

附件二：

2019 年外研社“教学之星”大赛

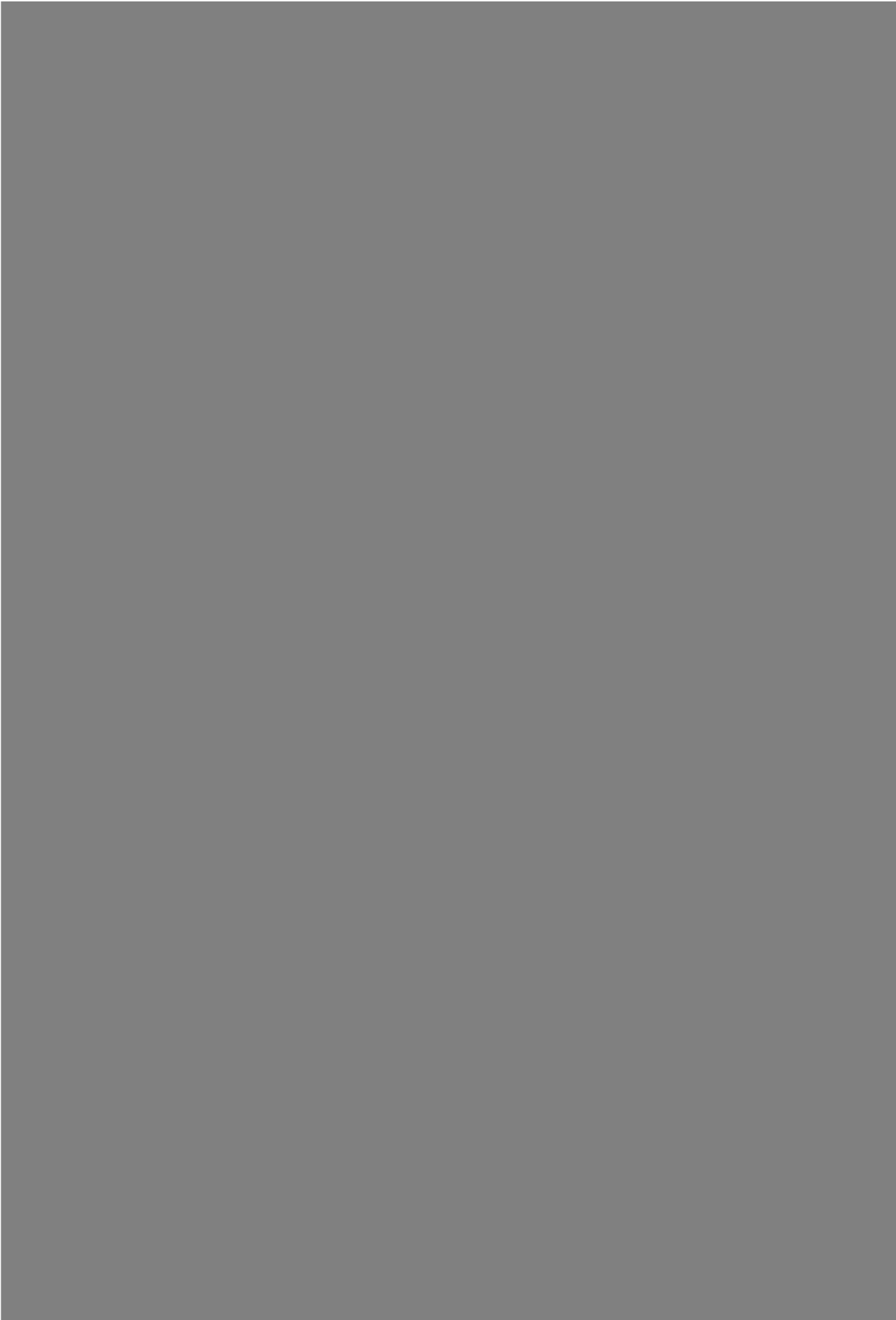
教学设计方案

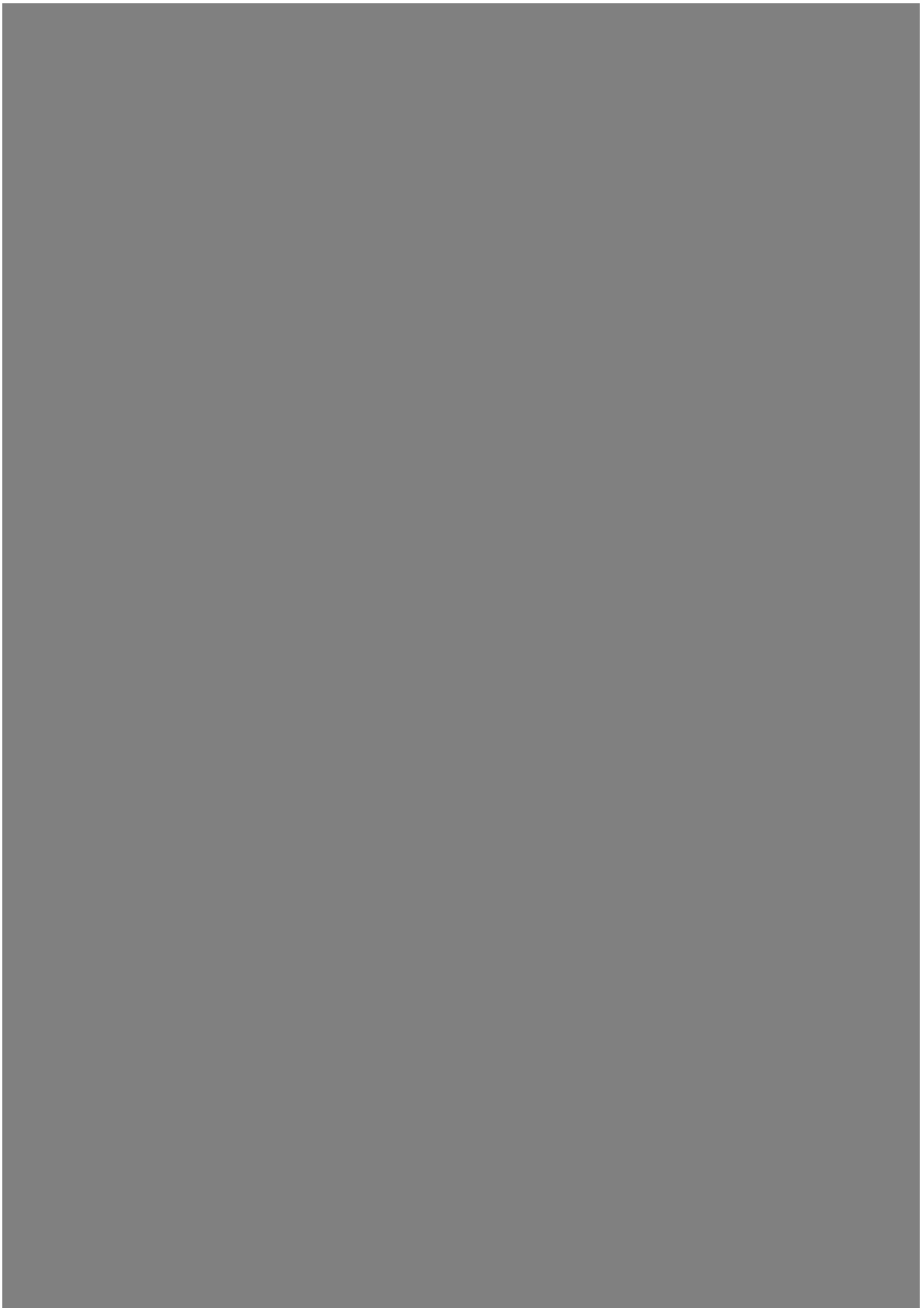
一、基本信息

课程名称	高级英语视听说
课程类别	<input type="checkbox"/> 大学英语基础课程 <input type="checkbox"/> 大学英语后续课程 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 英语专业课程 <input type="checkbox"/> 商务英语专业课程 <input type="checkbox"/> 翻译专业课程
教学对象	西安理工大学 本科英语专业大一学生（第二学期）
教学时长	共 42 学时
教材名称	《大学英语口语进阶：思辨 学术》
参赛单元	第__册 第__5_单元（*单本教材仅填写单元信息）

二、团队信息







三、课程设计方案

1、课程定位（基于院校特色与教学对象特点，介绍本课程的人才培养定位）

《高级英语视听说》是██████████针对英语专业大一本科生（第二学期）开设的英语必修课程，也是本校英语教学改革课程之一，本课程立足于英语专业学生对于个性化学习需求和社会对培养新型“英语+专业”人才的需求，以英语的实际使用为导向，提高学生的英语听说能力。

本课程以我校理工科专业背景为依托，结合学生英语水平和学习需求，是一门兼具“工具性”、“人文性”和“高阶性”的英语听说课程。发挥英语作为交流沟通的“工具”这一属性，提高英语的听说能力；同时将语言学习与工科专业知识有机融合，培养学生在国际场景中用英语进行交流的能力；同时课程内容及活动设计具备“人文性”，旨在培养学生的人文素养，提高跨文化交际能力；同时，学生在经过第一学期的基础听说技能训练之后，学习需求升级，为满足个性化学习需求，课程在授课话题广度和语言知识的难度方面都体现出了“高阶性”和挑战性，更适合具有一定基础的学生拓展听说技能。通过本课程的训练，使学生能够具备国际视野，跨文化交际能力，用英语进行有效的沟通和交流，从而达到培养高水平人才的目标。

2、教学目标（介绍课程时长、总体目标以及预期达到的成效）

《高级英语视听说》课程在本科第2学期开设，共计42学时，每周2学时。本课程的总体教学目标是在培养学生的听说专项技能的同时达到增加知识、拓宽视野、提高语言应用能力，提升文化素养的目的。参照《2017 英语教学指南》中的“提高要求”标准，确定了适合学生学情的具体教学目标和预期达到的成效：

- 1) **提升语言技能与知识：**预期通过教学，使学生掌握一定量的口语表达及习惯用语，能够理解语言难度中等、涉及常见的个人和社会交流题材的口语和听力材料；能够用所讲授过的话题进行较为自如、流利的口语交流；语言组织结构清晰，语音、语调基本正确；能较好地运用口头表达与交流技巧。
- 2) **增强跨文化交际意识和交际能力：**通过学习本课程，能够在与来自不同文化的人交流时，具备跨文化交际意识，较好地使用交际策略，恰当处理文化差异。
- 3) **培养学生的思辨能力以及自主学习能力：**通过组织学生讨论口语的相关话题，训练学生分析和解决问题的能力，提高思辨力的核心技能—分析、推理、评价能力。

3、教学内容（介绍课程主要内容，以及线下与线上采用的教学资源）

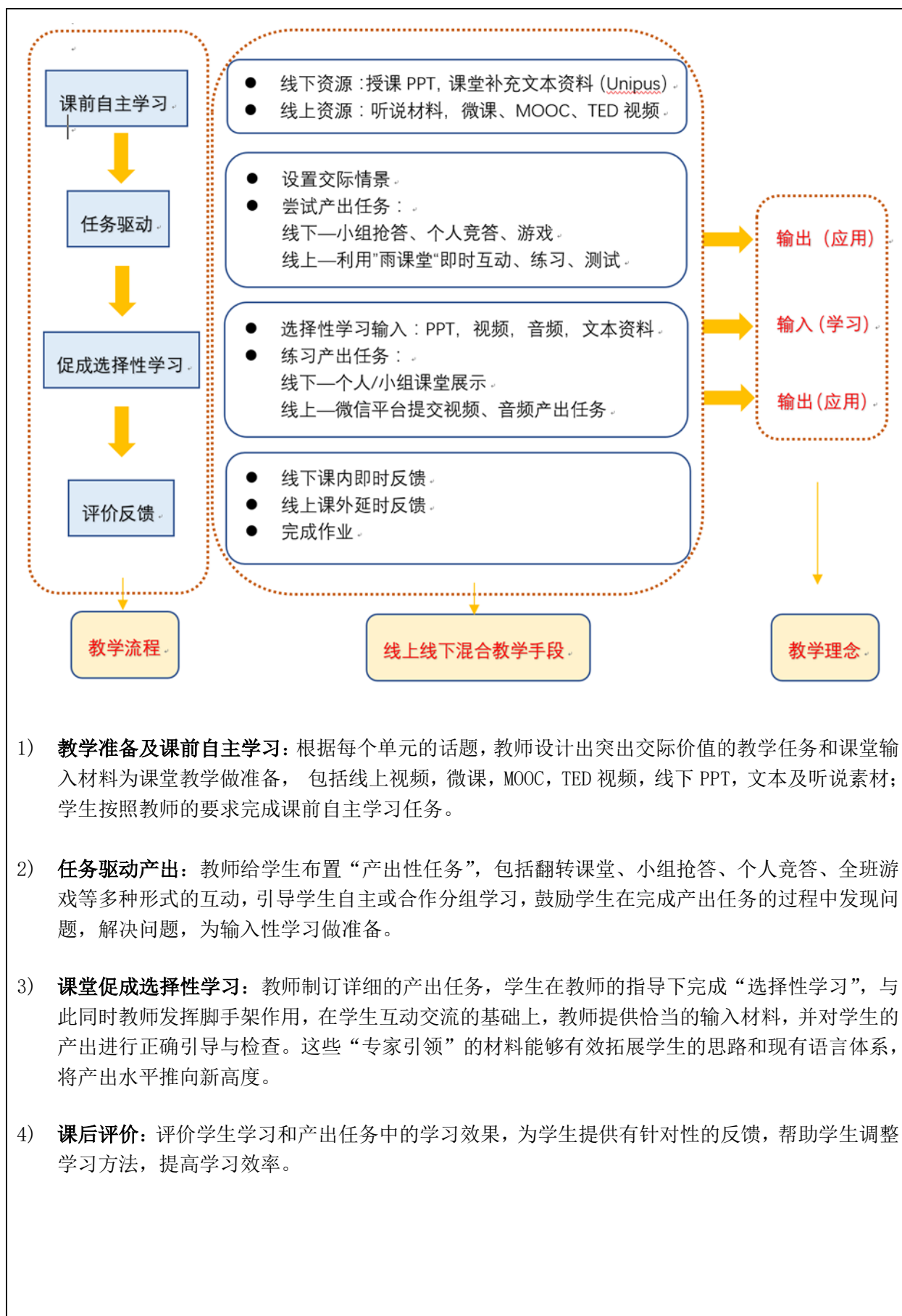
在教学内容的选择上，本课程以教学目标为导向，以外研社《大学英语口语进阶：思辨 学术》教材为支撑，充分考虑新时代大学生的学习风格，配合在线语言平台(Unipus)和网络资源，挑选出具有实用性、人文性，趣味性、思想性的高质量的语言材料。课程内容以话题为单元，每单元围绕听力+口语+批判性思维三个方面的技能展开（见下表）；根据教学对象英语水平和话题的难易程度对教学材料

进行组织排序，听说练习和课堂活动采用循序渐进，由易到难的原则设计，引领学生步步进阶，提高交际能力。

Topic	Listening skills	Speaking skills	Critical thinking
1. Language	Listening for main ideas	1) Asking and giving clarification 2) Talking about language 3) Presentation skills	Using a pie chart to organize ideas
2. Environment	Listening for details	1) Expressing opinions 2) Discussing environmental pollution	Analyzing and ranking ideas and providing reasons
3. The media	Listening for details	1) Making comparisons 2) Talking about media 3) Presentation skills	Evaluation two studies
4. Gender	Checking understandings	1) Talking about gender differences 2) Making comparisons	Using questions to evaluate information
5. Technology	note-taking	1) Talking about smart devices 2) Presentation skills	Present and evaluate ideas from different stance
6. Psychology	Identifying opinions	1) Describing personality test 2) Oral summaries	Considering advantages and disadvantages

4、教学组织（介绍课程主要教学理念、教学方法与教学手段）

《高级英语视听说》借鉴“以产出为导向（POA）”教学法，体现“以教师为主导，以学生为主体”，“输出驱动”促进“输入促成”的教学理念，使教学活动实现由“教”向“学”的转变，引导学生从被动知识接受者向积极的信息探索者和加工者转变，发挥教师的引领和脚手架作用，同时鼓励合作式学习和自主式学习，指导学生在完成任务的过程中边学边用，“学用结合”，并借助多维度的过程性评价方式调整教学节奏，把控教学进度，检验教学效果。本课程的具体教学流程如下：



5、教学评价（介绍课程的总体评价方式）

本课程采用过程性结合结果性评价的多元评价模式，引导学生重视学习过程，挖掘学习潜力，提升学习者自我效能感，达到发展综合语言能力的目的；同时，以过程性评估为主的评价体系有利于教师对授课内容、进度、方式进行反思和调整，在授课过程中优化教学质量。基于本课程的教学理念和方法，授课教师分别从输入的过程性评价和输出的过程性评价两方面考察学生的学习效果。

● 输入的过程性评价

评价内容包括课前以及课后布置的阅读，听力，微课，MOOC 等自学材料，教师在每单元授课开始前与结束后分别检查学生对输入类练习完成情况。例如，借助 unipus 等互动平台的大数据追踪练习完成的时间，质量；本部分的评价主要由教师完成，根据课堂进度及时间安排情况进行即时与延时评价。

● 产出的过程性评价

学习者的口语产出是过程性评价的主要内容。教师设置交际情景和任务要求，课堂上学生参与即时讨论（即时的课内评价），课下学生可借助微信平台提交音频或视频作业（延时的课外评价）。例如，教师利用移动社交软件平台随时随地与学生进行语音互动，教师可以通过收听学生的语音，了解并检查学生的朗读情况，纠正发音，直至他们能准确、流利地朗读。本部分的评价方式多样，包含同伴评价以及教师评价，口头与书面评价并用。

	评价内容（听说任务）	评价形式	评价次数
输入过程性评价	1 课前阅读	口头，即时评价	多次
	2 课前听力任务	unipus 平台	多次
	3 自学微课，MOOC 课程	Unipus 平台	多次
产出过程性评价		延时书面或口头评价	
	4 口语对话	教师即时评价	多次
	5 小组 project 任务	同伴互评或自评	多次
	6 电影配音	口头即时评价	多次

该课程期末成绩综合评定：

成绩评定	评价环节
平时成绩（30%）	作业（10%，包括课前预习，以完成质量为准）
	考勤（5%，以考勤记录为准）
	课堂参与度（25%，以课堂任务完成的情况为准）
口语成绩（30%）	口语考试（30%，以教师评分为准）
听力成绩（30%）	听力考试（30%，以期末考试卷面成绩为准）

四、单元设计方案

1、单元教学目标（说明参赛单元的具体教学目标）

1) 知识与技能目标（认知目标）

- 学会用英语描述某项科学技术或产品（产品开发者视角）；
- 学会用英语讨论科技产品的优缺点（产品投资者或消费者视角）；
- 学会用英语评价某项技术或产品。

2) 过程与方法目标（能力目标）

- 提高学生讨论“科技与创新”时应用与话题相关的口语表达的熟练度和语言自然度；
- 培养学生将“自然的语言交际”和“有意识的语言学习”结合起来，培养和训练学生的语言交际技能；
- 提高学生自主学习、自我探索、解决问题的自我创新能力。

3) 情感态度和价值观目标

- 帮助学生在自主解决问题的过程中培养用英语表达的自信心和成就感，为今后自主学习打下良好基础；
- 通过模拟“大学生创新创业大赛”展示的小组活动，培养学生合作学习的意识，学会获取信息和整合信息，培养学生的公众表达能力；
- 引导学生利用批判思维判断事物的优缺点。

2、单元教学内容（说明本单元主要内容、课时分配、设计理念与思路）

1) 本单元教学重难点

- **用英语表达智能设备的优缺点：以无人机和无人驾驶汽车为例**

选择与时下热点密切相关的手机应用和无人驾驶汽车” (driverless car) 展开话题，引导学生从听力资料中获取有用信息，学生扫码获得教师提供的音频资料，学生可以**根据自己的学习特征和需要多次收听**，课上对音频内容进行跟读，规范语音语调，最后和搭档模拟对话，并将其以微信语音形式发给教师**等待课后反馈**。用图片等视觉化信息引导学生思考“无人驾驶汽车”如何工作，鼓励学生以“**发现式**”、“**探究式**”的方式获取语言基本要素，教师为学生**搭建脚手架**，以“**头脑风暴**”的方式组织学生讨论“无人驾驶汽车”优缺点和无人机的功能进行**讨论**，采用**产出和输入**紧密结合的任务，达到学用结合的目的，让学生在控制性活动中 (controlled activities) 进行口语练习，完成对该部分知识的“**互动式输出**”，提高学生的听说能力。

- **从视听材料“可穿戴设备”中获取视频内容大意和细节信息**

采用 smart ring 的广告视频，使学生熟悉描述科技产品时的步骤和各种科技术语。利用**真实场景调动学生的多种认知感官**，促进文化和语言认知策略的形成和发展，有助于激发和维系学生的好奇、求知和模仿的内驱力。通过**词汇控制手段、碎片化短视频**辅助操练，有效降低视听难度，帮助学生从大意到细节理解演讲内容，进一步巩固相关语言知识和听力技巧，保证原汁原味的语言学习、模仿和应用的效能。

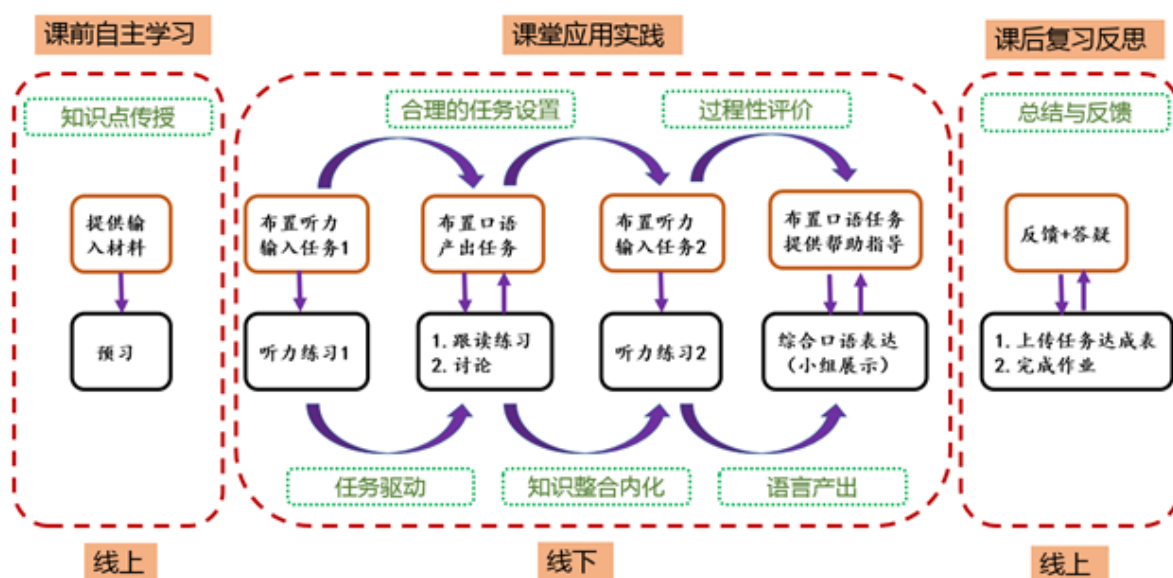
● 用英语描述“某项科学技术或产品”

在课程综合表达部分，采用“任务驱动”教学策略以及“情景化”教学模式，围绕本单元主题、语言知识和技能，设计**基于内容和主题的交际活动**，即模拟大学生“创新创业大赛”的展示过程——要求学生站在产品开发者的视角，用英语展示自己的科技创新产品，促使学生在解决问题的过程中综合运用已有知识和在本单元中学习到的新知识技能完成任务，达到有效提升英语应用能力的目的，集中展示小组的“科技创新产品”，最后学生将“任务达成卡”上传至线上互动平台完成组内和组间的互评。

● 用英语评价“某项科学技术及产品”，讨论优缺点

在用英语描述某项电子产品的基础上，引导学生从消费者和新产品投资者的视角评价某项创新产品，即客观分析产品的优缺点及研发价值。通过这种转换视角的方式，启发学生思考，发展学生的批判性思维。

2) 设计理念与思路



课前导学，即线上自主学习阶段。教师为学生提供丰富高质量的自主学习材料，学生根据学习材料和教学目标完成对教学单元相关知识点的学习，并将学习情况反馈给老师，将宝贵的课堂面授时间留给更需要老师提供指导和帮助的任务上，满足学生进行个性化自主学习的需求，促使学生从“被动学习”向“主动学习”转变。体现以教师为主导、以学生为主体的教学理念，提高课堂教学效率。

课堂教学，即课堂应用实践阶段。课堂教学应是学生进行语言操练、展示学习成果的场所。因此，该阶段不仅需要教师讲解，也需要学生的积极参与，该阶段的重点放在需要教师提供有针对性指导和帮助的实践操练部分。实践操练主要针对知识重难点，知识运用和教学新内容而设定。教师需要根据学生的学习风格和特点，结合输入部分的知识，设计产出与输入紧密结合的课堂活动，使英语接受性知识转化为可用于实际英语交流的产出性知识，并培养“为用而学，以用促学，在用中学”的英语学习观念。课堂上充分利用各种教学信息技术，如 Unipus、微信平台等网络平台，及时检测学生对单元

知识掌握的情况，并为学生提出针对性反馈。

课后拓展，即复习反思阶段。该阶段仍需凭借网络平台协助完成。教师除了在课堂布置拓展任务，指导学生进行实践操作外，还要在课后监督学生完成拓展学习，如在线讨论与反馈，在生生互动和师生互动的基础上，对知识进行巩固与内化。同时，教师可以通过网络平台提供拓展性自主学习材料，对核心内容进行归纳和梳理，引导鼓励学有余力的学生自主完成。避免传统课堂上因受授课时间限制而缺乏思考和总结的环节。

3、单元教学组织（说明本单元每一节课的教学流程，包括具体步骤与活动等；说明课前、课中与课后如何安排，使用哪些教学资源等）

1) 本单元第一节课（2课时）

教学内容		教师活动	学生活动	教学目的
课前预习		上传预习资料：重难点词汇；课前阅读；听力练习	完成预习任务	为课堂上的视听练习做准备，扫除学习障碍，促进课堂实操练习
本讲导入(3 min)		提出导入问题	回答问题	引发学生对智能设备的兴趣
1. 视听材料：科技创新 (15min)	听力	提出问题，播放音频资料	收听音频资料并回答问题	听力训练，学习相关话题的表达。
	视频	播放“无人机”的视频材料	完成听力练习	听力训练，熟悉话题。
	讨论	引导学生进行口语表达	讨论无人机的功能和优缺点	通过阅读材料的语言输入达成口语产出，培养批判思维。
2. 视听材料：可穿戴设备 (25min)	教师讲解	介绍展示可穿戴设备的步骤	观看视频，完成习题（独立完成）	采取由易到难、过渡有序、循序渐进的练习形式进行听力训练，积累词汇，为产出准备。
	视频	播放介绍可穿戴设备的视频		
	视频	播放其他智能设备的视频	了解多种智能设备	启发学生从开发者角度介绍产品。
3. 综合口语表达：展示一项科技	教师演示说明	提供口语任务场景：大学生创新创业大赛	听讲解，理解任务要求	鼓励学生自主搜集信息，提高任务挑战度；培养团队合作精神；培养学生自主学习、获取信息的能力。

产品 (35min)	学生完成任务	在学生完成任务的过程中提供帮助和指导	1.小组讨论要展示的技术或产品; 2.搜集相关表达; 3.根据“提示表”列出的要点组织语言	
	小组展示	引导学生完成“任务达成表”并进行小组展示	1.组长填写“任务达成表” 2.小组展示	1. 提高学生在公共场合的综合表达能力; 2. 学生互评产出成果来巩固学生学习的知识和技能, 激发学生学习的积极性
课程总结, 学生自评及作业 (10min)		1. 总结重难点 2. 引导学生自评 3. 布置作业	1. 反思 2. 完成自评 3. 了解课下学习任务	促使学生进行自我检测; 培养学生自主学习能力。

2) 本单元第二节课 (2 课时)

教学内容		教师活动	学生活动	教学目的
课前预习		上传预习资料: 重难点句型; 阅读材料。	完成预习任务	积累相关词汇及句型, 为课堂上的视听练习做准备
本讲导入(3 min)		引入导入话题	回答问题	启发学生从客观的角度评价科技产品
1. 视听材料: 评价智能设备 (30mins)	教师讲解	介绍分析产品优缺点的句式及表达	听讲解	采取由易到难、循序渐进的练习形式进行听力训练; 习得分析利弊的句式和表达, 为产出准备
	视频 1、2	播放评论产品优缺点的视频材料	观看视频, 完成习题	
2. 讨论 (20mins)	师生合作完成任务	引导学生讨论	讨论智能产品的优缺点	语言输入达成口语产出, 培养批判思维
3. 口语任务: 评价科技产品 (30mins)	小组完成任务并展示	在学生完成任务的过程中提供帮助和指导	1. 选择班级成员设计的一项产品; 2. 小组讨论; 3. 小组展示	学生互评产出成果来巩固学生学习的知识和技能, 激发学生学习的积极性

4. 课程总结, 同伴互评及作业	1. 总结重难点 2. 同伴互评价 3. 布置作业	1. 反思 2. 同伴互评 3. 了解课下学习任务	促使学生进行自我检测; 培养学生自主性学习的能力。
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具体内容: 1.板书见附件 1

2.课前预习材料见附件 2

3.课堂补充材料见附件 3

4. 同伴互评和自评材料见附件 4、5

4、单元教学评价（说明本单元的评价理念与评价方式）

1) 教学效果:

- **课堂参与情况:** 由于过程性评价的激励和以产出为导向的教学设计, 以及便于小组讨论的桌椅摆放形式, 学生课堂参与度提高;
- **重点难点的学习理解:** 教师搭建脚手架对学生进行指导和帮助, 对重点难点进行反复练习与应用, 帮助学生理解掌握重点难点, 完成知识内化吸收。
- **语言综合能力:** 通过基于内容和主题的交际活动, 学生能够有效运用在本节课学习的知识和技能进行语言综合实践, 提高了本单元话题的听说水平和应用能力。

2) 教学评价方式:

课程总体采用过程性评价及终结评价方式, 单元教学评价采用师生合作共同评价的方式 (教师评价、学生自评和互评)。

评价内容包括:

- 学生预习情况
- 口语对话练习 (以微信语音形式提交)
- 课堂讨论的参与
- 听力习题的完成 (unipus 互动平台提供数据)
- 综合口语表达任务的完成。

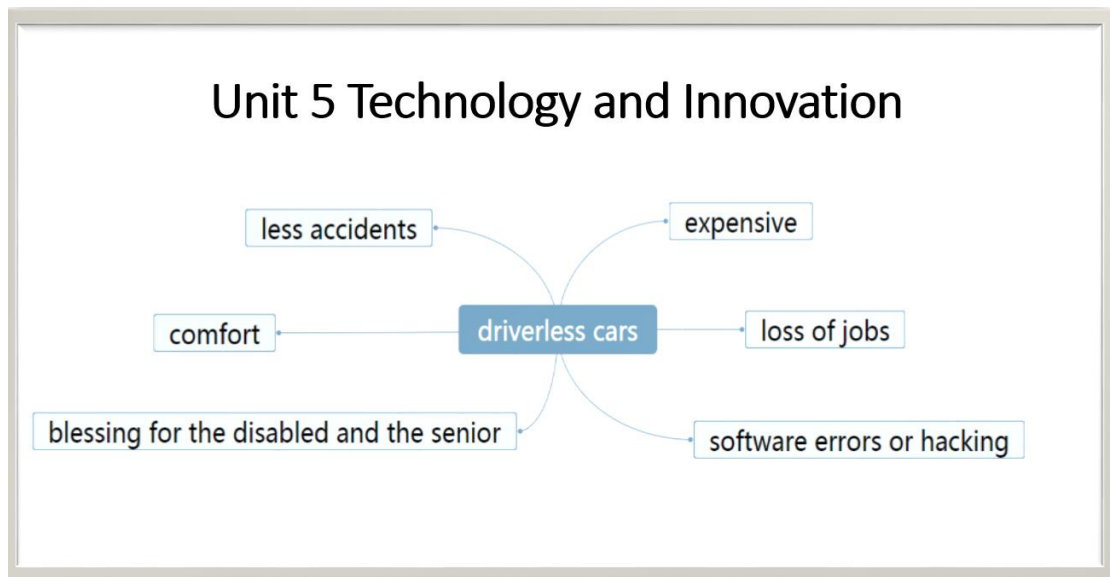
五、教学设计特色

(说明教学设计方案在体现成效导向、满足金课标准等方面的创新特色)

- 1. 以产出为导向 (POA) 的项目式教学:** 重新摆放教室桌椅, 方便学生进行小组讨论, 激发学生参与课堂的积极性, 提高学生语言产出量。每个环节的设计都要保证学生进行有效的学习 (如和“科技创新”相关的表达及综合运用); 防止“教材中心”和“课文至上”出现的“学用分离”的弊端, 设计合理的情境和任务, 让学生在“完成任务”中边学边用, 学以致用; 在教学过程中注重培养学生思辨能力 (如何理性评价一项技术的优缺点)、自主学习能力 (课前预习, 课后复习巩固) 和综合文化素养等 (激发创新思维, 培养合作学习意识)。
- 2. 翻转课堂和混合式教学:** 学生课前预习相关语言知识点, 课堂重点放在学生实际操练的环节, 教师在学生完成任务的过程中提供指导和帮助。线上线下混合式教学, 采用 unipus 线上互动平台帮助教师及时掌握学生学习情况, 对学生的产出结果进行及时和有针对性的反馈, 增强师生互动和生生互动。
- 3. 教师-学生合作式评价体系:** 选择多维多元的过程性评价为主, 终结评价为辅的评价体系, 结合教师评价、学生自评和互评, 帮助学生及时发现问题、调整学习策略、激发学习内在动机, 提高学习效率。
- 4. 课程思政元素的融入:** 以中国无人机技术为例, 在教学中渗透思政教育内容, 锻炼了学生的批判性思维, 树立文化自信, 实践了中国社会主义核心价值观。思政教学模式有效地将思政教育与英语语言知识与技能传授相融合, 实现了两者互促协同效应。
- 5. “双一流”战略背景下理工院校大学英语人才特色培养:** 以外研社《大学英语口语进阶: 思辨学术》教材为支撑, 优化课程设置, 秉承“精英语、懂科技、知国际”的人才培养理念, 注重学术能力与本校特色的同步培养, 积极探索“英语+专业”能力发展方向的人才培养模式。

注: 本表请以“学校名称”命名, 保存为 PDF 格式, 与参赛授课录像 (以“学校名称”命名) 同于 5 月 22 日 24:00 前上传至大赛官网 star.unipus.cn 的相应参赛组别。

附件 1: 板书



附件 2:

1) .if 条件句语法点总结

<p>If the tests are successful, ride-share companies will start using driverless cars. You won't necessarily save money on insurance if you buy a driverless car.</p> <p>If you had enough money, which car would you buy? If drivers were less distracted, there would be fewer accidents on the road.</p>	<p>The first conditional follows the following pattern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>if</i> + simple present, ... <i>will</i> + verb <p>We use the first conditional to talk about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• something that is likely to happen in the future• possible situations that are generally true <p>The second conditional follows the following pattern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>if</i> + simple past, ... <i>would</i> + verb <p>We use the second conditional to talk about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• something that is the opposite of a real situation• something that is unlikely to happen in the future
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习题

GRAMMAR

Circle the correct sentence.

- a** If you push this button, the drone **will** fly up.
b If you **will** push this button, the drone flies up.
 - a** If driverless cars become common, there **will** be less traffic on freeways.
b If driverless cars became common, there **will** be less traffic on freeways.
 - a** More people buy house-cleaning robots if they were cheaper.
b More people **would** buy house-cleaning robots if they were cheaper.
 - a** What **will** you do with a drone if you had one?
b What **would** you do with a drone if you had one?
 - a** If more people used driverless cars, cities **need** to be redesigned.
b If more people use driverless cars, cities **will** need to be redesigned.
-

2) . Words and expressions in video

Part 1	biochemical leaks 生化物泄露 intruder n. 入侵者 assemble v. 组装 payload-carrying capacity 装载货物运输力 reactor n. 核反应堆	radiation level 辐射强度 hoop n. 铁环 trajectory n. 轨迹 momentum n. 动量 orientation n. 方向
Part 2	fig 无花果 3- dimensional formation 3D 队形 planar formation 平面队形	aerodynamic interactions 空气动力干扰 propeller blades 螺旋桨
Part 3	laser rangefinder 激光测距仪 sensor 传感器 navigate v. 导航	algorithm n. 计算程序, 演算法 autonomous a. 自发的, 自主的 musical instrument 乐器

Advantages and disadvantages of driverless cars

Advantages of Driverless Car

Reduction in Accidents

The biggest advantage of driverless car is that it helps in reducing the number of accidents which are caused due to human error because computer will make fewer mistakes as compared to human beings as human beings get tired after long journey or some drive after drinking alcohol which increases the chances of accidents even more while in case of driverless car computer will never drink or gets tired even after a long journey thus making it a safe journey for the passengers.

Comfort

Another advantage of driverless car is the comfort level in such cars because nobody has to drive the car and the whole family can sit in the car and enjoy the ride by watching movies or listening music and also they can travel at night as well as for long period of time without any break as driverless car will never get exhausted.

Blessing for Senior citizen and Handicapped

Senior citizens after reaching an age are unable to drive the car and so are those people who are handicapped, the driverless car is a welcome technological advancement for such people as they do not have to be dependent on anyone for going anywhere which results in a lot of comfort for these two categories of people.

Disadvantages of Driverless Car

Expensive

The biggest problem with the driverless car is that since it is a new innovation it's expensive and only a few people can afford it which limits its reach. Hence in a way, this breakthrough innovation will benefit rich people only who have that much money available to buy the driverless car.

Loss of Jobs of Drivers

Another limitation of driverless cars is that it will make drivers jobless as once the driverless car is used by everyone then no one will require the services of drivers which in turn will have an adverse impact on the unemployment rate leading to dissatisfaction among this sections of the people.

Accidents due to Software Error or Hacking

Driverless car drive with the help of software and we all know that software's are not 100 percent error proof and that error in software can lead to big accidents and also people with bad intentions can hack the software and do bigger damage to both cars as well as people.

附件 4

综合表达活动《任务达成表》

Group No:
Names of group members:
Name of your invention:
What does it do:
How does it work?
Picture of your invention (optional):

附件 5: 同伴互评表

Oral Presentations: Peer Evaluation

Person Presenting: _____

Please rate each of the following criteria on a scale of 1 to 5:

(needs improvement) 1 2 3 4 5 *(good)*

1. The presenter spoke clearly.	1	2	3	4	5
2. The presenter spoke at a good volume.	1	2	3	4	5
3. The presenter spoke at a good pace.	1	2	3	4	5
4. The presenter faced the audience.	1	2	3	4	5
5. The presenter appeared relaxed.	1	2	3	4	5
6. The presenter stood up straight.	1	2	3	4	5
7. The presenter used effective hand gestures.	1	2	3	4	5
8. The presenter made eye contact with me.	1	2	3	4	5
9. The introduction caught my attention.	1	2	3	4	5
10. The presenter provided some good examples.	1	2	3	4	5
11. The conclusion wrapped up the speech.	1	2	3	4	5
12. I found this topic interesting.	1	2	3	4	5

附件 6

TED Talk 文本资料

Part 1

The robot I'm holding in my hand is this one, and it's been created by two students, Alex and Daniel. So this weighs a little more than a tenth of a pound. It consumes about 15 watts of power. And as you can see, it's about eight inches in diameter.

[...] So why build robots like this? Well, robots like this have many applications. You can send them inside buildings like this, as first responders to look for intruders, maybe look for biochemical leaks, gaseous leaks. You can also use them for applications like construction. So here are robots carrying beams, columns and assembling cube-like structures. I'll tell you a little bit more about this. The

robots can be used for transporting cargo. So one of the problems with these small robots is their payload-carrying capacity. So you might want to have multiple robots carry payloads. This is a picture of a recent experiment we did—actually not so recent anymore— in Sendai, shortly after the earthquake.

So robots like this could be sent into collapsed buildings, to assess the damage after natural disasters, or sent into reactor buildings, to map radiation levels.

[...] Here, you have overhead motion-capture cameras on the top that tell the robot where it is 100 times a second. It also tells the robot where these obstacles are. And the obstacles can be moving. And here, you'll see Daniel throw this hoop into the air, while the robot is calculating the position of the hoop, and trying to figure out how to best go through the hoop. So as an academic, we're always trained to be able to jump through hoops to raise funding for our labs, and we get our robots to do that.

(Applause)

So another thing the robot can do is it remembers pieces of trajectory that it learns or is preprogrammed. So here, you see the robot combining a motion that builds up momentum, and then changes its orientation and then recovers. So it has to do this because this gap in the window is only slightly larger than the width of the robot. So just like a diver stands on a springboard and then jumps off it to gain momentum, and then does this pirouette, this two and a half somersault through and then gracefully recovers, this robot is basically doing that. So it knows how to combine little bits and pieces of trajectories to do these fairly difficult tasks.

Part 2

So I want to change gears. So one of the disadvantages of these small robots is its size. And I told you earlier that we may want to employ lots and lots of robots to overcome the limitations of size. So one difficulty is: How do you coordinate lots of these robots? And so here, we looked to nature. So I want to show you a clip of *Aphaenogaster* desert ants, in Professor Stephen Pratt's lab, carrying an object. So this is actually a piece of fig. Actually, you take any object coated with fig juice, and the ants will carry them back to the nest. So these ants don't have any central coordinator. They sense their neighbors. There's no explicit communication. But because they sense their neighbors and because they sense the object, they have implicit coordination across the group.

So this is the kind of coordination we want our robots to have. So when we have a robot which is surrounded by neighbors—and let's look at robot I and robot J—what we want the robots to do, is to monitor the separation between them, as they fly in formation.

[...] So what I want to show you next is a video of 20 of these little robots, flying in formation. They're monitoring their neighbors' positions. They're maintaining formation. The formations can change. They can be planar formations, they can be three-dimensional formations. As you can see

here, they collapse from a three-dimensional formation into planar formation. And to fly through obstacles, they can adapt the formations on the fly. So again, these robots come really close together.

As you can see in this figure-eight flight, they come within inches of each other. And despite the aerodynamic interactions with these propeller blades, they're able to maintain stable flight.

(Applause)

So once you know how to fly in formation, you can actually pick up objects cooperatively. So this just shows that we can double, triple, and quadruple the robots' strength, by just getting them to team with neighbors.

Part 3

So all these experiments you've seen thus far, all these demonstrations, have been done with the help of motion-capture systems. So what happens when you leave your lab, and you go outside into the real world? And what if there's no GPS? So this robot is actually equipped with a camera, and a laser rangefinder, laser scanner. And it uses these sensors to build a map of the environment. What that map consists of are features—like doorways, windows, people, furniture—and it then figures out where its position is, with respect to the features. So there is no global coordinate system. The coordinate system is defined based on the robot, where it is and what it's looking at. And it navigates with respect to those features. So I want to show you a clip of algorithms developed by Frank Shen and Professor Nathan Michael, that shows this robot entering a building for the very first time, and creating this map on the fly. So the robot then figures out what the features are, it builds the map, it figures out where it is with respect to the features, and then estimates its position 100 times a second, allowing us to use the control algorithms that I described to you earlier. So this robot is actually being commanded remotely by Frank, but the robot can also figure out where to go on its own.

So suppose I were to send this into a building, and I had no idea what this building looked like. I can ask this robot to go in, create a map, and then come back and tell me what the building looks like. So here, the robot is not only solving the problem of how to go from point A to point B in this map, but it's figuring out what the best point B is at every time.

So essentially it knows where to go to look for places that have the least information, and that's how it populates this map.

So I want to leave you with one last application. And there are many applications of this technology. I'm a professor, and we're passionate about education. Robots like this can really change the way we do K-12 education. But we're in Southern California, close to Los Angeles, so I have to conclude with something focused on entertainment. I want to conclude with a music video. I want to introduce the creators, Alex and Daniel, who created this video.

(Applause)

So before I play this video, I want to tell you that they created it in the last three days, after getting a call from Chris. And the robots that play in the video are completely autonomous.

You will see nine robots play six different instruments. And of course, it's made exclusively for TED 2012. Let's watch.