

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

Seigakuin University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Saitama, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2014	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2015 – March.31.2022)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Seigakuin University

Overview

Originating as Seigakuin Seminary, which was established in 1903, Seigakuin University (hereafter, the University) was established in 1988 as a single faculty university with the Faculty of Political Science and Economics and its affiliated Seigakuin General Research Institute. Thereafter, the University established new departments, faculty, and graduate schools and has gone through reorganization, including a merger with the affiliated Joshi Seigakuin (Women's) Junior College. Currently, the University contains three faculties: the Faculty of Political Science, the Faculty of Humanities, and the Faculty of Human Welfare; and three graduate schools, the Graduate School of Politics and Policy Studies (master's program), the Graduate School of American-European Culture Studies (master's and doctoral programs), and the Graduate School of Human Welfare Studies (master's program). The campus is located in Ageo City, Saitama Prefecture, and engages in activities related to both education and research as well as social contribution according to Seigakuin's founding spirit of "Love God and Serve His People," an ideal based on Protestant Christianity.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2007, the University has made efforts to improve the issues that JUAA pointed out, and it proclaimed the direction for reform to the faculty and staff in 2013 and 2014. However, further efforts are required in order to develop a sufficiently functional system that reflects the results of the evaluation as a whole. It is notable that the University promotes "only one for others" (each individual should support others) as the doctrine of education, and continuously provides sincere support of students so that each individual is able to find the inner strength required to make contributions to society both now and into the future, thus fostering a rich humanity. It is expected that the University as a whole should further enrich the educational environment for students and engage in education and research.

Notable Strengths

Student Support

- With regard to career support, the University offers detailed guidance through the Career Support Section, which offers a variety of career-related programs. In December of students' third year, at the beginning of the job-hunting season, a personnel manager from a company is invited to a mock interview workshop called "*Naitei Get Kouza*" ("How to Get a Job Offer"). In this workshop, students, together with the students from other universities, experience simulated job interviews and engage in group discussions. In addition, the Study Group for Ensured Employment, consisting of 4th year students who have already received job offers, works with the Career Support Section to support 3rd year students in their job hunt from the end of September to February of the following year. It is commendable that the students who have made the best use of these programs have found especially favorable employment situations, a result that indicates those efforts are very effective in helping students find jobs.

Suggestions for Improvement

Faculty and Faculty Organization

- The Graduate School of Politics and Policy Studies, the Graduate School of

American-European Culture Studies, and the Graduate School of Human Welfare Studies do not clearly state the criteria for hiring faculty members who can teach graduate school. This should be improved.

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The policy for awarding degree of each faculty and graduate school does not clearly state learning outcomes at the time of program completion. This should be improved.
- The maximum number of credits a student can register per year has been set high at 60 in the Faculty of Human Welfare. It should be improved in accordance with the purpose of having system. In addition, each faculty fails to count the graduation thesis and related subjects toward the number of credits a student can register for. This should be improved as well.
- Students who do not satisfy the required number of credits by the time of graduation judgment are allowed to take a Special Examination for the subjects they failed to pass. This Special Examination system is not defined in university regulations, and students are not informed about qualification or the application and procedure. The implementation of this system should be improved.
- In the Graduate School of Politics and Policy Studies, the Graduate School of American-European Culture Studies, and the Graduate School of Human Welfare Studies, criteria for examining degree-seeking theses and dissertations have not been stated for the students. This situation should be improved, by clearly stating them in the Student Handbook.
- In the doctoral program in the Graduate School of American-European Culture Studies, some students complete all the requirements except the dissertation, but leave the University before completing the dissertation requirement within the time limit set by the university. Later, when these students submit their dissertations, even though they do not have the enrollment status, they are granted doctoral degrees in the same manner as those students continuously enrolled. This is an inappropriate use of the system that should be corrected. In accordance with the purpose of having doctoral programs, the university should create measures to enhance the degree completion within the required time frame.

Enrollment

- The ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is low at 0.87 in the European-American Culture Department in the Faculty of Humanities. This needs be improved.

Administration and Finance

- In order to restore its finances, the University needs to balance its income and expenditures by securing appropriate income sources and reducing expenditures, including making improvements to the ratio of personnel costs. In the balance sheet, the ratio of the current assets to the fixed assets is extremely low, and the sufficiency rate of financial assets against required reserve fund is only 20 percent. The University needs to improve the balance of its imputed income and expenditures immediately by implementing a concrete plan to restore finances to insure the governing institution's financial health. In addition, the implementation

of the financial plan should be examined every year, and the feasibility of the financial plan should be continuously reviewed.

Area of Serious Concern

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- In the Graduate School of Politics and Policy Studies, the Graduate School of American-European Culture Studies, and the Graduate School of Human Welfare Studies, research instruction plans have not been written. This situation must be corrected by offering, based on research instruction plans, guidance for both conducting research and writing up these and dissertations.