

Theatre Education in ShanghaiTech University — A Case Study of Liberal Arts Education in China

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Abstract:

China's higher education system lacks sufficient liberal arts education, with drama education being particularly underrepresented. Yet, both liberal arts and drama education have long been valued across cultures for their role in cultivating well-rounded individuals. This study first clarifies the concepts of liberal arts and drama education, their relationship, and the gaps in their implementation within Chinese higher education.

Furthermore, the study conducts a case analysis of 'Performance Studies' as an optional course at ShanghaiTech University, assessing how they contribute to holistic education. By interviewing participants, it investigates the benefits of drama education as part of liberal arts education for university students.

Finally, the study explores drama education's broader applications and long-term impact on participants, as well as its potential to serve as a reform model for China's higher education system.

Keywords: ShanghaiTech University, liberal arts education, drama education, performance studies

