also six tone mode. In the actual singing process, according to the different expressive force of each singer, there will be a large amount of randomness and free play space.

3) Yangjiang folk music generally only has written records, but no melody records have been formed. If teaching is carried out in higher vocational colleges, the tunes of Yangjiang folk music need to be organized into music scores first, so as to facilitate the theoretical study. By playing the original song on the stereo, the teacher led the students to imitate it sentence by sentence to experience the characteristics of Yangjiang folk music. Through theoretical analysis, and then deepen understanding. Through music practice, Yangjiang folk music is presented at last.

4) The method of evaluation is generally based on examination, and the students' familiarity with Yangjiang folk songs is investigated before the class starts. After a period of study, mid-term exams are carried out to evaluate the learning effectiveness. According to the evaluation of the mid-term exam, the teaching plan should be adjusted appropriately to make the teaching results better. Finally make the final exam, the overall evaluation of the learning effect. In addition, it is also a good way to show the learned folk music through stage activities.

5) The song from recommendation by expert. Folk song Admonish tune, Tang Mei song, Appreciate the moon during the mid-autumn festival, Guess flower tone, Crab tone. Nursery rhyme The little white crane, The moon illuminates the bamboo slope, Cockerel. Wooden fish tune, Perform the formal wedding ceremony, Saltwater Song Crossing Lingdingyang bay, Snatch the Bride, Enjoy the new scenery of fishing villages. Yangchun Hakka folk song Cattle Tune, The folk Song of Shepherd Boy, Cherish cattle Tune. Bai Jia antiqary tune Xian Ying, and Feng Bao First Encounter, Crossing Lingdingyang bay.

Therefore, Experts put forward that Yangjiang folk music mainly includes Yangjiang folk songs, flower paper, nursery rhymes, saltwater songs, Bai Lan, boatman's number and so on. Among them, Yangjiang folk song, saltwater song, flower paper and boatman's number are listed as intangible heritage. The general music is based on the Pentatonic Yu mode and Zhi mode. It also gives 23 Yangjiang folk music pieces suitable for college students to learn.

## **2. The analysis interviewed with expert of Solfeggio**

1) The solfeggio course of higher vocational music education is arranged in the first year of college and carried out in the form of collective lessons. It is mainly taught in three ways: listening, reading and writing. Students are required to be able to accurately read music, training their pitch, rhythm dictation ability.

2) In the attempt of solfeggio training of traditional Chinese folk music and localization teaching in higher vocational colleges, it is not possible to simply use songs for solfeggio teaching, but it is necessary to integrate the changes in learning difficulty in the curriculum system structure to match the gradual and orderly teaching. Chinese traditional folk music is based on five-tone mode, six-tone mode and seven-tone mode. First of all, it is necessary to train the sense of mode well, and then train the interval on the basis of mode.

3) Traditional Chinese music is based on the pentatonic mode, which is different from Western major and minor keys. In the solfeggio course, we should pay attention to the training of mode, can not simply use the piano as the only teaching tool to teach, can be combined with sound, listen to imitate music works.

4) The folk music solfeggio guide book should train basic musical skills on the basis of inheriting traditional Chinese music. In general, the design of chapters is dominated by the mode, and the content of each lesson can be divided into three parts: listening imitation, skill training and music development.

5) Create and compile Yangjiang folk music solfeggio guide book to refine the characteristics of Yangjiang folk music. Such as the characteristics of the mode, which mode is used more; What are the characteristics of melody form; What are the characteristics of rhythm, etc. Select the songs with typical characteristics and suitable for college students as the teaching content. Each chapter arranges one or two folk music, and carries out teaching design from the aspects of song background, lyrics, model singing and music reading.

6) Proper arrangement of homework, such as reciting music, can enable students to better grasp the details of music; For example, to complete the theoretical work, which can consolidate the theoretical knowledge in the class; For example, arrange a preview before class; For example, students are asked to compose new works in small groups, adapt or create new tunes, etc., and finally report the learned folk music tunes and the new tunes created as teaching achievements.

Therefore, Yangjiang Folk Music guidebook needs to refine the characteristics of Yangjiang folk music, take the mode as the leading, design chapters should conform to the curriculum arrangement, and the content of each chapter should be clearly divided. The first part can be divided into listening imitation, allowing students to experience musical emotions according to the sound and lyrics. The second part can be divided into skill training, training the ability of mode, rhythm, tone, reading and writing music through theoretical analysis of songs. The third part can be divided into music development to help students understand the rules of folk music.

### **3. The analysis Yangjiang folk music Solfeggio guidebook**

The guidebook has 12 lessons, choosing Yangjiang folk music as the main teaching content, taking pentatonic mode as the main teaching content, and is divided into six units: C, G, F, D Major pentatonic mode system, Six-tone mode and Music work practice. The arrangement of the tutorial not only reflects the phased goals of the system, but each lesson is relatively independent. In the course design, it is divided into three links: "Listening-imitation", "elements-skills", "synthesis-development", and "after-class exercise" after each class. All the pieces taught in this tutorial are equipped with sound.

### **4. The using the Yangjiang folk music solfeggio guidebook**

According to the comprehensive opinions of experts, while writing the guide book, The teaching experiment lasts for total of 16 weeks, once a week, 90 minutes each time, including Pre-test, Formative test and Summative test. The students not only learn the basic knowledge of solfeggio, but also master the characteristics of Yangjiang folk music, and stimulate their innovative thinking to fully understand and use Yangjiang folk music.

### **5. Evaluate the guidebook efficiency**

The summative test is scheduled for the 16th week of the course and is a summative test for students after they have studied all the taught material. Among the 20 students, there are 17 highest level students and 3 high level students. The test results show that the students have a better understanding of Yangjiang folk music solfeggio, national mode, dictation music, Yangjiang folk music, music composition has made great progress, all aspects have been greatly improved.

## **Discussion**

In the Theory of solfeggio Teaching, edited by Chen Yaqian, advanced teaching principles and teaching modes are put forward, which advocates adding ethnic music elements to solfeggio and ear training teaching, allowing basic music disciplines to play a role as a medium for inheriting ethnic music in music education, and encouraging the establishment of students' mother tongue music concepts in music education. It promotes the horizontal connection and integration of solfeggio ear training and folk music (Chen, 2006).

In The Basic Course of solfeggio of Traditional Chinese Music, folk songs with typical pentatonic characteristics of traditional Chinese music are selected as the main teaching content, and the mode as the leading clue is divided into five parts: "Gong, Shang, Jue, Zhi, Yu". Each mode is classified according to pentatonic mode, pentatonic mode with omitted form, pentatonic mode with partial tone, etc. The arrangement of teaching materials not only reflects the phased goal of the system, but also has the relative independence of each lesson. In the course design, the training is carried out through the three links of "Listening - imitation", "element - skill" and "comprehensive - development". After each class, there is also "after-class exercise", which can be further consolidated and practiced by students after classroom learning.

Chinese folk music has a long history and rich and colorful musical categories. Compared with Western music, it is different in all aspects. In the teaching system of Chinese folk music solfeggio, based on the pentatonic mode in Chinese music, the characteristics of Chinese folk music in pitch, rhythm, singing and notation are reflected through the selection of solfeggio repertoire (Xue, 2013).

## Recommendation

### 1. Practical Recommendations

In-depth research on the history and cultural significance of Yangjiang folk music, in-depth excavation of Yangjiang folk solfeggio repertoire types, to ensure the accuracy and depth of content. Set up a professional teaching group, further carry out related research, and develop a more systematic curriculum. We should not only pay attention to training students' basic skills of folk music solfeggio, but also pay attention to improving students' comprehensive ability. After students have a certain understanding of ethnic mode, the training of composition and creation can make students have a deeper understanding of ethnic mode, and also help students accumulate and apply music language.

### 2. Recommendation for future research

This study is limited by the number of samples and the duration of the study, and the data results are limited. The researcher hopes to expand the number of samples, increase the learning time, update the content of the guide book regularly, use more research methods, and obtain more comprehensive data support in the future teaching research.

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