



## The Management of General Education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics

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### Abstract

The objectives of this research were 1) to study the opinions of students on the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics, 2) to compare the opinions of students classified by study majors on the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics, and 3) to propose suggestions on the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics. The sample were 126 teachers at the Conservatory of Music at HUE with the validity value of .07-1.00, and the reliability value of .89. The instrument used in the research was a questionnaire, statistics used to analyze the data, included frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, t-test, one-way ANOVA analysis, LSD, and content analysis.

The results showed that 1) The overall opinion of students on the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of HUE was at a moderate level, an aspect with the highest mean was motivation for students' enthusiasm in learning, followed by curriculum content, and the learning and teaching process management respectively, 2) There was found difference in the opinions of students from different study majors on management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of HUE regarding curriculum content, and learning and teaching process management at the statistical difference level of .05,

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while no difference was found with regard to motivation for students' enthusiasm in learning, and 3) Suggestions on the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of HUE included more attention to be paid to students' perceptions of how general education contributes to learning goals, the number of general education courses, and faculty members' teaching quality.

**Keywords:** Performance Management System, Nanhai Academy of Fine Arts in Haikou University of Economics in Digital Age

## Introduction

The general education (GE) courses at Haikou University of Economics are aimed at guiding students on how to improve their own human quality and cultivate moral and social culture before entering society. In addition, students can also develop awareness of the intellectual, moral, aesthetic, and social contexts of their lives. The Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics has encountered many problems, for example, students' negative attitude towards and lack of interest in general education courses due to their perception that general education courses have nothing to do with the major they are studying or the way of teaching in classes. Many students think that general education has nothing to do with their future employment. Some of the drawbacks of general education itself are also more prominent. There are a large number of public elective courses being offered for the students at the Conservatory of Music. While the requirement for graduation includes the completion of professional courses and of at least one or two courses in each category of public elective courses, Most of the students, however, spend most of their time taking professional courses seriously. After class, professional courses are to be practiced, such as campus singer contests, individual concerts, and chorus competitions.

Taking general education courses, students feel it is more pressure than study because they have no time to rest (through student inquiry). In the case of more



class arrangements, students cannot fully learn all the course content, and the enthusiasm for class will be relatively low, especially for students. In courses like literacy education, for example, the number of people in general education classes will be larger, the classrooms will be larger, and the faculty members' classroom management will also be limited. If faculty members can't take care of every student, the student's learning will be poorer. In particular, the students of the Conservatory of Music pay more attention to the study of art and are not very concerned about the general education courses. This is also due to the fact that the college's emphasis on general education courses has not reached a certain level. Excessive emphasis on the division of professional knowledge limits the scope of students' learning to a narrow field of knowledge, which is not conducive to the overall development of students.

The preparation and development of the general education curriculum can provide opportunities for faculty members to grow professionally and assist student's in achieving educational goals and objectives, it will be better to follow the recommendation of Jacobs and Kritsonis (2006) "How to Implement the Ways of Knowing Through the Realms of Meaning in Human Resource Management Ten Recommendations for Selecting Campus Administrators " involving (1) the curriculum should have a specific scope, (2) curriculum must have a logical sequence, (3) the curriculum should consider student growth factors, (4) educators should be selective in choosing curriculum materials that can evoke meaning, (5) The curriculum should be coupled with discipline; (6) The curriculum should pay attention to the ideas of each of the courses taught on campus. (7) The curriculum should have a valuation method; (8) the curriculum should take into account the student's enthusiasm for learning; (9) the curriculum should be taught in a friendly environment; (10) the curriculum should be interesting and excite the imagination of study.

From problems and concepts of general education, the researcher would like to study the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikao University of Economics. The benefit of this study will be for the university's

administrators to have information for setting educational policy and an operational plan to enhance the goal-attainment of general education provision as a whole.

### Research objectives

1. To study students' opinions regarding general education management at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics.

2. To compare students' opinions regarding general education management at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics as being classified by study majors.

3. To propose suggestions on general education management at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics.

### Conceptual framework

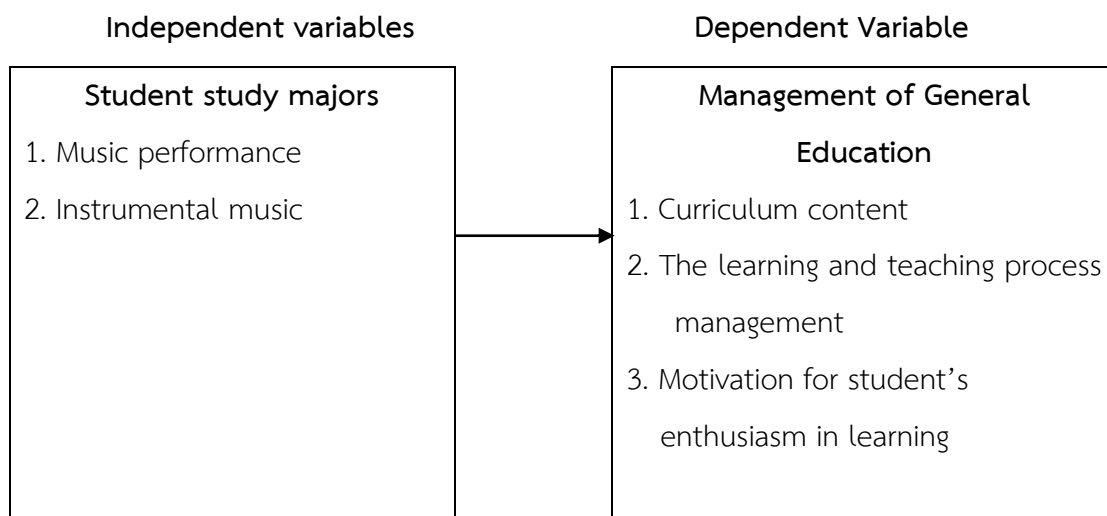


Figure 1 Conceptual framework

### Research Results

The results of data analysis regarding the research on “The Management of General Education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics” are presented as follows.



**Table 1:** Frequency and percentage of respondents classified by study majors.

(n=126)

Students Data	Frequency	Percent
<b>Major</b>		
1. Music performance	107	84.92
2. Instrumental music	19	15.08
<b>total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100.00</b>

From Table1, The number of respondents from music performance major (84.92%) was more than those from Instrumental music major .

**Table 2:** The mean and standard deviation of the respondents' opinions on the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics.

(n=126)

Aspect	Description	$\bar{X}$	SD	meaning	rank
1	Curriculum content	3.37	1.22	moderate	2
2	learning and teaching process management	3.27	1.33	moderate	3
3	Motivation for student's enthusiasm in learning	3.70	.80	high	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>3.45</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>moderate</b>	

From Table 2, the overall management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics according to the respondents' opinions was at a moderate level ( $\bar{X} = 3.45$ ,  $SD = 1.03$ ). Among the three aspects, Motivation for student's enthusiasm in learning was at the highest



mean ( $\bar{X}$  = 3.70, SD = .80), followed by Curriculum content, and Learning and teaching process management respectively.

**Table 3:** The comparison of the respondents' opinions regarding the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics by Major.

(n=126)

Aspect	Management on general education	major				t	Sig.
		Music		Instrumental			
		performance		music			
		$\bar{X}$	SD	$\bar{X}$	SD		
1	Curriculum content	3.48	1.20	2.75	1.17	2.45*	.02
2	Learning and teaching process management	3.38	1.30	2.68	1.35	2.13*	.04
3	Motivation for student's enthusiasm in learning	3.73	.84	3.54	.58	1.21	.24
Total		3.53	1.03	2.99	.94	2.26*	.03

\* statistical significance at level of .05

From Table 3, there was found difference in the opinions of the respondents from different study majors regarding the curriculum content, and learning and teaching process aspects of the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics at the statistical significance level of .05, while no difference was found regarding motivation for student's enthusiasm in learning.

## Discussion

According to the opinions of the students, the management of general education at the Conservatory of Music, HUE was carried out at a moderate level,



and the aspect of curriculum content was carried out at a higher level than the other two. In addition, within the aspect of curriculum content, most respondents thought that general education offered at present is reasonable. This might be because on orientation day, the dean of Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics have emphasized the importance of general education courses which consistent to Chang Lefei, Liu Xinzhi (2023) said that Aesthetic education plays an important role in improving people's aesthetic ability and cultivating their comprehensive development. Music general education has the advantages of simple and easy to understand content, wide coverage, and is an important carrier for universities to implement aesthetic education.

Moreover, the reason that students saw curriculum content of general education is as being reasonable might be their thought that general education is just something general about music, Art, Marx philosophy, introduction to Chairman Mao, aesthetic education, labor education. So Therefore, general education is just indifferent to them so they are not interested in the content of general education courses. As Dana Lynn Driscoll (2014) in the topic on “A longitudinal study of student beliefs of general education, vocationalism, and transfer of learning” found that, for many students, vocationalism creates a single- minded focus on student’s career preparation and major coursework and invites disregard for the value of general education courses that do not appear to immediately relate to student’s future careers.

The students saw learning and teaching process management of general education at the Conservatory of Music Haikou University of Economics In total as being carried out at a moderate level, and what saw homework due date as being at the top of this aspect of management. This might be because students thought that they are only to complete the tasks assigned by the teacher to obtain credits for the subject, and will be criticized and punished by the teacher if they have not completed the task. This is consistent to what Cao Yong (2021) in the topic of on “Managing the teaching and learning process” pointed out that the process of



teaching and learning is presented through teaching, which is the configuration of the atmosphere in which learners interact and study how to learn. Instructional technology is designed to impart knowledge, impart skills and develop attitudes, values and instincts. Students should pay attention to the learning process, experience the fun of learning, and feel the knowledge and happiness brought by learning, instead of coping with learning and ignoring the meaning of learning itself.

With respect to motivation for student's enthusiasm in learning of general education of at the Conservatory of Music Haikou University of Economics, the students saw it as being carried out at a high level, with satisfied with the current way of teaching general education was carried out more than the others. This might be because students hope to be recognized through their studies. They study hard and hope that they will succeed in their studies and have a positive impact on themselves in the future. This is just in line with Judy Willis (2019) in the topic on "Maintaining Student's Motivation for Learning as the Year Goes On" who stated that motivation has a major impact on student's effort, academic success, and joy of learning. Providing choices for learners to engage with new learning and to progress through achievable challenges, with feedback on their progress toward their chosen goals, will make a difference in sustaining their motivated effort throughout the school year ahead.

The difference in the opinions between students from music performance and music instrument majors regarding the curriculum content and the learning and teaching process aspects of the management of general education might be because music performance and instrumental music performance are both performing arts, so they have some commonality. However, music performance refers to the form of music sung by human voice, which can add the emotions and emotions of the performers to be able to perform different emotional atmospheres, and produce different music. Compared with music performance, instrumental music performance is relatively simple and complex, such as piano, guitar, and flute, each instrument has only its own tone, and multiple instruments are needed to better create a





musical atmosphere. Moreover, the time for instrumental music practice Longer, some need to practice from a young age, for many people it is boring, need more patience and perseverance to persist. Related to it is as Li Yingyong (2022) in the topic on “Individuality and Commonality in Music Performance and Instrumental Performing Arts” pointed out that musical performance, step in the musical process during which musical ideas are realized and transmitted to a listener. In Western music, performance is most commonly viewed as an interpretive art, though it is not always merely that performers to some degree determine aspects of any music they play. Issues of tempo, phrasing, dynamics, and, in some types of music, pitches and instrumentation are subject to a performer’s discretion.

### **Suggestions**

Suggestion on Curriculum content is that faculty members should interact more with students when teaching general education course content of management of general education the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics. Faculty members should be develop content and teaching in response to a current situation especially emphasizing on innovation and technology such as online, video, website etc.

Suggestion on learning and teaching process management of general education at the Conservatory of Music of Haikou University of Economics is that faculty members should make the best use of technology and innovation to make teaching general education more interesting and stimulating. Blended teaching like Online education and offline practice etc. should be considered in order to lessen students’ time for class attendance and greater that for practice and recreation contributing to learning depress reduction.

Suggestions on motivation for student’s enthusiasm in learning is that faculty members should create good and friendly learning environment through increasing learning interaction and interactive lecture skills using extracurricular activities, etc.



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