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**PECULIARITIES OF TEACHING OF «HISTORY OF UKRAINIAN CULTURE»**

History of mankind is the history of cultural development. Any nation has the most interesting point it is its culture. Culture is a qualitative characteristic of social life. Nations are strong if they had the developed culture.

History of culture is the treasure of wisdom and experience received by the mankind from previous generations. People should keep, generalize, occupy and adopt this experience. Without this social progress and self-perfection are impossible.

Subject of history of culture is a complex study of big variety of spheres: history of science and technique, household activities, education and social thought, folklore and literature studies, history of arts. History of culture generalizes all these knowledge and investigates culture like system of different branches.

Culture represents qualitative estimation of society and each individual. All cultural things are created by human being.

Culture is a product of human creativity. Thanks to culture we could change not only the world, but our souls and behaviour. Culture includes people’s memory. Each new generation inherited previous culture of its nation. Culture is a mechanism of transmission of social experience from one generation to another, from one epoch to the next one, from one country to another. Culture has no borders. High level of civilization is characterized by active cultural exchange. In each culture there are specific features and similar points, which we could find in all cultures. Russian artist Nickolas Roerich (1874-1947) underlined that “culture is a weapon of Light and salvation”. According to his interpretation of culture “cult” means “respect” and “ur” means “light”. Culture is a passport of nation. Thanks to culture we are realizing like human beings, not like animals. Mankind exists like a variety of national-cultural unities. So, world culture is a mosaic of national cultures. All of them are unique. Variety of cultures is the characteristic peculiarity of contemporary civilization.

World culture is a totality of world cultures, synthesis of the best achievements of all national cultures. It defines the system of human values.

Culture of Ukrainian people is difficult to understand out of the logic of historical process. For many years ethnic Ukrainian lands had been existed under the influence of other state formations: Golden Horde, Great Lithuanian Principality, Poland, Russian and Austrian-Hungarian empires. Traces of all these influences we can find in Ukrainian national culture.

Ukrainian culture is the part of world culture. Our culture has both Oriental and Occidental elements, but in spite of all influences it is deep and original one.

Specific character of Ukrainian national culture is connected with ethnic culture of Ukrainians. *Ethnic culture* is a culture of stable community of people, which is historically rooted in a particular area and has common language, traditions, and way of life, mental structure, psychic characteristics, and corresponding consciousness (awareness of genetic connection with other members of this group). Ethnic culture is the most ancient layer of national culture, its original foundation. It is based on the traditions of ancestors and includes the fields of household and labour (peculiarities of clothes, cuisine, folklore, crafts, folk medicine and other features of definite ethnos). There are some characteristic features of ethnic culture: conservatism, aspiration of preservation own national roots, convey the achievements of this culture future generations. Ethnic culture makes national culture original and unique.

*National culture* is a totality of economic, political, artistic, language, household, ritual, moral and other factors. Developed national culture always contents ethnic cultures, which are the basis of it. National culture is a product of creativity of the most talented representatives of a nation.

National culture is characterized by cultural identification. It means self-feeling of a person in frames of definite culture, concrete cultural tradition, and historical past of his/her ethnos or nation. National culture unites cultures of different classes, social stratums and groups of definite society. Originality of national culture, its unique character we can find both in spiritual activity of a nation (language, literature, music, painting, and religion) and material one (peculiarities of economic, household, traditional labour and production).

Normative course «History of Ukrainian Culture» gives the chance to use a big variety of approaches for inter-cultural exchange.

Unfortunately, there are some difficulties in teaching of «History of Ukrainian Culture». We have to take into account all the peculiarities in our methodic.

There are some specific groups of foreign students. We can classify them according to different educational level. The majority of African students have high level of basic education. Active participation in discussions, big number of questions and answers are usual for the practical lessons in such kind of groups. They have well-developed abstract thinking. Many details are interesting for them. They try to compare peculiarities of cultural development of Ukrainian people and representatives of their home cultures. So, in such groups teacher has to be well-prepared and ready for explanations of historical and cultural material in different epochs.

Indian students we can conditionally sub-divide into two groups. One group has good educational level, speaks English well, does individual tasks easily, and participates in discussions. Another group has low basic educational level and poor language skills. Some of students learn by heart the material without general understanding of the main points. They cannot answer for the specific questions of teacher. It would be better to give them individual tasks in written form. It will give the chance for teacher to understand the main points of student’s answer.

Arabic students are the most complicated part of foreign students. Unfortunately, just minority of them have good basic education and language skills. More than that the majority of them extraverts and cannot keep silence absolutely. They are speaking all the time. In spite of that the majority of them afraid of oral answers. So, there is a sense to give them the text with which they can work (read, translate, and understand). After that they will be ready to work individually, they will not have the time to speak, and give the other students the chance to fulfill the tasks in silence. Each student gets the mark during the class. They have to work «here and now» (in the class) without the promises «to bring the answer later».

Students work with a text-book, a collection of texts for self-independent work and workbook during the practical lesson. There are different kinds of tasks in workbook. Multiple-choice questions encourage students to read the text attentively and seek for the right answer. Creative tasks can be done in two ways. The first variant is reading of the text related to Ukrainian culture, and after that writing about the same points of home culture. In such a way we encourage students for inter-cultural dialogue and understanding of necessity of «History of Ukrainian Culture» in educational plan. More than that such approach helps the student to realize his/her interest for getting the material related to Ukrainian culture and presentation of students’ home cultures. Those students, who cannot identify their national belonging, can write about Ukrainians.

There are many effective means, which we use in practical lessons. Presentation of cartoon («There Once Was a Dog» by Eduard Nazarov, which contents wonderful ethnographic material), popular-science films («The Light of the World», about Trypillian culture) and feature films («Evenings on the Farm near Dykan’ka. Christmas Eve», reach for historical and ethnographic material). Teachers can offer presentations of Ukrainian folk dancing, singing, go to the excursions (historical museum, art gallery, etc.), master-classes, devoted traditional motanka doll, pysanka, didukh, or different techniques of embroidery.

Visit of theatres is one of the richest sources of getting the material about Ukrainian classical music. In Kharkiv Opera and Balley House students can see and listen to classical Ukrainian operas «Natalka-Poltavka» by composer Mykola Lysenko, and «Zaporozhets’ za Dunayem» by Semen Hulak-Artemovskyi.

In conclusion we have to underline that foreigners is a specific contingent. We have to take into account different level of their basic educational knowledge of students and their language skills, according to which offer them individual tasks. Teachers also use the potential of university museum, giving interesting excursions for the first-year students. The most interesting form of practical lessons in «History of Ukrainian Culture» is master-class, which encourages student’s interest to culture studies. Exhibitions of Ukrainian folk creativity are also useful for the presentation of Ukrainian traditional culture.