

# Confucius-Value Learning through Visual Audios in a Cross-Culture Understanding Course

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**Abstract.** This research aimed to reveal the Confucian value learning through audiovisual in a cross-culture understanding course. Some problems discussed in this research included the Confucian value in the acculturation processes and its introduction through audiovisual due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic. A qualitative data analysis was used as the research method. This research also used library studies to collect the data related to traditional arts as one of cultural elements as the acculturation results during the pandemic situations. The Confucius-value learning through culture has experienced changes because everyone should be subject to the policies and health protocols issued by the government. The Confucius-value learning performed through audiovisual in the cross-culture understanding course belonging to the Three-Year Diploma of Mandarin language Study Program, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Jenderal Soedirman. Although the Confucius-value learning was performed through visual audio learning and took one of traditional arts resulted from acculturation, it did not actually reduce its learning objectives.

**Keywords:** Confucius-value; cross-culture understanding; audiovisual

## 1 Introduction

One of the foundations to establish the young generation's character is education. Education can be obtained formally and informally. It is not surprising that education provided to them should be of good quality to have a quality generation. Providing quality education in Indonesia starts to face constraints. In early 2020, precisely in March, Indonesia experienced difficult times related to the Large Scale Social Restriction (PSBB) because of Covid-19 pandemic. As the consequence of PSBB, all people must do their activities at home. One of the greatly affected aspects was education, from kindergarten to higher education. PSBB with its prohibition from doing activities outdoor indirectly affected the material delivery and content, method use, technique, and choice of learning media in teaching-learning process. PSBB forced all elements of education to use online learning technique. Teaching-learning activity (KBM) that was usually performed offline was not allowed in keeping healthy and in compliance with the health protocol. The online learning technique requires both teacher and learner to use device better.

One of the subjects with changes in its material delivery and content, method use, technique and choice of learning media is cross-culture understanding subject. Cross-culture understanding is a subject in the curriculum of Mandarin Language D-3 Study Program that teaches understanding related to character, customs, social, and culture of other communities, one of which is Chinese community, both in Indonesia and overseas. With the pandemic taking place, the cross-culture understanding course should use the development of science and technology. The industry 4.0 era greatly affects KBM process. Appropriate use of technology will be quite helpful to KBM process. The easily accessed technology has been used by teachers to improve the quality of education. As stated by Keengwe & Georgina in Alaby, in their research technology development leads to changes to teaching-learning implementation (Keengwe & Georgina, 2012). Information technology can be accepted as the medium with which education process is carried out, including helping teaching-learning process, which also involves search for reference and source of information (Alaby, 2020). With the rapid development of technology in the industry 4.0 era, digital technology is quite helpful in KBM process, especially during Covid-19 pandemic.

The real example of those affected by the pandemic and the use of digital technology in KBM process is students of Mandarin Language D-3 Study Program, Faculty of Humanities (FIB), Jenderal Soedirman University (Unsoed) semester 5. Both teachers and students must be capable of choosing and using appropriate learning technique to solve all problems in KBM process. In KBM process, a teacher must understand and be capable of using digital technology and its application. Besides, he/she should also be capable of directing student to have understanding of technology and be capable of controlling themselves from any fluctuating changes, and the capability of facing them by creating ideas, innovation and creativity is the requirements for KBM process to run smoothly. KBM during pandemic is really different from KBM before pandemic. The question-and-answer method the keeps performed in offline learning will be felt quite boring in online learning. The question-and-answer method will, in the long run, also make student lack of fighting spirit, activeness, initiative and creativity. That is why appropriate method and learning media are needed. Learning method using audiovisual is deemed appropriate to the cross-culture understanding subject in introducing the Confucian values in Chinese community's life. One of the materials taught in cross-culture understanding subject is Confucian values. Confucian values are followed by Chinese community in their daily life, teaching how to coexist with other communities peacefully. There are five virtues emphasized in Confucian belief:

1. Ren (忍), that is universal love, selfless, and prioritizing others.
2. Yi 意, that is righteousness or noble personality.
3. Li 礼, that is morality, politeness, sense of morality, and character.
4. Ci 慈, that is discretion, understanding, wisdom.
5. Xin 信, that is honesty, trust, sense of being trusted by others and capable of keeping promise and fulfilling promise.

The five virtues taught by Confucius give an understanding that we should live in harmony with others. This can be used as a very good lesson for community life not only Chinese community, but also other communities that want to live a peaceful and orderly life. That is why the Confucian values must be taught to the young generation so that they will have good characters pursuant to the Confucian teachings. Teaching Confucian values faces constraints because of Covid-19 pandemic, thus in order to understand the theories and application of Confucian values, students learn them by making audiovisual related to all life aspects in Chinese community.

## **2 Literature Review**

### **2.1 Chinese Community's Belief**

All religions and beliefs followed by all people teach how humans as social beings certainly need interaction with others, one of which is Confucianism. In this modern era, the understanding related to moral values in life has declined considerably, especially with the youths, as proven with many occasions which may trigger sensitivity in the community where no age and group restrictions are recognized. Sensitivity level is often associated with SARA (Tribal, Religious, and Racial) issue. SARA is a very sensitive issue and must be avoided and sought for the best solution. Humans' egoism often triggers conflict. They think more about how to fulfill their personal desire and interest without considering that others are harmed because of their actions. This can certainly, eventually damage the existing order of life in the community, especially in interaction. SARA can also cause conflict that causes disintegration between communities. Conflict can start with negative prejudice against other communities, causing misunderstanding among them, such as between majority and minority communities. One of the minority communities in Indonesia is Chinese community, even if they can be found almost in all regions in Indonesia.

Creating peaceful and harmonious environment requires order in the community. Order in a community is a view that, according to Confucius, needs be created. Creating order in the community should start with how humans can organize their own family. In order to organize family and do all things well, humans should also be capable of self-cultivating. Self-cultivation is not easy. Humans should frequently perform self-correction and self-reflection, and sincerely and truthfully connect with others. Besides, humans should broaden their knowledge to the highest level. Self-cultivation is the basis of anything and every person should be capable of self-cultivating to achieve the purpose of their life (Wang Gungwu in Hartati, 2016:176). Understanding all life aspects of a community requires basic knowledge as guidance or rule in that community. In Chinese community, all of their life aspects are greatly affected by Confucian values. Thus if we are to understand Chinese community, it is mandatory for us to have knowledge of Confucian values even if only a little, so that there will be no negative prejudice against Chinese community.

### **2.2 Audiovisual**

During online learning, using learning medium and method is the appropriate solution for the education world to develop and improve student's quality. The most currently suitable medium is audio medium. By using audio media, we can be aware of the benefits of audiovisual media in understanding Confucian values, both theoretically and practically. The use of audiovisual media can improve student's attention, since in the media's display is more attractive. In addition, student will be afraid of missing the video if their concentration and attention are diverted. Audiovisual media are capable of displaying the reality of material and giving real experience to students while they are learning it, that will certainly able to drive self-activity. the function of learning media, according to Oemar Hamalik (in Fujiyanto, 2016, p. 843) is "the use of learning media in learning-teaching process can raise new desire and interest, raise learning activity motivation and stimulation, and even bring psychological influences to students." The message of learning delivered by teacher without using media

will be tasteless and not imprinted. Besides, the use of audio media also affects student's learning spirit to be more active. When KBM has reached a saturation point and student has no more spirit for learning activity, the existence of a medium will be quite helpful and necessary. In line with this, Musfiqon (2012, p. 187) argues that "...learning using multimedia is evidently more effective and efficient and is capable of improving student's learning outcome". Audiovisual media, including multimedia, are the type of media that, besides containing audio element, also contain visible pictures, such as record video, various sizes of film, audio slide, etc. The audiovisual media here are record video (Fujiyanto, Jayadinata, & Kurnia, 2016).

### **3 Research Methods**

To have a deep and holistic understanding of a number of phenomena learned and not test the hypothesis proposes based on the statistical formulas model, this research used a qualitative approach. The data were collected through observation, in-depth interview, and focus group discussion (FGD). FGD was needed since in-depth discussion is needed between teacher, student, and community that follows Confucianism. The observation was conducted in order to describe the real field overview of Chinese community's condition that applied Confucian values in their life at the research location. The interview and FGD activities were, meanwhile, carried out with a number of informants to have a comprehensive overview of their perception and response, view, attitude, and expectation of the existence of traditional art. The informants included community figures, especially the head of the Hok Tek Bio Temple Pasar Wage Foundation, Mr. Suryana, stakeholders and other strategic figures. The results of observation, in-depth interview, and FGD were analyzed with the category, comparison, and contrast models and interpreted (Creswell, 1994: 153-154). The data were interpreted systemically by understanding a fact/data in consideration of other related factors therein. To understand the interrelated factors of the data, they were developed based on the frame of reference of the community studied, instead of researcher's measure (Denzin & Lincoln, eds., in Maladi, 2017:93). The questionnaires were distributed to have response related to Confucian values learning in cross-culture understanding subject and the use of audiovisual as the learning media used.

### **4 Result Discussion**

During Covid-19 pandemic, the KBM process was attempted to be performed smoothly and as expected by adapting to the condition and learning technique development. The discussion chapter discusses what media is, learning media, learning method and social media's role as the effort to maintain student's learning quality during pandemic.

#### **4.1 Media**

There are some opinions of what media are, one of which is stated by Heinch in Rusman, that media are the instrument through which communication is transmitted. Media is derived from Latin and is the plural form of "medium" that is literally "intermediary", that is mediator of a source of message with a receiver of message. Media can also be declared message transmitter from sender to receiver of message. Therefore, we can state that media are the

medium to transmit learning information or message transmitter. Communication process needs three things, object, organ, and medium. Watching a television program, television is the object and eyes are the organ. Mediator between television and eyes are, meanwhile, pictures or visual. This simple example proves that media are the medium to carry message in a communication process.

From the results of interview with and questionnaires distributed to 20 semester-5 students of Mandarin Language Diploma Program related to Confucian values learning in cross-culture understanding subject through audiovisual, it is found that learning through audiovisual is quite interesting and drives students' initiative and creativity. 17 students stated that learning and understanding Confucian values are their basis of understanding Chinese community. By learning Confucian values, they can understand how Chinese community seems exclusive compared to other communities. It is also through Confucian values that the students can understand that religious or belief teaching is the same, that is to live peacefully and harmoniously, creating harmonization in community life. It is very important for students to learn the Confucian values so that they will be able to understand all unique aspects of Chinese community's life that is based on Confucian values. Besides understanding Chinese community's perspective in all aspects, the students can also eliminate the negative stigma against Chinese community.

Based on the outcome of questionnaires distributed to the students, it is also found that audiovisual media make them understand more not only theoretically, but also how Chinese community applies Confucian values in all aspects of their life, such as the ritual aspect. Chinese community usually celebrates the Chinese New Year as a sign of their devotion to their ancestors. Through audiovisual, students get real result of what occurs in Chinese community's life related to Confucian values. The result certainly give a clear overview, thus it can drive creation of creative ideas and make students far more active to understand Chinese community's life during pandemic deeply through audiovisual.

## 5 Conclusion

The Confucian values in Chinese community start to be forgotten by Chinese young generation. The Confucian values teach to live a peaceful life between communities. The Confucian values should not only be understood by Chinese young generation, but also by people in general, especially semester-5 students of Mandarin Language Diploma Program of FIB, Unsoed. Confucian values understanding are given as a material in Cross-Culture Understanding subject. This material is given in a different way during pandemic, requiring the use of audiovisual media to improve learning attraction and concentration. With audiovisual, the boredom level in KBM can be minimized and students will be more active. In addition, with audiovisual media, students can understand the Confucian values, both theoretically and by application, so that they will be capable of grow their creativity and innovation to a height to create something.

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