

## **Balancing Independence and Guidance: Cultivating Student Agency in Blended Learning**

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**Abstract :** Blended learning, with its combination of online and face-to-face instruction, presents a unique set of challenges and opportunities in terms of cultivating student agency. While it offers flexibility and personalized learning pathways, it also demands a higher degree of self-regulation and motivation from students. This paper presents the design of blended learning in a Chinese lesson and discusses the framework involved. It also talks about the Edtech tools adopted to engage the students. Some of the students' works will be showcased. A qualitative case study research method was employed in this paper to find out more about students' learning experiences and to give them a voice. The purpose is to seek improvement in the blended learning design of the Chinese lessons and to encourage students' self-directed learning.

**Keywords :** blended learning, student agency, ed-tech tools, self-directed learning

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