

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

**Dokkyo University**



<b>Basic Information of the Institution</b>	
Ownership: Private	Location: Saitama, Japan
<b>Accreditation Status</b>	
Year of the Review: 2021	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2029)	

## **Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Dokkyo University**

### **Overview**

Dokkyo University has its founding philosophy of being as “an institution where character is developed through learning.” With a strong emphasis on foreign language education, the University’s purpose is to equip graduates with an autonomous and practical mindset for tackling complex issues in Japan and the international community, as defined in the Dokkyo University Rules (hereinafter, the “Rules”). The purpose of each faculty, department, and graduate school is also clearly stated in the Rules as well as the Dokkyo University Graduate School Rules (hereinafter, the “Graduate School Rules”). The Basic Plan, a six-year medium- to long-term plan for all of Dokkyo Gakuen was formulated to fulfill the mission and purpose of the University. This plan is reviewed every two years and renewed based on the status of its progress, with the Basic Plan currently in its 11th version.

Regarding internal quality assurance, the Rules and the Graduate School Rules cite its promotion. In March 2020, in advance of the next certified evaluation and accreditation by the JUAA, the division of roles for the university-wide internal quality assurance framework was laid out among the Self-Study and Internal Quality Assurance Promotion Committee (hereinafter, the “Internal Quality Assurance Promotion Committee”), the Checks and Reviews Planning Committee, and the FD Promotion Committee. Having positioned the Future Vision Deliberation Committee of the undergraduate and graduate divisions as a committee for the promotion of internal quality assurance, the cooperative relationship between these committees and the Secretariat Self-Study, and the university-wide Internal Quality Assurance Promotion Committee has also been clearly defined. The Curriculum Committee was set up in 2021 and a mechanism was just put in motion to improve the assessment of education and learning overall, and as such, the above-mentioned internal quality assurance system is still incomplete. It has yet to be seen how effectively the new system will ultimately function, and its development going forward as well as positive results are anticipated.

Looking at education, the mission of the University and the degree award policy (diploma policy) for each faculty, department, and graduate division are appropriately organized, and a curriculum design and implementation policy (curriculum policy) in line with each degree award policy are available. Curriculum

designs are sequential and systematic, and besides course flow charts created for each faculty and department, a university-wide common curriculum and one for each of the faculty and department divisions provide a systematic language education program, which is commendable. Nevertheless, in areas other than language, recognizing and assessing learning outcomes as described in the requirements for degree awards at each of the faculties, departments and graduate schools are insufficient. This should be improved.

Regarding student support, the Dokkyo University Human Rights Declaration has been drawn up and it is particularly noteworthy that student support is being provided from a perspective that considers diversity, with basic policies regarding support for students with disabilities and for LGBTQ students being announced. The University can be highly commended for its continued efforts to develop an educational and research environment based on the “Dokkyo University Environmental Declaration” to save energy and reduce carbon emissions on campus and to raise awareness among students, faculty, and staff members regarding environmental conservation. A notable strength can be said to be the University’s cooperation with municipalities and former educational institutions for activities related to social contribution and community service, holding enriching activities for many people including community residents and junior high/high school students.

However, there are several issues that should be improved. Besides the above-mentioned issues regarding recognizing and assessing learning outcomes, there are issues regarding student enrollment such as over enrollment in faculties and enrollment quota not being met for college transfers and graduate programs.

The JUAA hopes that further development is accomplished with the appropriate functioning of the internal quality assurance system and improvements to the various issues mentioned above.

## **Notable Strengths**

### *Student Support*

- The University has been providing support from a perspective recognizing diversity, such as by allowing students with gender dysphoria to use a chosen name on campus since 2009. In 2020, the Dokkyo University Human Rights Declaration was drawn up, and the Basic Policy on Support for Students with Disabilities at Dokkyo University and Basic Policy on Support for LGBTQ Students at Dokkyo University was announced. Further initiatives being taken in line with those policies can be commended, such as creating an accessibility

map, removing gender categories from university documents, and providing employment information accordingly.

#### *Education and Research Environment*

- Regarding the educational and research environment, the University is being conscientious of the natural environment on and off campus. Based on the “Dokkyo University Environmental Declaration,” it has focused on education and research on the environment and installed equipment to save energy and reduce carbon emissions in buildings. Opportunities are provided for those within and outside of the University to see and experience the facilities. Since AY2010, the University has also been issuing the Environmental Report annually to share information about the environment and its initiatives for the environment. With Earth Week Dokkyo being held since 2016 and events to raise awareness being led by students, the University can be commended for its continuous, outstanding efforts in making improvements to educational and research facilities while protecting the environment, and heightening awareness among students, faculty, and staff members.

#### *Social Cooperation and Contribution*

- The University cooperates with municipalities and former educational institutions locally to provide language seminars for a wide array of people, including residents, junior high/high school students, and the international community. Language initiatives aimed at high school students are particularly broad, with seminars including “Introduction to German for High School Students” with which students can become acquainted with a foreign language and culture. They also serve to provide students with opportunities to interact with fellow high school students who share an interest in the same language and culture. These activities match the objectives of a University that emphasizes traditional foreign language education. The University also hosts many events such as open seminars and workshops, contributing to local revitalization with the cooperation of neighboring communities. The events are all very worthwhile and attended by many participants.

### **Suggestions for Improvement**

#### *Educational Program and Learning Outcomes*

- Recognizing and assessing students’ learning outcomes are limited to certain

areas. Learning outcomes specified as requirements for degree awards in each faculty, department, and graduate school are not being recognized and assessed in a diversified and appropriate manner. This should be improved.

*Student Enrollment*

- The ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap in the Department of Tourism and Transnational Studies in the Faculty of Foreign Languages is high at 1.26. To ensure proper undergraduate student quota management, this should be improved.
- A situation continues for which improvements should be made where transfer students are not being enrolled in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in the Faculty of International Liberal Arts and the Department of International Legal Studies in the Faculty of Law, for which there are transfer enrollment quotas.
- The ratios of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap are low at 0.10 for the LL.M. Program in Law of the Graduate School of Law, 0.17 for the M.A. Program in Foreign Languages of the Graduate School of Foreign Languages, and 0.34 for the M.Ec. Program in Economics & Management Science of the Graduate School of Economics. There are also no students enrolled in the Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Law, Graduate School of Foreign Languages, and the Graduate School of Economics. To ensure proper graduate student quota management, this should be improved.