

Unique Graduation Trips: A Teaching Research on Integrating Outdoor Education and Character Issues

Wen-Hsine Chen* Yun-Chi Ho**

As an outdoor education, educational travel can create natural situations for students to understand and make use of knowledge so that they can enjoy learning and enhance civic awareness and action in the process. This study adopts "unique graduation trips" as an example and discusses the teaching design of integrating outdoor education and character issues and its achievements. The study was conducted from March 2018 to November 2018. The researchers collected materials on the educational travel plan, travel history records, short trip reports, parents' feedback, supplemented by qualitative data from teachers' observation and reflection for analysis. The research results include the following: 1. Integrating outdoor education and character issues can be effectively developed and implemented through such strategies as "vision positioning", "parent-teacher cooperation", "task guidance" and "multiple evaluations"; and 2. "Task guidance" and "altruistic action" provided a scaffold to deepen learners' morality. These results demonstrate that educational travel teaching can construct innovative modules created by the group and deepen the students' moral core value of "caring and doing good". Finally, this study puts forward some suggestions for further curriculum design and teaching studies.

Keywords: outdoor education, educational travel, character education, issue-integrated teaching

* Wen-Hsine Chen, Teacher, Elementary Division, Tzu Chi Senior High School
Affiliated with Tzu Chi University

** Yun-Chi Ho, Professor, Graduate Institute of Education, Tzu-Chi University

Corresponding Author: Yun-Chi Ho, e-mail: yunchi@gms.tcu.edu.tw