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**Title of story / project: Music and massage**

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**Project URL: <https://www.gycuz.com/project-a>**

**Digital Research Page URL: https://www.gycuz.com/project-form-s2-1**

MAVM 2023-2025

Story / Project Form

VJM7102 CRITICAL THINKING IN PRACTICE

Contents

* **Introductory notes**

1. **Research Sources (combining reading list, literature review and 'research of subject’)**
2. **Research Questions**
3. **Research Proposal (1500 words)**
4. **Research Abstract (25-50 words)**
5. **Reflective Diary**

Introductory notes

**VJM7104 CRITICAL THINKING IN PRACTICE: Project / Form**

* The theory project form sits tightly with the practical project form and the practical module. However rather than training practical methodologies and processes used in multimedia journalism projects. It develops students academic and contextual learning and helps to inform the choices they make in the practical project form.
* All students will need to research the wider contextual issues of their story in the Theory Project form to ensure that their practical work is underpinned by a solid understanding of the relevant and contextual issues.
* At your initial research stage, it’s important to keep all your research materials organized.
* The production brief and project form sit side by side and inform each-other. Your practice will inform your theory and your theory will inform your practice. For example, you intend to do your practical reporting on children living with autism. For your theory module, you will be looking at the facts, data and information about people living with autism in China and abroad, which will reflect in the “Research Sources,” “Research Questions” and “Research Proposal” sections.
* You may also perform some research on media representation of people living with disabilities and best practices for reporting on people with disabilities. From this research you find that people living with autism are rarely directly quoted or given a chance to tell their own stories. This might inform your own reporting so that you are sure to include the voices of people living with autism. In another story and example, you might read that for your target publication, most users consume the news on their mobile, in this case you’d certainly want your story to be optimised on your chosen platform for mobile viewing. This research should be reflected in your “Research Sources” section, but you don’t need to write about them in your “Research Questions” and “Research Proposal”
* Plagiarism - avoiding plagiarism is actually easy - if you are well researched, and well informed about your subject you’ll know what is important and interesting to tell and you won’t need to copy from others. Do your research well, and log it so you can find and refer to it. Check [the plagiarism and patch-writing page](https://beijingimmj.wordpress.com/plagiarism-patch-writing%E2%80%8A-%E2%80%8Ano-thank-you/)

**Summary of the story:**

* Chen Bin and Xu Zishan, visually impaired students at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational College, are members of the school orchestra and are preparing for the 2024 University Student Art Festival. Both are passionate about music, but their major is massage therapy, which is a major employment direction for visually impaired individuals in China. However, for these two students who harbor dreams, they are not content to limit themselves to this field.

**Background:**

* Globally, the education and employment of visually impaired people has been a focus of social concern. For visually impaired students, receiving higher education can not only improve their knowledge and skills, but also is an important way to achieve social integration and personal value. The background story of this documentary is deeply rooted in the current development trend of special education and the change in social cognition of visually impaired people. With the popularization of the concept of educational equity and the gradual improvement of barrier-free facilities, visually impaired students have more opportunities to show themselves and pursue their dreams. However, in the process of receiving education and integrating into the society, they still face many challenges and prejudices.

**Story presentation:**

* Opening Introduction: The story introduces the main characters of the story with music, opening with a beautiful bamboo flute performance, Chen Bin, a visually impaired student, who is using his music to tell the story of his heart. Xu Zishan's soulful guitar improvisation lets us enter his musical world. Music has not only allowed them to find a way to express themselves, but has also become a bridge for them to communicate with the world.
* Interview Interwoven: Through in-depth interviews with Chen Bin, Xu Zishan and Teacher Zhang Kaifeng, we learn about their love of music, as well as their growth and challenges in the special education environment.
* Education Status Quo: Professor Qiu Jianwei's interview provides insights into the current state of employment for massage professionals and visually impaired students. His insights help us understand the opportunities and limitations that visually impaired students face in education and career development.
* Growth and Exploration: The documentary records Chen Bin's school life, massage internship, and Xu Zishan's participation in the development of a Braille printer, showing how visually impaired students overcome obstacles and discover their own potential. 
* Social Cognition: Zhao Cheng, Chairman of the Hangzhou Blind Association, supplements the macroscopic observation of the employment market for the visually impaired individuals in a telephone interview. Despite the lack of images, his views highlight the deviations in society's cognition of the visually impaired, and the difficulties in employment.
* Ending: The rehearsals and performance shots of the art troupe became the climax of the documentary. The performances of blind students not only showcase their musical talent, but also serve as a declaration of their hope for the future. We also call on society to pay attention to the rights of the blind and create a more inclusive social environment for them.

**Research Sources**

**(complete and refined by week 2) Continue to refine during pre-production, production and post-production.**

**Combines a background contextual reading list of the research sources you will refer to to develop your knowledge about your chosen story and issue. This does not mean the journalistic primary / secondary sources you’ll be utilising as a part your actual reporting - however some of the references included here may eventually provide sources you do actually utilise later in your reporting.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | **List quality journalism hard news and feature stories from news orgs, individual journalists, photographers / writers / radio journalists / video journalists and multimedia journalists on the same subject. Put your top 5 articles here and include a brief literature review paragraph for each source. Assemble other sources in a digital research page (We recommend Padlet).**  1. **"Employment Barriers for the Blind and Visually Impaired" by World Services for the Blind**   * **Summary**: This article identifies key barriers to employment for the blind and visually impaired, including transportation challenges, lack of training, negative attitudes from employers, and inadequate workplace accommodations. It also provides practical advice for both visually impaired job seekers and employers on how to address these challenges. The piece emphasizes the importance of education, self-efficacy training, and the role of assistive technologies in improving employment outcomes. * **Source**: World Services for the Blind​ (https://www.wsblind.org/blog/2021/6/16/employment-barriers-for-the-blind-and-visually-impaired).   2. **Blind employment: what can you do besides massage after tuina investigation**   * **Summary**: This article outlines the current employment situation of the blind, the challenges they face, and measures to improve their situation. Currently, the blind are mainly engaged in the massage industry, but they have also begun to expand into a variety of occupations such as piano tuning and psychological counseling. The main challenges to employment stem from social discrimination and the limitations of the blind themselves. Strategies to address these challenges include raising public awareness, enhancing corporate social responsibility, optimizing the employment environment, and providing policy support. The article also emphasizes the importance of improving the education of the blind, enhancing their cultural and professional qualities, and argues that enterprises should assume social responsibility by providing reasonable accommodations and accessible working environments for the disabled. * **Source**: China News Network (https://www.chinanews.com.cn/gn/2021/10-16/9587740.shtml).   3. **"Q&A: Employment and Vocational Rehabilitation for the Visually Impaired, Part 2" by Salus University**   * **Summary**: This Q&A article features insights from experts in low vision rehabilitation and vocational counseling. It discusses the impact of virtual work environments on visually impaired workers, the importance of adaptive skills and technology, and the role of vocational rehabilitation programs. The article also touches on societal stigma and the need for increased awareness and education among employers. * **Source**: Salus University​ (https://www.salus.edu/news-stories/2020/11/qa-employment-and-vocational-rehabilitation-for-the-visually-impaired-part-2.html)​.   4. **Guangdong is the first province to clarify that blind people's medical massage centers can apply for medical insurance**   * **Summary**: The website provides news coverage about the new policy of Guangdong Provincial Medical Security Bureau. The new policy allows rehabilitation medical centers and blind medical massage centers that have obtained the "Medical Institution Practice License" to apply to become designated medical security institutions. Guangdong Province has therefore become the first province in the country to clearly state at the provincial level that blind medical massage centers can apply for medical security designation. * **Source**: China Disabled Persons' Federation​ (https://www.cdpf.org.cn/xwzx/dfdt1/4ec4ed424d2041fabd39c1e4a88a76b0.htm)​.   5. **Integrated Education: Allowing Visually Impaired Children to Attend Regular Schools**   * **Summary**: Brief literature review: This paper is originally published in Southern Metropolis Daily, providing an introduction to the ideas and practices of integrated education. The paper shows, through real-life examples, visually impaired children receiving education in regular schools, emphasizing the importance for the public to understand the disabled community. * **Source**: Tencent News (https://new.qq.com/rain/a/20220822A07SSD00.html)​.   ***Digital Research Page***  **Reading for the Blind: A Breakthrough at their Fingertips**  Source introduction: The report delves into how visually impaired people overcome numerous difficulties to read. The data shows that there are more than 17 million visually impaired people in China, of which more than 8 million are blind. The report reveals the challenges and solutions faced by visually impaired people in reading through exclusive interviews and data analysis.  (https://hn.rednet.cn/content/646754/59/13158980.html)  **How do we develop a special education path suitable for visually impaired students? This school has some experience to Share**  Source Introduction: This report outlines how one school uses an education model that integrates ecology to provide diverse educational opportunities for visually impaired students. The school employs "Colorful Five Acts" for classroom teaching and "Triple Experience" for activity-based courses to cultivate the students' potential and abilities.  (https://new.qq.com/rain/a/20220413A0APTV00)  **Reviewing the Disability Employment Research on People who are Blind or Visually Impaired: Key Takeaways**  Source Introduction: This comprehensive review discusses the employment landscape for visually impaired individuals, highlighting issues such as underemployment, employer attitudes, and the critical role of transportation. It also stresses the importance of higher education and early work experience in improving job prospects. The article provides data-driven insights into the factors that facilitate successful employment and the systemic barriers that need to be addressed.  (https://www.afb.org/research-and-initiatives/employment/reviewing-disability-employment-research-people-blind-visually)  **RRTC ON EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED**  Source Introduction: This research-focused article outlines several projects aimed at improving employment outcomes for visually impaired individuals. These include the development of an employment-focused app for youth, summer work experience programs, and interventions to change employer attitudes. The article highlights the importance of evidence-based approaches and comprehensive support systems in enhancing job retention and advancement for the visually impaired.  (https://www.educ.msstate.edu/content/rrtc-employment-outcomes-individuals-who-are-blind-and-visually-impaired/) |
| 2 | **Who are the leading local Chinese and global International academics specialising on your subject? Give names, brief biographies (and weblink to profile or work if possible)**  **Qingzhong Li**  Profile: Qingzhong Li is the chairman of the China Association of the Blind, with a long-term focus on education issues related to the visually impaired. He emphasizes that education is the fundamental way to change destiny, integrate into society, and realize one's own value.  Personal homepage: [https://www.cdpf.org.cn//zzjg/ldjj/dbjdzlsh/731fcd7114af426ead4b64ad74068ae1.htm](https://www.cdpf.org.cn/zzjg/ldjj/dbjdzlsh/731fcd7114af426ead4b64ad74068ae1.htm)  **Yongcheng Wang**  Profile: Part-time vice chairman of the 8th Presidium of the China Disabled Persons Federation, representative of the National People's Congress, chairman of the Asia Pacific Massage Committee of the World Blind Alliance, president of the China Blind Massage Society, part-time vice chairman of the 8th Executive Council of the Fujian Disabled Persons Federation, and party branch secretary of the Fujian Disabled Persons Labor and Employment Service Center, proposed his views on stable and dignified employment for blind people at the National People's Congress and National People's Congress, and pointed out that traditional Chinese massage is the best choice for stable employment for blind people.  Personal homepage: <https://www-current.cdpf.org.cn/zzjg/ldjj/dbjzxt/77424b2a520a4339b68b8df7e039284c.htm>  **Jiajun Bu**  Profile: Jiajun Bu is head of the "Research Center for Disabilities Information and Accessibility Technology" at Zhejiang University. He focuses on accessible information construction. He uses optical character recognition (OCR) technology to help the visually impaired to access information better.  Personal homepage: <https://mypage.zju.edu.cn/bjj/732066.html>  **Cary Supalo**  Profile: Dr. Cary Supalo is a blind chemist who has overcome his visual impairment to excel in the field of chemistry, earning degrees from Purdue University and Pennsylvania State University. He is a research developer at ETS, focusing on accessibility in education and testing, and the founder of Independence Science, which aims to enhance science education for visually impaired students. Dr. Supalo champions the inclusion and empowerment of individuals with visual impairments through his work and advocacy.  Personal homepage: <https://www.ntac.blind.msstate.edu/spotlights/2020/dr-cary-supalo>  **Jacobus tenBroek**  Profile: Jacobus tenBroek was a blind American activist and scholar who championed disability rights. He overcame his blindness to become a prominent figure in the civil rights movement, co-founding the National Federation of the Blind and influencing legal interpretations of the U.S. Constitution.  Personal homepage: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacobus_tenBroek> |
| 3 | **List any short or long form documentary films that have been made on the subject. Give a brief one or two sentence literature review to accompany each film.**  **"Stars in Eyes"**  literature review: This documentary records 14 visually impaired companions who are currently engaged in occupations other than blind massage in China, showcasing their real working environment and status quo, reflecting the specific working capabilities and needs of the visually impaired.  <https://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XMjQ3NTI3NTI2NA==.html?spm=a2h1n.8251843.0.0&f=29241428>  **"Invisible Summit"**  literature review: The film, from the perspective of onlookers, truthfully and objectively records the entire process of blind mountaineer Zhang Hong, from making decisions, preparing for training in the early stages, and working together with his guide to climb Mount Everest, until finally successfully reaching the summit.  <https://www.cdrzzc.com/vod/play/89052/1/1>  **"One twelfth: A blind person decides to go to college alone"**  literature review:Lv Jingyang, a blind student, was admitted to Beijing Jiaotong University's School of Software Engineering. He faces challenges in his daily life, including navigating campus, eating, borrowing books, and attending classes with sighted peers.  <https://haokan.baidu.com/v?pd=wisenatural&vid=7825304789965477232>  **"Blind people do not massage"**  literature review: The documentary, from the perspective of visually impaired individuals, documents the issues faced by blind massage therapists in terms of work environment, work benefits, occupational diseases, gender and sex, and policy restrictions.  <https://www.bilibili.com/video/av11186977/?vd_source=9ccc4c9e8c89d7d8c594b2998a3cf3c7>  **"Beyond My Blindness"**  Literature Review: This is a documentary about Mirjana Krisanovic, a blind person. She wants to motivate you to think with a positive mindset, and she also demonstrates how she handles daily challenges as a blind person.  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvUFoTpt5MI&t=211s> |
| 4 | **List the key domestic and international charities / non profits / NGO’s working on your subject. Give names, brief summaries of what the org does and weblink to website.**  **China Disabled Persons’ Federation (CDPF)**  Summary: CDPF is a national organization dedicated to improving the lives of disabled individuals in China, including those who are visually impaired. It works on policy advocacy, provides support services, and promotes social integration and employment opportunities for disabled persons.  Website: <https://www.cdpf.org.cn/>  **China Association of Persons with Visual Disabilities (CAPVD)**  Summary: Founded in 1953, it is a national, united, non-profit social organization led by the China Disabled Persons' Federation. It represents all blind people (including low vision) in China and their related social organizations, enterprises and individuals.  Website: <http://www.zgmx.org.cn/index.html>  **Bethel China**  Summary: Founded by a French couple, Guilhem and Laurence Kabis, Bethel China has been serving visually impaired orphans since 2003, providing life care, medical rehabilitation and other services.  Website: <http://www.bethelchina.org>  ***International***  **American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)**  Summary: AFB works to create a world of no limits for people who are blind or visually impaired. The organization focuses on education, employment, and advocacy, providing resources and training to improve the quality of life for visually impaired individuals.  Website: <https://www.afb.org/>  **World Blind Union (WBU)**  Summary: Founded in 1984, it is an international non-governmental organization with 190 member states, aiming to enable blind people all over the world to participate in social life with equal opportunities and rights.  Website: <https://www.worldblindunion.org/>  **Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)**  Summary: RNIB offers practical and emotional support to visually impaired individuals in the UK. It provides information, advice, and services to help blind and partially sighted people achieve independence and employment.  Website: <https://www.rnib.org.uk/>  **Vision Australia**  Summary: Vision Australia supports people who are blind or have low vision by offering a range of services, including education, employment support, and independent living programs. The organization aims to ensure that visually impaired individuals have equal access to opportunities.  Website: <https://www.visionaustralia.org/>  **Perkins School for the Blind**  Summary: Perkins provides educational services, advocacy, and training for visually impaired individuals globally. The organization focuses on empowering visually impaired persons through innovative learning programs and resources.  Website: <https://www.perkins.org/>  **Lighthouse for the Blind**  Summary: Lighthouse for the Blind aims to promote the independence, equality, and self-advocacy of people who are blind or visually impaired through education, training, and employment services.  Website: <https://lighthouse-sf.org/> |
| 5 | **List any other relevant works or people connected to the subject.**  ***Movies and documentaries:***  **Dancer in the Dark**  Summary:A film by Lars von Trier inspired by the true story of a visually impaired woman.  <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0168629/>  ***Literary work:***  **Get out of the dust**  Summary:This is the first group portrait interview in China that comprehensively reflects the lives of blind people. It records the growth, education, entrepreneurship, and life journey of blind people, covering multiple groups such as blind children, blind parents, blind school teachers, and entrepreneurial blind people.  <https://www.sohu.com/a/575742891_121119389>  **Massage**  Summary:Massage is a novel written by contemporary writer Bi Feiyu. Massage tells the story of the emotions, responsibilities, dignity, and dreams of a group of blind people at a massage center.  <https://www.wenxue88.com/tuina/index.html>  **The Story of My Life**  Summary:Helen Keller's autobiography, a story about how she overcame the difficulties of blindness and deafness.  <https://www.docin.com/p-2502947040.html>  ***Prominent Figures：***  **Erik Weihenmayer**  Biography: Erik Weihenmayer is an adventurer, author, and motivational speaker who became the first blind person to reach the summit of Mount Everest. He advocates for the visually impaired community and inspires many through his achievements and public speaking.  <https://ndmc.pyd.org/hall-of-fame/class-of-2019/erik-weihenmayer/>  **Helen Keller**  Biography: Helen Keller was an American author, political activist, and lecturer who was both blind and deaf. She is renowned for her incredible achievements and advocacy for people with disabilities, including her efforts to improve education and employment opportunities for the visually impaired.  <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Helen-Keller>  **Sabriye Tenberken**  Biography: Sabriye Tenberken is a German social worker and co-founder of Braille Without Borders, an organization that empowers visually impaired individuals in developing countries. She has developed innovative educational programs to help visually impaired people achieve independence and self-reliance.  <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sabriye_Tenberken> |
| 6 | 1. **Make a twitter list of journalists / academics / NGO’s and follow it. What is the name of the list?** 2. **Are there any hashtags you are following on social media?** 3. **Set up a relevant google alert to be delivered daily or weekly to your email. What are the keywords of your google alert search?** 4. **List Name: Blindness & Employment**   Accounts to Follow:  **Journalists:**   * @erikweihenmayer (Erik Weihenmayer) - Motivational speaker and author. * @NFB\_voice (National Federation of the Blind) - Official account of the NFB. * @RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) - UK's leading charity for blind and partially sighted people. * @AFB1921 (American Foundation for the Blind) - Advocating for a world with no limits for people with vision loss.   **Academics:**   * @DrKarenWolffe (Karen Wolffe) - Expert in career counseling for visually impaired individuals. * @ArielleSilverman (Arielle Silverman) - Social psychologist specializing in disability studies. * @SalusUniversity (Salus University) - Educational institution with programs for visually impaired students.   **NGOs:**   * @IAPB1 (International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness) - Global organization working to prevent blindness. * @VisionAustralia (Vision Australia) - Leading provider of services for visually impaired people in Australia. * @PerkinsVision (Perkins School for the Blind) - Providing education and services to visually impaired individuals globally.  1. **Hashtags:**   Here are some relevant hashtags you can follow on social media:   * #Blind * #VisuallyImpaired * #DisabilityRights * #EmploymentEquality * #BlindEmployment * #InclusiveWorkforce * #Accessibility   C）**Google Alert:**  Keywords for Google Alert Search:   * "Visually impaired education" * "Blind employment opportunities" * "Assistive technology for the blind" * "Inclusive education for visually impaired" * "Visually impaired vocational training" * "Blindness and job market" * "Visually impaired support organizations" * "Accessibility in education for the blind" * "Disability rights in employment" |

**Viewing List + Literature reviews**

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| 1 | **List the books you have/will read to support this project. Give a brief one or two sentence literature review to accompany each book.**  **"Get out of the dust"**  Summary:This is the first group portrait interview in China that comprehensively reflects the lives of blind people. It records the growth, education, entrepreneurship, and life journey of blind people, covering multiple groups such as blind children, blind parents, blind school teachers, and entrepreneurial blind people.  <https://www.sohu.com/a/575742891_121119389>  **"Massage"**  Summary:Massage is a novel written by contemporary writer Bi Feiyu. Massage tells the story of the emotions, responsibilities, dignity, and dreams of a group of blind people at a massage center.  <https://www.wenxue88.com/tuina/index.html>  **"You Are My Eyes"**  Summary:This book describes the life experience of a blind person, showing how they can still perceive the beauty of the world without vision. This book emphasizes that light is not only visual, but also spiritual.  <https://www.sohu.com/a/400648944_377476>  **"Employment Development Report for the Visually Impaired People in China "**  Summary:The development process of employment for people with vision impairment since the founding of the People's Republic of China was analyzed, and the development of new occupations for the visually impaired in the new era was explored on the basis of traditional employment channels such as massage for the blind.  <https://xianxiao.ssap.com.cn/catalog/6558964.html> |
| 2 | **List the articles you have/will read to support this project (Via paddle is ok)Give a brief one or two sentence literature review to accompany each of them.**  **An Analysis of High Quality Employment Pathways for Visually Impaired Vocational College Students -- Taking Zhejiang Special Education Vocational College as an Example**  literature review:This study analyzes the challenges visually impaired college students face in the employment process and explores multiple paths to achieve high-quality employment for visually impaired students, using the Zhejiang Special Education Vocational College as an example.  <http://www.cnki.net/KCMS/detail/detail.aspx?dbcode=CJFD&dbname=CJFDLAST2024&filename=GGJX202401028&uniplatform=OVERSEA&v=3bntr9Sjm3weFuA_SxYUwhXzNXXYAPeV2qfyLfQLcjDapsZRQzWP6tOIv0bZblbg>  **Beijing massage center experience the different blind person massage**  literature review:This article introduces how Beijing Massage Hospital has been training professional blind therapeutic massagists through stringent selection and training processes and also highlights the hospital’s efforts and the challenges it faces in upgrading the continuing education and employment prospects of blind therapeutic massagists.  <http://www.cnki.net/KCMS/detail/detail.aspx?dbcode=CCND&dbname=CCNDLAST2023&filename=JKSB202307110030&uniplatform=OVERSEA&v=mg6ifrEf4qI7IqsfTO9_hoZPKV6WbShgEvYV75zN1RsIv8tu44CWXQTux1-FjiePpeyBZzw-gGY%3d>  **Countermeasure Analysis of the Promotion of Employment for the Disabled**  literature review:Based on the audit investigation of the disability security funds and policies of a certain city, this article analyzes the current low employment rate and poor employment quality of the disabled, and proposes countermeasures to promote higher-quality employment of the disabled.  <https://kns.cnki.net/kcms2/article/abstract?v=WOgJpqC0z4afwKHEraOqWuZZICbkb_vXuIEJaHZQzhyC0Y2aCgBJg7WjXG_6KiYk5X4jz0D2YcvwMesPHwYsAQhRrflPl9i6s6C0UgyPjnL-vRi9wFARG_MEYaNdlohmUzdhuY7Bol0W3fN8cuKwuA==&uniplatform=NZKPT&language=CHS> |
|  | **Memory and Thinking -- Talking about the Development of Chinese Blind Massage**  literature review:This paper reviews the development of blind massage in China from the early 20th century to the present, including the origin of blind massage education, the recovery and institutionalization of blind massage after the founding of New China, and how blind massage has become an important way for the blind to get employed and contribute to society. The paper also discusses the challenges facing the cause of blind massage and opportunities for future development.  <https://kns.cnki.net/kcms2/article/abstract?v=WOgJpqC0z4a-9Cg8GBOslwGRKB9DbGXjcBjYZNCykICllUbT_N0FlebNvgGi6OJrlAJeElF3HEta0w8d_p1srrT3LSTT2kV85YCXXC2SO7GVwFk30MmjmLAAUQuQLoAuxHv5hccAruY=&uniplatform=NZKPT&language=CHS>  **Drivers of career success among the visually impaired: Improving career inclusivity and sustainability in a career ecosystem**  literature review:Visual impairment's impact on career success is under-researched. Our study of 66 visually impaired Indians identified factors like resilience, positive relationships, family support, and technology use that contribute to high career attainment. In contrast, low-career-attainment individuals often accepted their fate and felt obligated to support their families. Our findings suggest that challenging norms, persistence, and self-efficacy are key for individuals, while organizations should seek to tap into the overlooked talent pool of people with disabilities.  <https://go.exlibris.link/ggW3v6QR>  **FACTORS CORRELATED WITH EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES FOR**  **INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED**  literature review:A study analyzing data from a Southeastern state vocational rehabilitation agency found significant employment disparities for individuals with vision loss, despite recent improvements. The study examined 610 cases to identify factors correlated with employment outcomes, including demographics, vision loss characteristics, and support services. Logistic regression and statistical tests revealed that most variables, except for training and secondary disabilities, were predictors or significantly related to employment status, type, and occupation classification. Key findings include that women, those with less severe vision loss, better assistive technology, orientation and mobility skills, and transportation had better employment prospects. The study also highlighted the relationship between the level of blindness and assistive technology use, and the association of age, education, and access to transportation with competitive employment. The results call for further research into specific employment variables and their impact on employment for the visually impaired.  [https://login.ezproxy.bolton.ac.uk/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/factors-correlated-with-employment-outcomes/docview/305049472/se-2](https://login.ezproxy.bolton.ac.uk/login?url=https:/www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/factors-correlated-with-employment-outcomes/docview/305049472/se-2) |
|  | **Mainstream Employment in Music Production for Individuals Who Are Visually Impaired: Development of a Model Training Program**  literature review:The Miami Lighthouse music program was initiated by the lead author, who, as a newly blind individual, regained her executive skills at Miami Lighthouse and sought to address the poor employment outlook for visually impaired individuals in Miami. The program utilizes MIDI technology to teach students audio industry skills in a technological environment similar to mainstream employment settings.  <https://journals-sagepub-com.ezproxy.bolton.ac.uk/doi/pdf/10.1177/0145482X1010400904>  **Which factors affect the chances of paid employment for individuals with visual impairment in Britain?**  literature review:A study of 559 visually impaired working-age individuals in Britain from a nationally-representative survey analyzed factors influencing their employment probability. Multivariate analysis revealed that educational attainment, housing tenure, registration status, and having additional disabilities significantly affect the likelihood of being employed. The study emphasizes the need to consider the diverse labor market experiences of people with disabilities and the individual impacts of visual impairment severity, age of onset, and additional disabilities.  <https://web-p-ebscohost-com.ezproxy.bolton.ac.uk/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=0&sid=d872913d-1ab5-4b06-9e9e-216b754b7286%40redis>  **Visually Impaired Individuals’ Perspectives on Obtaining and Maintaining Employment**  literature review:A transcendental phenomenological study examined the experiences of 10 visually impaired individuals facing employment challenges. Key barriers identified were travel difficulties, employer bias, lack of support and accommodations, and job search challenges. The study highlighted a significant discouragement among the visually impaired in seeking employment. The findings aim to raise awareness and inform strategies to support this group in the job market.  <https://www.proquest.com/docview/1946173654/fulltextPDF?parentSessionId=BMtzH7gDEVpX8Z8h%2FT045GYt49Tefe4FqedhaJDVXpE%3D&pq-origsite=summon&accountid=9653&sourcetype=Dissertations%20&%20Theses> |
| 3 | **List the websites you have/will read to support this project. We do not mean web articles, we mean actual websites that you will refer to and check in with. For example if you are ding an environmental story you might regularly check *China Dialogue*. If you are doing Mojo you might like and join the <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mojocon/> Facebook group. Put your top 3 to 5 websites here and include a brief literature review paragraph for each website. Assemble other sources in a digital research page (We recommend Padlet).**  **"Blind Bar" in Baidu Tieba**  Literature Review: This is a community dedicated to providing a communication platform for blind friends, where users can freely express themselves, share life experiences, and learn Braille and other information.  Website: <https://jump2.bdimg.com/f?kw=%E7%9B%B2%E4%BA%BA>  **Eye coming**  Literature Review: This is a public welfare service platform that connects visually impaired and visually impaired volunteers through real-time video and audio calls, helping visually impaired individuals solve various problems.  Website: <https://org.eyecoming.com/>  **Visually impaired Youth's Future**  Literature Review: This is a website established by young visually impaired individuals, sharing their daily lives and thoughts, and enhancing people's understanding of visually impaired individuals.  Website: <https://www.viyf.org/> |
| 4 | **List any academic articles, research or reports you have/will read to support this project. Put your top 3 to 5 websites here and include a brief literature review paragraph for each one**  **Implementation and Challenge of Supported Employment for People With Disabilities in China**  Website: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/3003387183?accountid=9653&parentSessionId=Bwr8mMfaR5fqnt%2FV4NGPI7qOO17ZdCTRs6wSq8BtRaw%3D&pq-origsite=summon&sourcetype=Scholarly%20Journals>   * Literature Review: The Chinese government initiated a pilot program to implement supported employment for people with disabilities in 2014. Since then, policies have been enacted to promote supported employment. This study explored how practitioners understand and implement supported employment for people with disabilities in China. It was found that non-governmental service organizations have mainly implemented supported employment with financial support provided by local disabled persons' federations; without a governmental guide, the small-scale folk practice presented many difficulties and unstable factors. Results indicated that the Chinese government should actively establish and improve the supported employment system and further expand supported employment practices at the governmental level.   **Shifting the perspective from 'incapable' to 'capable' for artists with cognitive disability; case studies in Australia and South Korea**  Website: <https://www-tandfonline-com.ezproxy.bolton.ac.uk/doi/pdf/10.1080/09687599.2020.1751079>   * Literature Review: This qualitative study of four inclusive arts organizations in Australia and South Korea explored the support provided for artists with cognitive disabilities to pursue professional careers. Using proxy interviews and observations, the research highlighted the need for substantial social support and organizational strategies to help these artists develop their careers. It also emphasized the importance of changing societal perceptions of disability from 'incapable' to 'capable' to better integrate and support cognitively disabled artists in the mainstream art community. The study underscores the role of inclusive arts organizations in offering professional development opportunities and the positive societal impact of redefining perceptions around disability. |
|  | **CAREER CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES**  Website: <https://www-proquest-com.ezproxy.bolton.ac.uk/docview/2251595292?pq-origsite=summon&sourcetype=Trade%20Journals>   * Literature Review: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has opened up new career opportunities for individuals with physical disabilities, including those with visual or hearing impairments, neuromuscular disorders, cerebral palsy, and chronic pain. Despite facing workplace discrimination and access challenges, these individuals can leverage accommodations, symptom management strategies, and coping mechanisms to enhance their career prospects. Career practitioners can further support them by using culturally relevant and wellness-based approaches. The U.S. Census Bureau reported in 2010 that 21.3% of the American population had a disability, with 14.2% classified as 'severe' and physical disabilities being the most prevalent among working-age adults.   **Exploration of Employment Action Process for Persons with Disabilities: Based on the Perspective of Life Process Theory**  Website: <https://kns.cnki.net/kcms2/article/abstract?v=WOgJpqC0z4Y86g7yi6aktDqmi8JV7BevWSPHvT8IqwN2XXBTuvVClrVNtsGx4xT1k-gDiHag1z_rA5pPnwzvBx9hbMrSOwE-0Uk0_wjg6Xdsdg0MDfFQHMVZ1eZX5-2hgnw1tlQaO-s=&uniplatform=NZKPT&language=CHS>   * Literature Review: This article, grounded in life course theory, examines the employment experiences of six disabled individuals to identify factors that influence their initiative in seeking employment. The study reveals varied employment statuses and characteristics among the disabled. Factors such as era-specific traits, policy improvements, personal attributes, support networks, and cumulative advantages significantly affect their employment drive. The article proposes a social work intervention model that integrates professional service awareness and role function influences to assist the disabled in their employment endeavors. |
| 5 | **List the interviews you have conducted/will conduct for this project and list the main objectives of each interview**  1. Chen Bin - Visually Impaired Student at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College   * Main Objectives:   + Understand Chen Bin’s educational journey and experiences at the vocational college.   + Explore his musical talents and how they have influenced his confidence and personal development.   + Discuss his preparation for employment, focusing on his training in massage therapy and any challenges faced in securing internships.   + Gain insights into the balance between pursuing a passion (music) and a practical career (massage therapy).   2. Xu Zishan - Visually Impaired Student at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College   * Main Objectives:   + Learn about Xu Zishan’s experience as a first-year student and his involvement in the college’s art troupe.   + Discuss his self-taught skills in guitar and piano, and his passion for music.   + Examine his views on the vocational training offered at the college and his reluctance towards learning massage therapy.   + Understand his aspirations and how he plans to integrate his musical talents into his future career.   3. Zhao Cheng - Chairman of Hangzhou Blind Association   * Main Objectives:   + Gather information on the broader challenges faced by visually impaired individuals in education and employment.   + Discuss the role of the Hangzhou Blind Association in supporting visually impaired people.   + Obtain insights into policy advocacy and initiatives aimed at improving educational and employment outcomes for the visually impaired.   + Understand the association’s collaboration with educational institutions and employers to facilitate better opportunities for visually impaired individuals.   4. Qiu Jianwei - Deputy Secretary of the Rehabilitation Technology Department and Associate Professor at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College   * Main Objectives:   + Learn about the curriculum and vocational training programs offered at the college, particularly in the field of massage therapy.   + Discuss the challenges and successes in teaching visually impaired students.   + Explore the college’s strategies for preparing students for employment and internships.   + Gain insights into the integration of technology and innovative teaching methods in vocational training.   5. Zhang Kaifeng - Art Teacher and Head of the Art Troupe at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College   * Main Objectives:   + Understand the role of art and music in the education and personal development of visually impaired students.   + Discuss the preparation and participation of the students in the university arts festival.   + Explore the impact of artistic activities on building confidence and skills among visually impaired students.   + Gain insights into the challenges and achievements of the art troupe under his leadership. |
| 6 | **List any other resources you intend to use for the project.**  **Assistive Technology Blogs and Websites**  Summary: These blogs and websites provide the latest updates on assistive technologies that aid visually impaired individuals in education and employment. They offer reviews, user experiences, and technical details on various tools and software.  Examples:  AppleVis: A community-driven site for Apple product users who are blind or low vision.  AccessWorld: A technology magazine from the American Foundation for the Blind.  **Academic Journals and Databases**  Summary: These sources provide peer-reviewed articles and research papers on the education and employment of visually impaired individuals. They offer in-depth analyses and findings from various studies.  Examples:  Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness: A peer-reviewed journal covering all aspects of visual impairment.  ERIC (Education Resources Information Center): A comprehensive database of education research and information.  **Professional Organizations and Conferences**  Summary: Professional organizations and conferences provide networking opportunities, workshops, and presentations on best practices and new research in the field of visual impairment. They are excellent for staying updated and connecting with experts.  Examples:  Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER): An organization dedicated to professionals who work in education and rehabilitation.  International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI): A global association working towards the education of visually impaired individuals.  **Educational and Training Videos**  Summary: Educational platforms and video resources provide visual and auditory learning materials on techniques, strategies, and tools for teaching and supporting visually impaired individuals.  Examples:  YouTube Channels: Channels like Hadley (Hadley School for the Blind) offer tutorials and educational content.  Perkins eLearning: Online courses and webinars on a variety of topics related to visual impairment. |

**Research Questions**

**What is the specific fact or case to be studied?**

* Chen Bin and Xu Zishan, visually impaired students at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational College, are members of the school orchestra and are preparing for the 2024 University Student Art Festival. Both are passionate about music, but their major is massage therapy, which is a major employment direction for visually impaired individuals in China. However, for these two students who harbor dreams, they are not content to limit themselves to this field.

**What is the central question of the proposed research?**

* Social issues regarding the employment difficulties faced by the visually impaired community.
* The stereotype that the visually impaired can only work in massage and physical therapy.

**What are the research topics related to this research question?**

* Explore the living conditions of the visually impaired, including their opportunities for education, employment prospects, and social inclusion, and how technological advances support overcoming barriers they face.

**What are the aims and objectives of the research?**

* Raise public awareness about the visually impaired community, eliminate stereotypes about them, and increase social inclusiveness. The objectives is to promote educational equity for the visually impaired and equal employment opportunities.

**What research methods will be chosen and what do they address?**

* This study, through in-depth interviews and participant observation, directly communicated with visually impaired people and observed their daily life, and deeply understood their experiences. This study not only reveals the obstacles and inequalities faced by visually impaired people in the society, but also emphasizes the necessity of an inclusive society. Through this research, we aim to raise the awareness of the public and policy makers so as to improve the living conditions of visually impaired people, and strongly advocate the implementation of social support systems that help to build a more inclusive and diversified society.

**What research fields does this issue involve and what theories are used to explain it?**

* The research areas include disability studies and the sociology of professions. Key explanatory theories include social constructionism, which explains how the occupational label "masseur = visually impaired person" is constructed through social discourse rather than being a natural outcome. Stigma theory analyzes how societal stereotypes about the vocational abilities of visually impaired individuals create a "spiral of capability devaluation."

**Why is this research important and what are its implications?**

* The significance of this research lies in revealing two fundamental issues: first, how society limits the career choices of the visually impaired; second, how the media uses a single label (such as "blind masseur") to solidify public stereotypes about them. Its importance lies in breaking through the paradigmatic constraints of disability studies and reconstructing the cognitive schema of public perception.

**How are the proposed conclusions different from previous ones?**

* Traditional research conclusions attribute employment difficulties to individual skill deficiencies, whereas this study reveals institutionalized sensory deprivation mechanisms.

**What is the title of the research proposal?**

* Beyond Massage Tables: Embodied Resistance and Vocational Imaginations of Visually Impaired Adolescents in China

**Research Proposal (1500 words)**

**Beyond Massage Tables: Embodied Resistance and Vocational Imaginations of Visually Impaired Adolescents in China**

I. Introduction

The core research question is the life challenges that visually impaired people face in education, employment, and social inclusion and how the society and educational systems can more effectively support their full development and participation.

Sub-themes of the study are to explore the living conditions of the visually impaired, including their educational opportunities, employment prospects, and social inclusion, as well as how technological advancements can support overcoming the barriers they face.

The study is analyzed through in-depth interviews and participatory observations, directly communicating with the visually impaired and observing their daily routines to gain a deep understanding of their experiences.

This research not only reveals the barriers and inequities that people with visual impairments face in society, but it also emphasizes the necessity of an inclusive society. Through this study, we aim to raise awareness among the public and policymakers in order to improve the living conditions of the visually impaired and to strongly advocate for the implementation of support systems that contribute to a more inclusive and diverse society.

II. Background and Significance

The core problem this study addresses is the significant disparities that blind people in China face in educational and employment opportunities. The study aims to identify and elaborate on these challenges, examine the effectiveness of current support systems, and propose viable solutions to improve the quality of life for the visually impaired.

Improving educational and employment opportunities for the visually impaired is not only a matter of social justice but also contributes to broader economic and societal development. By highlighting the particular challenges faced by this group, this study seeks to foster greater awareness and drive policy reforms that promote inclusivity.

By identifying and addressing the barriers faced by the visually impaired, we can work towards building a more inclusive society in which everyone has the opportunity to make meaningful contributions. In turn, this will lead to a more diverse and dynamic workforce, fostering innovation and economic growth.

The study will focus on the challenges faced by the visually impaired in education and employment, as well as societal perceptions and the inclusivity of this group.

Primary data will be collected through in-depth interviews and participant observation. The in-depth interviews will help us understand the personal experiences and perspectives of visually impaired individuals, whereas the participant observation will allow us to observe their interactions and social participation firsthand.

It is important to note that the focus of this study is on the challenges faced by the visually impaired in education and employment and does not cover other types of disabilities. I will focus on visually impaired college students.

III. Literature Review

1. Introduction

Literature review starts with a comprehensive collection and citation of the existing research. The research questions I focus on concentrate on the education opportunities, quality of life, and employment challenges of visually impaired college students. With references including Jie Yan. 2022. Employment Development Report of the Visually Impaired in China, Xiao Yuan, Zhang Xinmeng, Wang Yiyu. 2023. Critique and Reflection on the Inclusive Education Practices of Visually Impaired College Students, and Huang Guimei. 2024.Exploration of High-quality Employment Paths for Visually Impaired College Students from Vocational Schools, I have established the theoretical foundation and practical significance of the research.

2. Main Section

When comparing previous studies, I have found that most of them focus on vocational education and employment skills training for the visually impaired, such as the Liu Wenli, Lei Jianghua. 2022. problems of blind massage vocational education mentioned in Analysis of the Dilemma and Countermeasures of Goal Positioning for Blind Massage Vocational Education in China. Meanwhile, some research such as Guo Siyuan, Xu Ying, Liu Yingzhang, Ma Jiamin. 2023. Empowerment-oriented Disability Service: Action Research on Diversified Employment Projects for Visually Impaired Youth has explored the diversified employment paths for visually impaired youth. Those studies mostly adopt qualitative analysis in methodology but focus on different theoretical frameworks and research perspectives.

There are academic disagreements on the education and employment of the visually impaired. On one hand, some research emphasizes the importance of special education and skills training; on the other hand, some studies point out the restrictions of social environment and employment market on the visually impaired. For example, some studies believe that there exists the problem of overly specialized curriculum goals in massage vocational education while other studies believe that this is the main way for the visually impaired to achieve employment.

Although many studies focus on the employment of the visually impaired, there are few in-depth studies from the perspective of social integration and diversified employment. Besides, the existing research might have limitations in methodology, such as reliance on case studies or lack of large scale empirical data. Our research will take the form of a documentary, presenting real cases to show the living conditions of visually impaired college students, so as to provide a more vivid and intuitive research perspective.

3. Conclusion

My work will make use of the findings from existing research while exploring new scopes of research. For example, through the documentary, we will show how visually impaired college students overcome the barriers in education and employment, and how they achieve self-worth through innovation and diversified paths. Besides, our research will provide empirical support for the problems and suggestions raised in the literature, such as evaluating and enriching the existing policies and educational models, by recording the real life and employment experiences of visually impaired college students in the documentary.

IV. Research Design and Methods

This documentary will use a case study approach, focusing specifically on students with visual impairment at the Zhejiang Special Vocational and Technical College and their transitions into the workforce. This approach, commonly used in qualitative research, allows for an in-depth exploration of individual experiences and the contextual factors influencing their educational and employment trajectories. Through the specific cases of Chen Bin and Xu Zishan, the film will shed light on the broader systemic issues within the education and employment system for people with visual impairment.

Specific research methods include:

In-depth Interviews: Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with purposefully sampled students with visual impairment, faculty of the Zhejiang Special Vocational and Technical College, and experts in the field of visual impairment. Interviews will explore their experiences, challenges, aspirations, and perceptions related to education and employment.

Participant Observation: Participant observation will be conducted in various settings, including classrooms at the Zhejiang Special Vocational and Technical College, workplaces where individuals with visual impairment are employed, and community settings where they interact. Observation aims to gain an in-depth understanding of social interactions, challenges, and coping mechanisms of people with visual impairment in their daily lives. Field notes will be taken during observations and analyzed, alongside interview data, to further inform the research questions.

Archival Research: Government policies, educational reports, employment statistics, and other relevant documents will be collected and analyzed. This archival research will provide a broader context for understanding the educational and employment landscape for people with visual impairment in China.

The documentary will create a compelling narrative that brings to life the challenges, resilience, and aspirations of people with visual impairment in China. The film will use evocative visual metaphors and creative storytelling techniques to communicate the experiences of people with visual impairment to a broader audience.

V. Preliminary Suppositions and Implications

The findings of this film have the potential to inform and transform the practices of educators, employers, policy makers, and providers of services for people with vision impairments. For educators, the film may underscore the need for greater flexibility and personalization in curriculum delivery, and the importance of fostering inclusive learning environments that value diversity. The experiences shared by the students who are blind and visually impaired can serve as a catalyst for pedagogical innovation and the development of more effective teaching strategies.

Employers can gain valuable insights into the potential and challenges of employing visually impaired people. By showcasing the diverse skills and talents of people with visual impairments, the film can challenge stereotypes and encourage employers to adopt more inclusive hiring practices. Furthermore, the film has the potential to inspire the development of workplace accommodations and training programs that enable visually impaired employees to thrive in their roles.

Social service providers may benefit from gaining a deeper understanding of the unique needs and aspirations of people who are blind or have low vision. Films that portray their lived experiences can inform the design and delivery of more relevant and effective support services, such as career counselling, assistive technology training, and peer support networks.

By documenting the lived experiences of visually impaired people in China as they navigate the education and employment systems, the film can provide valuable evidence to inform policy reform for policymakers. The film is likely to illuminate gaps and inadequacies in existing policies related to education, employment, and disability rights, thus advocating for stronger legal protections, increased funding for disability services, and more comprehensive employment support programs.

The film's focus on the role that technology can play in empowering people who are blind or partially sighted can also inform policy discussions around accessibility and digital inclusion. This could lead to the development of policies that promote the development and adoption of assistive technologies, ensuring that people who are blind or partially sighted have equal access to information, education, and employment opportunities.

The film has the potential to challenge stereotypes and foster greater public understanding and empathy. This can contribute to a more inclusive society, where people who are blind and visually impaired are valued for their abilities and contributions, rather than defined by their disability.

VI. Conclusion

By focusing on individuals' lived experiences and the contextual factors that shape their lives, the film aims to fill gaps in the existing literature which often lacks nuanced, situated accounts of blind and partially sighted people in China.

The potential impact of this research is far-reaching. The findings are expected to inform education and employment practices, influence policy decisions, and raise public awareness. By showcasing the resilience and agency of people with visual impairments, the film can promote a more inclusive society where everyone is valued for their unique abilities and contributions.

Overall, by unveiling the challenges and experiences of visually impaired individuals in China, the film has the potential to spark meaningful conversations, drive policy changes and ultimately improve the lives of people with visual impairments and their communities.

VII. Citations

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**Research Abstract (25-50 words)**

This study examines issues in education, employment, and social inclusion for people with visual impairments, and analyzes how technological advances are facilitating change. Through research aimed at providing greater opportunities and better social support for the visually impaired.

**Work-log & Reflective Journal**

**To be conducted throughout planning, reporting & editing stages.**

Title of reflection: **Beyond the Lens: Reflections on Documenting the Education and Employment Journeys of Visually Impaired Individuals in China**

During the process of developing a proposal for a documentary film on the education and employment experiences of visually impaired individuals in China, I delved into existing literature, analyzed interview transcripts, and formulated research questions. I explored the educational landscape, from special education to inclusive classrooms, and the challenges faced by visually impaired individuals in seeking fulfilling employment. I also examined the potential of assistive technologies to empower this community.

This experience profoundly impacted my understanding of disability and the importance of inclusive practices. I realized that visually impaired individuals are not defined by their disability but by their resilience, creativity, and determination. I learned about the systemic barriers they face in accessing education and employment, as well as the innovative ways they are overcoming these challenges.

The research process also highlighted the power of storytelling as a tool for advocacy and social change. Documentaries can humanize complex issues, challenge stereotypes, and inspire action. By amplifying the voices of marginalized communities, we can foster a more inclusive and equitable society.

Day 1: Planning Phase [April 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Determined the research direction and collected literature on employment for people with disabilities.
* Interviewed teachers and experts from Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College.
* Investigated challenges faced by visually impaired individuals in securing satisfactory employment.
* Gathered academic papers and books from online databases.

Reflection:

During the planning phase, we gained a preliminary understanding of the employment landscape for visually impaired individuals. However, existing literature primarily focused on theoretical frameworks, lacking in-depth case studies. This prompted us to prioritize on-site filming and interviews to capture authentic, vivid material. Discussions with experts highlighted that employment challenges for the visually impaired are not just economic but also tied to societal perceptions and policy support.

Day 2: On-site Filming [May 22, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Documented daily sports activities of students at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College’s track field.
* Captured footage of key subject Chen Bin’s daily exercise, dorm life, and part-time work as a masseur.
* Filmed rehearsals of the college’s art troupe, including Xu Zishan’s practice sessions.

Reflection:

This day’s filming revealed the multifaceted lives of visually impaired students. Their energy during sports and dedication to art rehearsals reshaped our understanding of their capabilities. Chen Bin’s part-time work highlighted their efforts to balance economic independence with academic and personal interests.

Day 3: On-site Filming [May 25, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Followed visually impaired student Chen Bin and peers on a trip to Hangzhou Baishun Swimming & Fitness Center, followed by a meal near campus and their return to school.

Reflection:

This immersive filming deepened our understanding of visually impaired students’ lifestyles. Their mutual support, confidence in public spaces, and proactive social integration were inspiring. We also recognized the critical role of barrier-free facilities in enabling their mobility. The complexity of documentary filming became evident—adapting strategies on-site while humanizing complex issues to challenge stereotypes.

Day 4: On-site Filming [June 2, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Conducted formal interviews with students Chen Bin and Xu Zishan at Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College.

Reflection:

Chen Bin and Xu Zishan’s personal stories and aspirations moved us deeply. Their narratives underscored that every individual’s dreams deserve respect, free from societal biases. These interviews crystallized the film’s core theme.

Day 5: On-site Filming [June 4, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Documented Xu Zishan’s participation in developing a Braille embosser.

Reflection:

Xu Zishan’s involvement in technology shattered stereotypes. His innovative approach to learning computing showcased the untapped potential of visually impaired individuals in STEM fields. Our film now carries a fresh perspective.

Day 6: On-site Filming [June 7, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Filmed Chen Bin attending a math class, playing the flute in a classroom, and Xu Zishan’s massage therapy class.
* Recorded students practicing music in the piano room.

Reflection:

This day showcased visually impaired students’ academic diligence and artistic passions. Their musical talent deepened our appreciation for their diverse abilities.

Day 7: On-site Filming [June 12, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Filmed art troupe rehearsals in Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College.

Reflection:

The students’ passion for art and meticulous rehearsal efforts highlighted art’s transformative role in their lives. However, capturing nuanced emotional depth remained a challenge.

Day 8: On-site Filming [June 13, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Interviewed Qiu Jianwei, Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Technology of Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College and Director of the Chinese Blind Massage Association.
* Interviewed Zhang Kaifeng, Aesthetic Education Teacher and Art Troupe Leader of Zhejiang Special Education Vocational and Technical College.

Reflection:

These expert interviews provided professional insights into education and employment challenges. They emphasized the need for integrated societal support and resources to empower visually impaired individuals.

Day 9: On-site Filming [June 16, 2024]

Tasks Completed:

* Recorded final rehearsals for the college’s Arts Festival.

Reflection:

The students’ professionalism and confidence reaffirmed their capabilities. Participation in social activities emerged as vital for their self-realization and societal integration.

Day 10: Editing Phase

Tasks Completed:

* Organized footage by themes based on interviews and filming.
* Conducted paper edits for interviews to highlight key messages.
* Created a rough cut to ensure narrative coherence.

Reflection:

The editing phase posed challenges in balancing rich content with narrative clarity. We focused on retaining impactful footage while sharpening the film’s core message.

Day 11: Finalization & Reflection

Tasks Completed:

* Completed the final film.

Reflection:

This project deepened our understanding of visually impaired individuals’ lives and aspirations. We hope the film sparks societal support, breaks stereotypes, and fosters inclusivity. Moving forward, we recognize the need for more rigorous pre-production research to enhance interview and filming quality. The final cut, though impactful, could benefit from tighter focus and brevity.