



**OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING STUDENTS' OPERATIONAL  
COMPETENCES IN HIGHER EDUCATION.**

***Ermatova Mexriniso Bekmurodovna***

*Denov Institute of Entrepreneurship and Pedagogy*

*Teacher of the Department of Preschool Education*

*Email:ermatovamehriniso948@gmail.com*

**Annotation.** This article explores the possibilities of improving students' operational competencies through engaging them in extracurricular practical embroidery activities. Learning the art of embroidery helps students develop independent working skills, a deeper understanding of technological processes, aesthetic taste, and professional abilities. Extracurricular activities bring students closer to national culture, stimulate creative thinking, and encourage practical labor. The article analyzes methods of organizing practical sessions, methodological approaches, and the role of national handicrafts in the development of professional competencies. These efforts are especially important for promoting youth employment and guiding them toward vocational skills and craftsmanship.

**Keywords:** Embroidery, Practical activities, Extracurricular learning, Operational competencies, Vocational training, Creative skills, Student engagement, National handicrafts, Hands-on learning, Innovative teaching methods

**Introduction .**

**Relevance of the topic.** Today, one of the urgent issues is to instill folk applied arts, in particular embroidery, in the minds of the younger generation, to educate them through practical activities that serve to preserve national values, form aesthetic taste. The art of embroidery, as one of the centuries-old rich cultural heritages of the Uzbek people, is an important means of not only artistic, but also spiritual education.

One of the main tasks facing the modern education system is to form and strengthen professional and practical competencies in students. From this point of view, students' engagement in embroidery activities within extracurricular activities deepens their practical skills and qualifications, and plays an important role in developing such competencies as creative thinking, independent work, and problem solving.

In the current conditions, the labor and professional training of young people is an important social task, and theorists and practitioners of this field, pedagogical scientists, teachers, educators, trainers and masters teach young people various aspects of folk crafts, prepare them to master professions in these areas, which leads to the development and progress of our crafts, and thereby makes a worthy contribution to the treasury of world culture [3.7].

Also, the decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Development of National Crafts", resolutions on ensuring the employment of young people in the field of crafts,

directing them to entrepreneurship and expanding the system of family vocational schools further increase the relevance of this topic.

Practical classes on embroidery are also relevant in the following aspects:

- 1. Formation of national identity** - It educates students to be loyal to national values by instilling respect and interest in their own culture.
- 2. Socio-psychological adaptation** - Through such activities, students realize themselves as useful individuals in society, and teamwork skills are formed.
- 3. Development of professional competence** - The student, participating directly in labor activities, learns to perform embroidery work technologically correctly, work with equipment, and combine ornaments and patterns.
- 4. Vocational training in a market economy** - It creates a practical understanding of the possibilities of conducting entrepreneurial activities through embroidery and earning income through crafts.

Also, involving students in practical activities plays an important role in meaningfully spending their free time, protecting them from negative influences, developing a creative approach, and increasing their motivation for independent learning.

**Main part.** Ways to increase the importance of folk crafts and applied arts in the development of national culture, the production of high-quality handmade products, the revival of traditional and unique types, and state support for folk craftsmen are reflected in the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated March 31, 1997 "On measures to provide state support for the further development of folk crafts and applied arts" No. PF-1714 and the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers dated June 4, 1977 No. 282 [1].

In the 21st century, the development of students' creative and practical activities based on innovative approaches in the educational process has become an urgent issue. In particular, the focus on studying national arts and crafts in vocational education serves to strengthen the professional and cultural competencies of young people. Embroidery is not only a decorative art of needlework, but also a rich heritage that embodies the historical, cultural and aesthetic views of the people.

Engaging students in embroidery activities in extracurricular activities has a number of goals:

- development of practical skills;
- formation of creative thinking;
- understanding of national values;
- mastering work culture;
- strengthening the competence of teamwork and interaction.

**Operational competence** - is a set of knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for the effective and independent implementation of professional activities. Embroidery activity serves as an ideal tool for developing this competence. The student masters the following operational stages in creating each ornament:

- 1. Design stage** - selecting a pattern, developing a composition, planning color harmony.
- 2. Preparatory stage** - selecting fabric, needle, thread and other necessary tools, preparing a sketch.

**3. Technological process** - creating a pattern using various sewing techniques (chain stitch, edge stitch, star stitch, etc.).

**4. Analysis of the work performed** - evaluating the result, identifying errors and improving.

Extracurricular activities play an important role in effectively organizing extracurricular time, encouraging students to work independently, and preparing them for the profession. This includes organizing embroidery circles, meetings with national craftsmen, and practical seminars. Students see the results of their work by creating real products, which increases their self-confidence.

Students can learn to combine national embroidery with modern designs and create new products. Through embroidery, students can be taught to appreciate elegance, harmony, and artistic taste. Through the symbolic meaning of the patterns reflected in the embroidery, students receive deep spiritual lessons[5,106 b].

The effectiveness of organizing classes on folk crafts is related to: the methodology and technology of the educational process, the process of mastering knowledge[4,41].

Through embroidery, students also acquire small business skills. In today's competitive labor market, a person who has a craft will always have an advantage. Therefore, during practical training, it is advisable to direct students to study the marketing of finished products, branding, and marketing approaches.

**Literature analysis.** Shomirzayev Makhmudmurod Khurramovich's textbook "Folk Crafts and Artistic Design" is an important scientific and practical resource in the field of technology education. This textbook includes such important aspects as the integration of national crafts into the modern education system, the inclusion of artistic design in the educational process, and the use of innovative methods. The textbook serves as a methodological guide for improving educational programs, teachers and students. This textbook discusses the need to pay special attention to our rich national and cultural heritage, national and universal values, and new requirements of the new era in improving, nationalizing, and raising educational work to a level that meets world standards. [3,8]. Mirzaeva Gulmira Makhmanazar's dissertation on the topic "Improving the methodology for developing technological competencies in students' study of folk crafts" is an important scientific work in the field of technology education. This study developed methodological approaches aimed at developing students' technological competencies through the study of folk crafts. The practical significance of this dissertation is highlighted as follows: **Preservation and development of national values:** The study of folk crafts contributes to the preservation and development of national values[3,27].

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS.** During the study, the following important results were achieved in terms of developing students' operational competencies in embroidery by involving them in extracurricular activities:

#### **Results:**

##### **1. Students' practical skills have developed significantly.**

During the experimental sessions, the ability to perform traditional and modern embroidery techniques has increased. Students have shown high activity in working independently, choosing designs, and finding creative solutions.

##### **2. Operational competencies have been clearly formed.**

Operational actions such as step-by-step organization of the process, correct selection of

materials and equipment, and adherence to technological sequence have improved.

### **3. Attention to creativity and national values has increased.**

During the sessions, students have studied the methodological aspects of the Uzbek national art of embroidery in more depth. This has developed their cultural thinking and aesthetic taste.

### **4. Increased motivation and interest among students.**

Being an extracurricular activity, these activities created a positive atmosphere among students and increased their desire for professional growth.

### **Discussions:**

The conducted research showed that practical, creative and culturally oriented extracurricular activities not only help to form the student's professional competence, but also develop his general culture, aesthetic views and teamwork skills. Embroidery activities, in turn, are manifested as a means of developing not only technical, but also socio-emotional competencies.

As a result of the discussions, the following proposals were put forward:

- It is necessary to introduce modular training programs within the framework of embroidery classes.
- It is necessary to include project work based on a creative approach in extracurricular activities.
- It would be useful to organize master classes in embroidery, workshops with the participation of masters of the master-student tradition and folk applied arts.

**Conclusion:** The role of extracurricular activities in developing students' operational competencies in practical activities related to embroidery is invaluable. Practical activities outside the classroom are an important tool in ensuring the effective transition of students from theoretical knowledge to practical experience.

Embroidery is an art form that requires subtlety and patience, artistry, precise hand movements, and the coordination of design and color. Therefore, it is difficult to develop high-level operational competencies based solely on theoretical knowledge.

Extracurricular activities allow students to independently test their knowledge and skills, apply various technical methods, and try out creative approaches in practice. Through this process, students learn to effectively use various embroidery techniques, materials, and equipment. Such activities also help develop creative thinking, create new designs, and develop an individual style.

In extracurricular activities, students also develop time management, responsibility, and independent and team-working skills. In addition, practical activities create an environment of healthy competition and cooperation among students, which further stimulates their professional growth.

In the process of improving operational competencies, it is also important to introduce new technologies, modern materials, and innovative methods. This will help students acquire advanced experience in improving quality and efficiency in embroidery. In addition, extracurricular activities can be organized in the form of numerous professional exhibitions, competitions, practical seminars, and projects, which will bring students closer to the real work environment.

As a result, the development of operational competencies in embroidery through

extracurricular activities will help students become professionally mature, creative, and responsible specialists. This will not only provide them with meaningful free time, but will also create a solid foundation for them to achieve high results in their future work.

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