

K-12 schools across North Carolina are joining a statewide network of International School Partnerships with Denmark.

Why Denmark?

Economics

Denmark is a case study of the European Union (EU), which is one of the largest economic powers in the world. North Carolina's economic vitality depends on our relationship with the EU.

- After Canada, the European Union is cumulatively North Carolina's second largest export market, receiving 24.3% of NC exports in 2008. (UNC Center for European Studies, 2008)
- As of 2005, 51.2% of US foreign investment is in the European Union, and EU countries held 69.9% of the total foreign direct investment in the US. (UNC Center for European Studies, 2008)
- Between 2004 and 2008, North Carolina's exports to the European Union rose by over 23%, from \$4.3B in 2004 to \$5.3B in 2008 (WISER, from U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division, 2008)
- North Carolina and Denmark are international leaders and collaborators in the pharmaceutical research and manufacturing industries.

Our students need to be prepared for the global economy. North Carolina graduates will be

- Selling to the European Union
- Buying from the European Union
- Working in multi-national teams in both the private sector and public sector
- Competing with countries around the world for jobs and markets

Education

Students who study other cultures, languages and histories will be in stronger position to take advantage of global opportunities. They will be better able to work alongside partners like Denmark and other countries around the world to ensure economic vitality and confront global problems.

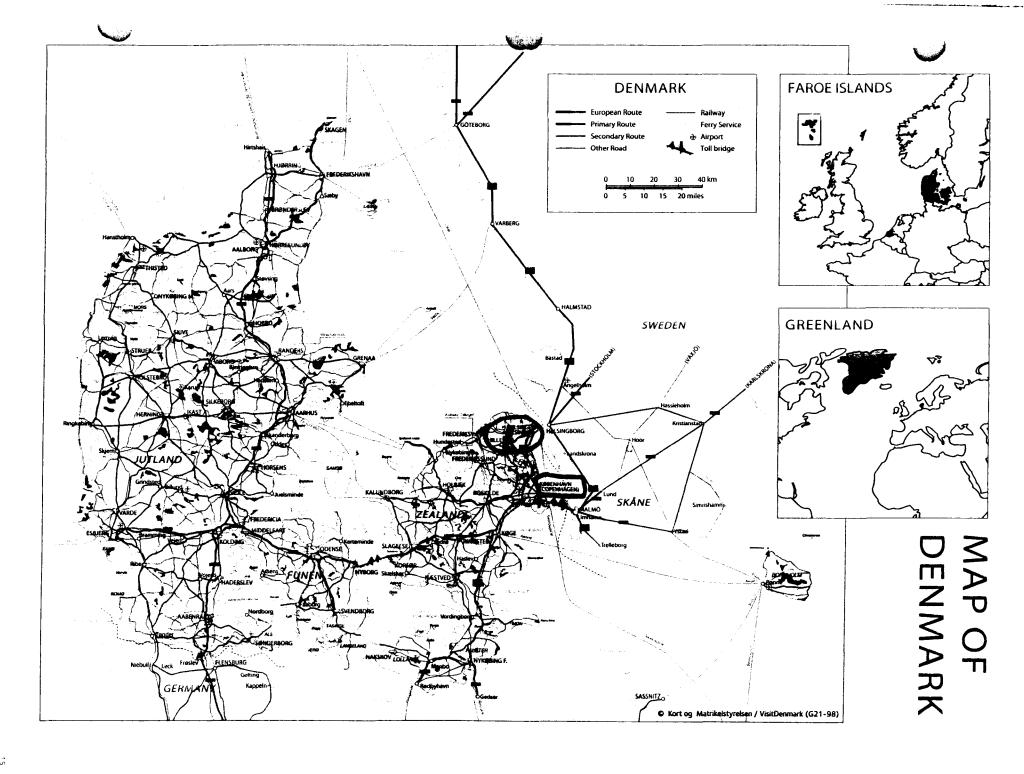
- Employers say they want workers who can speak more than one language and who know how to be effective members of multi-cultural teams (Committee for Economic Development, 2006)
- Students must be able to work alongside the 95% of the world who live outside of the US
- Only 15% of the world speaks English. A student who speaks other languages will greatly increase his/her career potential.

NC-Denmark School Partnerships help prepare globally competent students who are:

- Culturally aware
- Aware of world events and global dynamics
- Effective communicators across cultures
- Effective members of multi-cultural teams

International School Partnerships are a project of The University of North Carolina's Center for International Understanding. The Center provides teachers with skills, knowledge and resources needed to help their students become globally competent.

The University of North Carolina



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