

Taking Chinese culture to the world

Editor's note: Confucius Institutes were first established nine years ago as centres where foreigners can learn the Chinese language. However, China's economic boom has increased worldwide interest in all things Chinese, and Confucius Institutes have responded by broadening their curricula. Now, you can find Confucius Institutes that specialize in Chinese opera, in dance and performance, music, business and even Chinese tourism.



CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS LONDON 2007

London School of Economics, UK

It aims to foster greater understanding of Chinese business culture among professionals and those preparing for a longer stay in China. Scholarships are available for LSE students and those who wish to study Chinese for a PhD in this field.



CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE FOR TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE 2007

London South Bank University, UK

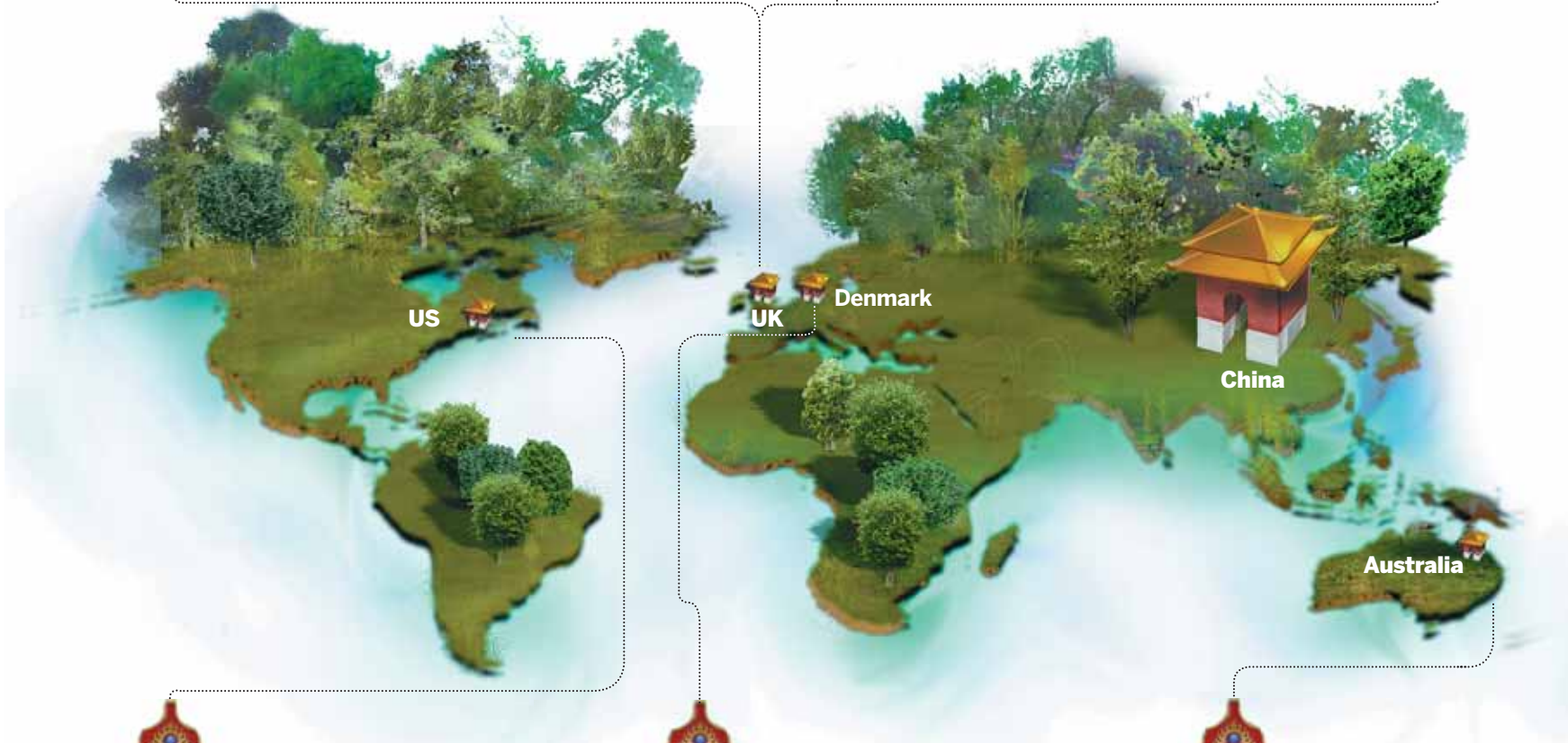
It offers a three-year undergraduate degree course that puts the study of this ancient medicine into context with its cultural past through lessons in Mandarin and a period of study in China. Graduates will be qualified to practise in both China and the UK.



GOLDSMITHS CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE FOR DANCE AND PERFORMANCE 2012

Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

It offers regular classes and short courses for performance professionals and amateurs in Chinese classics, folk dance, contemporary dance, as well as health and fitness dance.



CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE OF CHINESE OPERA 2009

Binghamton University, Binghamton, US

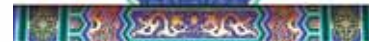
In collaboration with the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts, the institute focuses on promoting Chinese opera and music. It established the only Peking Opera performance group in the US, promoting Chinese opera, performing arts and culture on college campuses and in communities nationwide.



MUSIC CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE 2012

Royal Danish Academy of Music, Copenhagen, Denmark

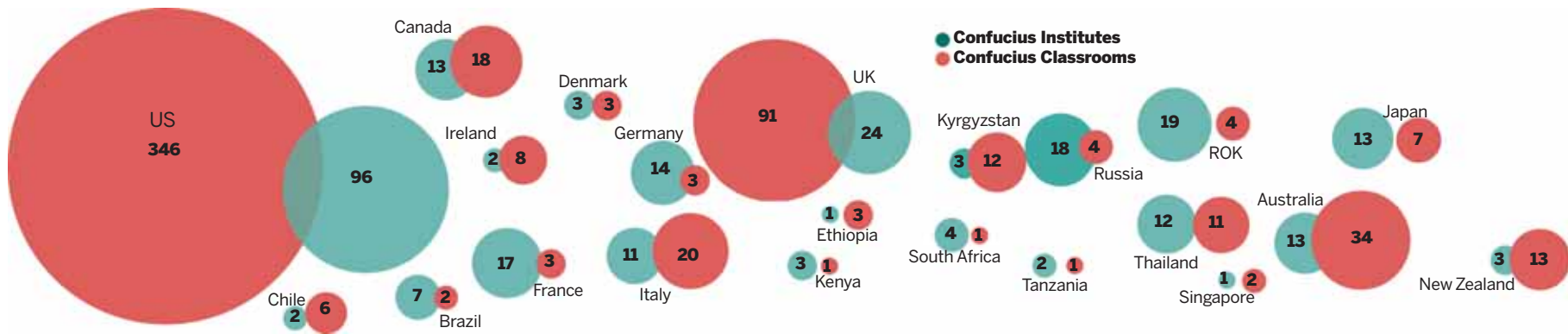
Working with the China Central Conservatory of Music, the institute aims to create synergy between classical Western and Chinese music in the global arena. The MCI aims to inspire language learning through music. The visiting teachers collaborate with Danish high schools to introduce Chinese music and culture.



THE TOURISM CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE AT GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY 2011

Griffith University, Queensland, Australia

As the only Confucius Institute with an emphasis on tourism, it seeks to build and deepen links with Griffith University, which is internationally acknowledged as a leader in the development of tourism education and research.



A TIME OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WHAT HANBAN DOES



2004

The world's first Confucius Institute opens in Seoul, ROK.



2005

The first Global Confucius Institute Conference is held in Beijing.



2007

The world's first Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine opens in London.



2008

Confucius Institute Online starts operations.



2011

Confucius Institute Online launches versions in 36 languages

Chinese Bridge

A major annual international contest, consisting of the Chinese Bridge proficiency competition for foreign students, including those enrolled in colleges and high schools.

Chinese tests

Hanban has developed three exams, HSK (Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi), YCT (youth learner Chinese test) and BCT (business Chinese test) to help evaluate the Chinese language skills of non-native Chinese speakers. More than 2 million people took the tests in 2011.

Scholarships

Hanban provides financial aid for students, scholars and teachers of the

Chinese language worldwide to do a master's degree in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages at Chinese universities, or to study in such majors as Chinese language and literature, history and philosophy.

Teachers and textbooks

Every year, Hanban sends about 10,000 teachers and volunteers to more than 100 countries and regions. Hanban supports Confucius Institutes to develop their own textbooks. By the end of 2012, 332 textbooks were produced by 119 Confucius Institutes. Hanban sent 380,000 books to Confucius institutes and classrooms, and another 400,000 to some 1,000 international educational institutions in 104 countries.