

Listening to the Land: Local Aesthetic Perceptions and Experiences

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Abstract

Aesthetic education is free by nature. Because aesthetic education can induce aesthetic pleasure and liberate an individual, the researcher has recognized it as an ideal approach to help students learn to become their own master and appreciate their individual uniqueness and differences. Accordingly, the researcher proposes that experiencing beauty through teaching methods based on cultural codes and aesthetic forms and learning methods based on the development of the five senses and the enlightenment of the sixth sense is a feasible approach to cultivating cultural tastes and social concern. Students' ability to appreciate beauty can be reinforced by behavioral changes associated with (1) learning to express their emotions, (2) learning to systemically exercise their multisensory capabilities, and (3) appreciating beauty and engaging in social participation. The researcher designed a general education course, Local Beauty Appreciation and Experience, which adopts the earth, air, fire, and water elements in the culture of mountain villages in Shenkeng as models to induce the systematic development of multisensory capabilities in students through situated-learning and service-learning experiences related to the sustainable development goals. Through this approach, the researcher intends to achieve the teaching objectives of nurturing awareness, perception, affection, and action. Multiple assessment will be conducted to evaluate the learning outcomes and determine whether students have achieved spiritual pleasure, freedom, and self-growth through the behavioral changes.

