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## **FACT SHEET**

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The Confucius Institute Fund is established to support the vision and work of Confucius Institute, NTU (CI-NTU). The Fund will go towards establishing the Global Chinese Literary Award 世界华文文学奖 as well as supporting research projects and other programmes.

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## **CI-NTU's key programmes and initiatives**

### Diploma in Teaching Chinese 汉语教学教育专业文凭

Launched in July 2006 as part of CI-NTU's efforts to strengthen the training of Chinese language teachers in Singapore, the 9-month diploma programme is specially tailored for tutors, serving primary and secondary school teachers as well as people who intend to start a career in teaching Chinese.

This flagship programme includes specially-designed components in contemporary Chinese, Chinese culture and literature, as well as theories and applications for teaching the Chinese language. The modules seek to enhance the professional capabilities of the participants by equipping them with essential knowledge and practical skills in teaching Chinese. Some of these modules will be conducted by eminent professors from Shandong University as part of the academic and cultural collaboration between NTU and Shandong University.

Upon completion of the diploma programme, the participants will be awarded diplomas from Confucius Institute, NTU. They will also receive certification of their ability to teach Chinese as a foreign language from China's Ministry of Education. This is the first time that China's Ministry of Education is partnering an institution outside China to award the internationally-recognised certificate to certify the proficiency of Chinese language teachers.

### Conversational Mandarin for non-Chinese upper primary pupils and secondary school students 中小學生華語會話課程

The 3-month Conversational Mandarin Course for non-Chinese upper primary pupils and secondary school students aims to stimulate participants' interest in learning Mandarin and develop the ability to speak well, and spontaneously, in a variety of situations in Singapore's multi-lingual living environment. It also provides an opportunity for students to develop a deeper understanding of the Chinese language and increase interaction among the ethnic communities. Through this programme, students will be engaged in activities to learn useful communication skills and develop the confidence to talk to people of other races.

### Diploma in Contemporary China 当代中国专业文凭

To be launched in September 2007, the 3-month Diploma in Contemporary China course is specially designed for veteran Chinese language school teachers, as well as anyone with a great interest in contemporary Chinese language and culture. It offers insights into areas such as the Chinese psychological, cultural and social structure, China's cultural resources and dilemmas, as well as the efficiency of contemporary China's social development.

The course aims to elevate the participants' level of achievement in the Chinese language and culture, equip participants with the ability to analyse and resolve specific challenges, and to have an understanding of the research methods adopted in various relevant areas. It will equip participants with an in-depth understanding of the processes, situations and trends in the social, economic and cultural development of contemporary China.

### Cultural Immersion Programmes 文化浸濡项目

Since its establishment, the Institute has organised cultural immersion programmes to provide participants with opportunities to immerse in Chinese language and culture. To date, more than a hundred students and teachers from schools such as Raffles Junior College, Yishun Junior College, Tampines Junior College, Tampines Primary School and Poi Ching School have participated in CI-NTU's immersion programmes to Shandong. Several local schools have established twinning-school relationships with Chinese schools in Shandong through the Confucius Hometown Cultural Tour 孔子故乡文化之旅, specially-tailored for junior college teachers and students. In the pipeline are immersion trips to Beijing, Fujian and Xi'an.

### Chinese Enrichment Courses (Primary One & Primary Six) 小一、小六华文精品课程

The lessons revolve around the Primary School teaching format with elements of Chinese culture and Chinese language. Primary Six students will be equipped with the various techniques in answering oral and listening examination, comprehension passages and composition confidently and creatively. The learning is augmented by games and fun-filled activities.

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### **Media contact**

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