

## **Abstract:**

Calligraphy, a fine cultural treasure of the Chinese nation, is worthy of our cultivation and passing on from generation to generation. Calligraphy teaching nowadays, however, has not borne remarkable results as impeded by a lack of organized course materials, shortage of teachers and expertise, as well as teachers unfamiliar with teaching methods of calligraphy. When poor teaching has eventually undermined students' interest in the subject, finding the solution is certainly a top priority. Envisaging that only a very small amount of study had been carried out on calligraphy teaching in Macao, the researcher in this thesis undertook to probe into the current situation of calligraphy teaching in Macao primary schools, hoping to offer effective suggestions to benefit calligraphy teaching.

The objective of this study was, by grasping whether precise goals had been set for calligraphy teaching in Macao primary schools; how course materials had been selected; if class hours had been appropriate; how effectively teaching methods had been employed; against what criteria students' performance had been measured, etc., to make better calligraphy course module design possible. It was in this light that literature analysis, questionnaire survey, and interviews conducted rendered feedback on calligraphy teaching design as well as serving as the basis for further improvement.

The study initiated with a probe into the basic literature of calligraphy teaching, and through subsequent questionnaire survey and interviews on the subject, a thorough understanding of the current result of calligraphy teaching in Macao primary schools as well as how interested students had been in the subject was gained; furthermore, by synthesizing, analyzing and inducing the data collected, specific suggestions on calligraphy teaching were then made. Subject literature analysis, in-depth interviewing and questionnaire surveying were the tools for research in this study. In terms of structure, the thesis comprised seven chapters: Chapter I, Introduction; Chapter II, Literary Review on Calligraphy Teaching; Chapter III, The Design of Research; Chapter IV, Physiological and Psychological Developments (Within School-age Period) of Primary Students; Chapter V, A Summary on Calligraphy Teaching; Chapter VI, Calligraphy Course Module Design; and finally Chapter VII, Conclusion and Suggestions.

Based on the abovementioned objective and research methods, the study came to the following conclusion: there should be precise goals for calligraphy teaching in Macao primary schools, with emphasis on knowledge, sentiment and technique at the same time; a variety of teaching methods should be employed to motivate students to learn; more organized course materials should be prepared and course hours properly arranged; there should be many different ways to evaluate students' performance in order to give them a greater sense of achievement. And the suggestions were: Macao educational authorities should allocate more resources to calligraphy teaching and recommend the subject to be taught by teachers specialized in calligraphy education; course materials should be compiled by the government to bring better results to both teaching and learning; greater attention should be given to the training of teachers to improve their professional quality; Calligraphy teachers should be given greater access to and more opportunities for training. At the same time, primary schools in Macao should arrange for calligraphy classes to be conducted by teachers specialized in calligraphy education to enhance the quality of teaching; establish necessary facilities and calligraphy classrooms to create the proper environment and ambiance for calligraphy learning; organize more calligraphy exhibitions and encourage students to participate in extracurricular activities. Parents in Macao, meanwhile, should try to alter the prevailing pro-examination educational system and give art education a higher place; they should also join their children in community and school calligraphy activities to enhance parent-children relationship.

#### Keywords

- I. Macao
- II. Calligraphy
- III. Teaching
- IV. Teaching of Calligraphy in Macao Primary Schools