

## Confucius Institutes in the US that Are Closing

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|   | <u>Institution</u>            | <u>State</u> | <u>Date of Decision</u> | <u>Stated Reason for Closing</u>   | <u>Source</u>   | <u>Other Background Info</u>  |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| 1 | University of Chicago         | IL           | September 2014          | The university said that offensive comments from Xu Lin, director-general of the Hanban, led the university to close its Confucius Institute: An official "Statement on the Confucius Institute at the University of Chicago" said that "recently published comments about UChicago in an article about the director-general of Hanban are incompatible with a continued equal partnership." | <a href="https://news.uchicago.edu/article/2014/09/25/statement-confucius-institute-university-chicago">https://news.uchicago.edu/article/2014/09/25/statement-confucius-institute-university-chicago</a> | In April 2014, 108 faculty members signed a petition calling for the Confucius Institute to close. Hanban director-general Xu Lin challenged the university to maintain its Confucius Institute, and a Chinese paper, the Jiefang Daily, praised Xu for her "toughness" and crowed that "Her attitude made the other side anxious. The school quickly responded that it will continue to properly manage the Confucius Institute."<br><a href="https://sinosphere.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/09/26/university-of-chicagos-relations-with-confucius-institute-sour/?_r=0">https://sinosphere.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/09/26/university-of-chicagos-relations-with-confucius-institute-sour/?_r=0</a> |
| 2 | Pennsylvania State University | PA           | September 2014          | Dean Susan Welch told Inside Higher Ed that "several of our goals are not consistent with those of the Office of Chinese Languages Council International, known as the Hanban, which provides support to Confucius Institutes throughout the world."   | <a href="https://www.insidehighered.com/quizzes/2014/10/01/another-confucius-institute-close">https://www.insidehighered.com/quizzes/2014/10/01/another-confucius-institute-close</a>                     | Penn State's decision came within a week of the University of Chicago's decision to close its Confucius Institute.  |

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| 3 | Pfeiffer University                     | NC | May 2016                            | Moved to University of North Carolina at Charlotte  | Email from Colleen Keith  |   |
| 4 | Tulane University                       | LA | 2017                                | No stated reason  | NAS phone call with the School of Liberal Arts.   |   |
| 5 | University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign | IL | September 2017, reported March 2018 | Daily Illini reported in March 2018 that according to Interim University Provost John Wilkin, "The institute was shut down when the University's funding was not substantial enough to maintain it, but the University is exploring the opportunity to reestablish the institute on campus."  | <a href="https://dailyillini.com/news/2018/03/03/university-confucius-institute-closed-months-fbi-monitoring/">https://dailyillini.com/news/2018/03/03/university-confucius-institute-closed-months-fbi-monitoring/</a>   |   |
| 6 | University of West Florida              | FL | Fall 2017, announced February 2018  | February 2018 Pensacola News Journal reported that according to George Ellenberg, senior vice president and provost, a "lack of student interest" led the university to decide in fall 2017 not to renew the contract when it expired in May 2018. Ellenberg said, "We determined that we weren't really getting adequate return in terms of student interest and decided to discontinue it." | <a href="https://www.pnj.com/story/money/business/2018/02/07/uwf-cuts-ties-chinese-run-confucius-institute-criticized-controversial-chinese-government-affiliated/312966002/">https://www.pnj.com/story/money/business/2018/02/07/uwf-cuts-ties-chinese-run-confucius-institute-criticized-controversial-chinese-government-affiliated/312966002/</a> | One day before the university announced its decision, Senator Marco Rubio sent a letter to all Confucius Institutes in Florida, urging them to close. |

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| 7 | Texas A&M University        | TX | April 2018 | Texas A&M University System Chancellor John Shields cited a letter from two Congressmen as the key reason for the university system's decision: "They have access to classified information we do not have. We are terminating the contract as they suggested." | <a href="https://www.dallasnews.com/news/higher-education/2018/04/05/congressmen-urge-ut-dallas-texas-universities-cut-ties-chinas-confucius-institute">https://www.dallasnews.com/news/higher-education/2018/04/05/congressmen-urge-ut-dallas-texas-universities-cut-ties-chinas-confucius-institute</a> | Two Texas Representatives, Republican Michael McCaul and Democrat Henry Cuellar, mailed a letter to all Texas Confucius Institutes on March 23, 2018, urging them to close. The university's announcement came on April 5, the same day the Congressmen's letter was reported on in the local press. |
| 8 | Prairie View A&M University | TX | April 2018 | Texas A&M University System Chancellor John Shields cited a letter from two Congressmen as the key reason for the university system's decision: "They have access to classified information we do not have. We are terminating the contract as they suggested." | <a href="https://www.dallasnews.com/news/higher-education/2018/04/05/congressmen-urge-ut-dallas-texas-universities-cut-ties-chinas-confucius-institute">https://www.dallasnews.com/news/higher-education/2018/04/05/congressmen-urge-ut-dallas-texas-universities-cut-ties-chinas-confucius-institute</a> | Two Texas Representatives, Republican Michael McCaul and Democrat Henry Cuellar, mailed a letter to all Texas Confucius Institutes on March 23, 2018, urging them to close. The university's announcement came on April 5, the same day the Congressmen's letter was reported on in the local press. |
| 9 | University of Iowa          | IA | July 2018  | The University of Iowa announced its plans to close seven centers due to cuts in state funding. The contract for the Confucius Institute will not be renewed upon its expiration on July 31, 2019.  | <a href="https://now.uiowa.edu/2018/07/ui-forced-make-difficult-budget-decisions-following-state-funding-cuts">https://now.uiowa.edu/2018/07/ui-forced-make-difficult-budget-decisions-following-state-funding-cuts</a>   |  |

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| 10 | University of North Florida     | FL | August 2018   | <p>The University of North Florida announced its plans to close the Confucius Institute in six months (February 2019). A statement on the university's website says, "After reviewing the classes, activities and events sponsored over the past four years and comparing them with the mission and goals of the University, it was determined that they weren't aligned."</p>  | <p><a href="http://www.unf.edu/publicrelations/ospreyupdate/submissions/2018-08-14_UNFs_Confucius_Institute_Close.s.aspx">http://www.unf.edu/publicrelations/ospreyupdate/submissions/2018-08-14_UNFs_Confucius_Institute_Close.s.aspx</a></p> | <p>In February, Senator Marco Rubio sent a letter to all Confucius Institutes in Florida, urging them to close.</p> |
| 11 | North Carolina State University | NC | November 2018 | <p>North Carolina State University announced it intends to close its Confucius Institute in June 2019, as part of a project to "restructure" its Asia programming. A statement from University Communications on the university's website says, "After June 2019, NC State will no longer offer academic and cultural programs through the Confucius Institute (CI). This transition is part of NC State's efforts to create a more comprehensive Asia strategy led by the Office of Global Engagement, of which Chinese language and culture programs will continue to play a significant role."</p> | <p><a href="https://news.ncsu.edu/2018/11/nc-state-will-restructure-asia-programming-in-2019/">https://news.ncsu.edu/2018/11/nc-state-will-restructure-asia-programming-in-2019/</a></p>   |   |

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| 12 | University of Michigan      | MI | December 2018 | <p>James Holloway, vice provost for global engagement and interdisciplinary academic affairs, said the university would bring more of its China studies programs in-house: "This transition is driven by a desire to more broadly include the work of exploring and studying Chinese visual and performing arts within U-M's regular academic and cultural units." However, the university announced that it remains open to working with the Hanban in other ways: "Meanwhile, U-M is in communication with Hanban, exploring alternative ways to support the greater U-M community to continuously engage with Chinese artistic culture."</p> | <p><a href="https://record.umich.edu/articles/u-m-end-agreement-confucius-institute-next-year">https://record.umich.edu/articles/u-m-end-agreement-confucius-institute-next-year</a></p>   |   |
| 13 | University of South Florida | FL | December 2018 | <p>USF cited the national security concerns that members of Congress have raised, along with falling student enrollment. Only 65 students enrolling in Confucius Institute classes in fall 2018.</p>  | <p><a href="https://www.tampabay.com/breaking-news/usf-shutters-controversial-confucius-institute-on-new-years-eve-20190102/">https://www.tampabay.com/breaking-news/usf-shutters-controversial-confucius-institute-on-new-years-eve-20190102/</a></p> | <p>In February, Senator Marco Rubio sent a letter to all Confucius Institutes in Florida, urging them to close.</p> |

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| 14 | University of Rhode Island         | RI | December 2018 | A spokeswoman told WPRI 12 that the university was concerned the Confucius Institute could jeopardize federal funding to the university.  | <a href="https://www.wpri.com/news/top-video/uri-ending-relationship-with-controversial-confucius-institute_20181217234023/1663688481">https://www.wpri.com/news/top-video/uri-ending-relationship-with-controversial-confucius-institute_20181217234023/1663688481</a> |   |
| 15 | University of Massachusetts Boston | MA | January 2019  | Katherine Newman, the interim chancellor at UMass Boston, declined to give a specific reason in an interview with Boston's Commonwealth Magazine, but said the university will pursue new negotiations with Renmin University of China to develop other ways to promote Chinese language and culture. | <a href="https://commonwealthmagazine.org/education/umass-boston-severs-ties-with-confucius-institute/">https://commonwealthmagazine.org/education/umass-boston-severs-ties-with-confucius-institute/</a>   | In March 2018, U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA) sent letters to UMass Boston and other universities in Massachusetts, urging them to close their Confucius Institutes or avoid opening new ones. |

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| 16 | University of Tennessee Knoxville | TN | January 2019 | <p>Gretchen Neisler, vice provost for international affairs, said the university will maintain a partnership with Southeast University in China but close its Confucius Institute in spring 2019 in order to make its Asia programs more flexible. "Our global efforts must be nimble; from the languages we teach to the research opportunities we pursue, we have to stay relevant and keep an eye on the future. It's easier for us to do that if we're running our own program."</p> | <p><a href="https://news.utk.edu/2019/01/24/ut-transitions-strategic-focus-for-its-global-engagement-in-asia/">https://news.utk.edu/2019/01/24/ut-transitions-strategic-focus-for-its-global-engagement-in-asia/</a></p> | <p>Tennessee State Representative Martin Daniel has repeatedly criticized the Confucius Institutes. In February 2017 he sent three Tennessee universities a letter expressing concern for China's "blatant disregard for human rights" and warning that Confucius Institutes "avoid classes that cover controversial subjects that the Chinese Government has deemed inappropriate — such as student-led demonstrations that resulted in the Tiananmen Square massacre." <a href="https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/politics/2017/02/22/tennessee-lawmaker-takes-issue-confucius-institute-and-ties-chinese-government/98246406/">https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/politics/2017/02/22/tennessee-lawmaker-takes-issue-confucius-institute-and-ties-chinese-government/98246406/</a></p> |
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| 17 | University of Minnesota | MN | February 2019 | <p>Meredith McQuaid, associate vice president and dean of international programs, said the university would have lost federal funding as a result of the NDAA ban on Pentagon funding to Confucius Institute-linked programs. McQuaid also said "The Chinese language teaching community in greater Minnesota ... has definitely grown and matured over the last decade. Their needs have evolved," such that the CI is no longer needed.</p> | <p><a href="https://www.mndaily.com/article/2019/02/n-china-funded-institute-set-to-close">https://www.mndaily.com/article/2019/02/n-china-funded-institute-set-to-close</a></p>   | <p>State Sen. Jim Abeler, R-Anoka, sent a letter to the Confucius Institutes at the University and St. Cloud State University in 2018 expressing his concerns with the programs</p>  |
| 18 | University of Montana   | MT | March 2019    | <p>According to The Missoulian, Deena Mansour, director of the Mansfield Center where the Confucius Institute was based, "Identifying alternate funding sources will allow us the freedom to assess the best way to support mutual relations between the U.S. and China within the Priorities for Action framework," referencing UM's plan to set priorities.</p>   | <p><a href="https://missoulian.com/news/local/university-of-montana-shutters-confucius-institute/article_218eb6a5-2c0e-56e9-a920-10fe4eec3a2f.html">https://missoulian.com/news/local/university-of-montana-shutters-confucius-institute/article_218eb6a5-2c0e-56e9-a920-10fe4eec3a2f.html</a></p> | <p>The Mansfield Center, where the Confucius Institute was located, also held the Defense Critical Language and Culture program funded by the U.S. Department of Defense--which has ceased funding programs at universities that also have Confucius Institutes.</p> |

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| 19 | Indiana University-Purdue University | IN | April 2019 | <p>"This decision ensures ongoing operations of some programs within IU impacted by federal changes surrounding Chinese language programs," university spokesman Chuck Carney told the Washington Post.</p>   | <p><a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/americas-universities-are-finally-waking-up-to-the-china-threat/2019/04/04/1b21e616-5716-11e9-9136-f8e636f1f6df_story.html?noredirect=on&amp;utm_term=.43b5cbe638e0">https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/americas-universities-are-finally-waking-up-to-the-china-threat/2019/04/04/1b21e616-5716-11e9-9136-f8e636f1f6df_story.html?noredirect=on&amp;utm_term=.43b5cbe638e0</a></p> | <p>The 2019 NDAA forbade Pentagon funding to universities with Confucius Institutes, unless the university receives a waiver.</p> |
| 20 | Western Kentucky University          | KY | April 2019 | <p>"The decision to close the CI, which has operated at WKU since 2010, came when the University could not secure a waiver from the Department of Defense that would allow WKU to operate both the CI and the Chinese Flagship Program."</p>                        | <p><a href="https://www.wku.edu/news/articles/index.php?view=article&amp;articleid=7622">https://www.wku.edu/news/articles/index.php?view=article&amp;articleid=7622</a></p>   |   |
| 21 | University of Oregon                 | OR | April 2019 | <p>"The University of Oregon is closing its Confucius Institute because a new law approved by Congress last year prohibits academic institutions from running such a program if they receive U.S. Department of Defense funding for Chinese language programs."</p> | <p><a href="https://around.uoregon.edu/content/uo-confucius-institute-close">https://around.uoregon.edu/content/uo-confucius-institute-close</a></p>   |   |

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| 22 | Northern State University      | SD | May 2019 | "The decision was made after a thorough review of Northern's international programs and activities. The university seeks to shift resources strategically toward services more aligned with its mission, including study abroad programs." | <a href="https://www.northern.edu/news/confucius-institute-northern-state-university-close-2020">https://www.northern.edu/news/confucius-institute-northern-state-university-close-2020</a> |  |
| 23 | San Francisco State University | CA | May 2019 | "As of Monday, May 6, 2019 the Confucius Institute at the San Francisco State University campus is closed."  | <a href="http://www.sfsu.edu/ci/">http://www.sfsu.edu/ci/</a>   |  |
| 24 | University of Hawaii Manoa     | HI | May 2019 | "The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa closed its Confucius Institute effective May 31, 2019, in order to maintain federally funded research and educational opportunities for its faculty and students. "                                    | <a href="http://manoa.hawaii.edu/confuciusinstitute/">http://manoa.hawaii.edu/confuciusinstitute/</a>   |  |