

University Accreditation Results
(Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for university)

Yokohama College of Art and Design



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Kanagawa, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2015	
Accreditation Status: Accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2016 – March.31.2023)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Yokohama College of Art and Design

Overview

The Yokohama College of Art and Design was formerly the Tokiwamatsu Gakuen Women's Junior College, founded in 1966. That institution became a co-educational college and was renamed the Yokohama Junior College of Art and Design in 2001. In 2010, the Yokohama College of Art and Design (hereafter, the College) was opened as a four-year college with the Faculty of Art and Design.

The College operates according to its founding mission, stating that “Art education that cultivates the root of humans’ creative activity is education in its most essential form.” As such, it has conducted its educational and research activities following its purposes, including conducting research and education on topics concerning the arts and design, producing talented persons with specialized expressive skills in art and design and general liberal arts skills, and making contributions to society’s healthy development and the local community’s revitalization.

The College conducts self-study of its various activities through committees that are active to play central roles in such activities. In meetings, such as the President Meeting, the college management meeting, and the faculty meeting, the issues facing with the College are identified and discussed.

This is the College’s first accreditation as a four-year institution by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA). The College has some unique characteristics in making active efforts for social cooperation and contribution. It has promoted active cooperation with local municipal governments, business and industries, and schools, while offering a number of public seminars. It has developed a practice-oriented curriculum to connect the College’s education with the art education offered in secondary schools.

However, the College has a problem with the under-enrollment of freshman students. There are external causes for such a decline, given that the environment surrounding universities and colleges in Japan grows more severe year by year due to the declining population of eighteen-year-olds. However, since the decline of freshman student enrollment directly affects its financial constraints and greatly influences the maintenance and development of the College in the future, JUAA hopes that the College will urgently address this issue.

Under the leadership of the president, the College has made efforts to ensure that it has a sufficient number of applicants. JUAA hopes that the College will urgently undertake initiatives and engage in reforms to build an attractive college that values diversity and meets societal needs.

Notable Strength

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- It is commendable that the College gives its intellectual resources back to society with the purpose of making contributions to society’s healthy development and the revitalization of local culture. In particular, it has promoted cooperation with municipal governments, businesses, and industries through the Center for Local Cooperation. It has also held a number of open lectures, including classes for adults, classes for elementary school children, and classes for lower secondary school students. Among such classes is the Refresh Classes for Art Education Teachers, which is targeted at teachers working at secondary schools. This class presents opportunities to explore research topics and offers workshops where they can learn skills for new art education. These are practical activities that serve as a vehicle to

connect the College's education to art education taking place in secondary schools.

Suggestion for Improvement

Enrollment

- The ratio of enrolled transfer students to the transfer student cap is low at 0.33. This should be improved.

Areas of Serious Concerns

Enrollment

- In the College as a whole, the average of the ratios of the last five years of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is low at 0.87, and the ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is also low at 0.74. This situation must be improved.

Administration and Finance

- Because of student under-enrollment, the College has faced decreasing imputed income and a worsening financial situation. By establishing the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle that includes linking the budget and account settlement in a fiscal year to the mid- and long-term financial plans, the College must make improvements such as financial balance improvement and the stabilization of its financial base.