

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

Atomi University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Tokyo, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2022	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2030)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Atomi University

Overview

Atomi University, founded on the educational philosophy of “cultivating highly educated, free-spirited, and independent-minded women based on Japanese cultural traditions we are proud of,” sets forth the institutional philosophy of “achieving education and research to foster autonomous and self-reliant women with practical competencies,” recognizing that “its greatest social contribution is to nurture deep insights into the era and society in which we live.” Based on these two philosophies, the University has developed “ATOMI PLAN 2025” , a medium-term plan for 2025 (hereafter, the Medium-term Plan), setting out its mission “to contribute to society by cultivating highly educated and respectable women who meet the needs of the times.”

The University’s educational and research activities are based on its institutional philosophy and mission. To assure the quality of its educational and research activities, the University established an internal quality assurance system that clearly stipulates that the president and the Internal Quality Assurance Committee play a central role in promoting internal quality assurance, laying out the Internal Quality Assurance Policy and Procedures in AY2021 and the Rules for the Internal Quality Assurance Committee in AY2022. Prior to this, in AY2018 the University created the Atomi University Rules for Self-Study (hereafter, the Self-Study Rules), and put in place a mechanism in which the University-wide Self-Study Committee examines the draft university-wide self-study report prepared by the Self-Study Promotion Committee supervised by the president, as well as self-study reports submitted by the faculties and graduate schools, the General Curriculum Administrative Center, and administrative sections. Based on the examination results, the president and the Executive Council promote quality improvements. The University conducted self-studies for three consecutive years from AY2018 based on different criteria each year and an overall self-study in AY2021.

With respect to education, the University’s curriculum has been organized appropriately in accordance with the diploma and curriculum policies. To activate student learning and provide more effective education, particularly in its undergraduate programs, the University has introduced Seminar for Basic Academic Studies I and II as university-wide common subjects to help students develop the thinking and self-expression skills necessary for writing essays, making presentations,

and carrying out other academic activities. In addition, two full-time faculty members who teach the Seminar for Basic Academic Studies courses work in pairs as academic advisors for first-year students, exchanging information and providing learning support in their capacity as advisors. It is notable that the University is making efforts to meticulously advise students by offering individual meetings for guidance on courses, study and life in general.

In addition, with respect to its social cooperation and contribution activities, the University has focused on social cooperation through collaboration with the local community. Its efforts include enhancing the structure of the Regional Exchange Center by changing from an administrative organization to a university-affiliated teaching organization in AY2019, establishing the Administrative Committee for Regional Exchange Center, and concluding an agreement with the municipality where the campus is located. In particular, the University has worked to preserve and utilize the “Kikuzaka Atomijuku” building (formerly used by the Iseya pawnshop), which is a tangible cultural asset designated by Bunkyo Ward, as a venue for faculties and departments to engage with the local community and has organized various events for the local society. It is highly commendable that the University has strengthened its collaboration with the local government and community and returned its educational and research achievements to the local community.

There are several issues the University needs to address, though. Regarding internal quality assurance, although a quality assurance mechanism has been established as described above, it is difficult to say that the Internal Quality Assurance Committee, the organization tasked with promoting internal quality assurance, is actively engaged in assuring and improving the quality of education. Moreover, the allocation of roles is unclear among the University Council, Executive Council, and University-wide Self-Study Committee. The University should improve its internal quality assurance system and ensure its functionality by appropriately stipulating and allocating the internal quality assurance responsibilities of each organization, including how better to collaborate with each other. With respect to the learning outcomes in the faculties and graduate schools, the knowledge, competencies, attitudes, and other outcomes stated in the diploma policy haven’t been adequately assessed and evaluated. In addition, full consideration has not been given to adopting effective, multifaceted methods of measuring the learning outcomes. The University should undertake improvements, recognizing the importance of ascertaining student learning outcomes to assure and enhance the quality of education, and make proper use of the results to achieve higher quality

education.

Going forward, JUAA expects the University to improve its internal quality assurance mechanism, further develop unique initiatives, assure the quality of its education, and disseminate information to society, all of which will further activate its educational activities and help the University move ahead.

Notable Strengths

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The University has focused on social cooperation through collaboration with the local community by defining the Regional Exchange Center as a teaching organization and concluding an agreement with the municipality where the campus is located. In particular, the University is utilizing the Kikuzaka Atomijuku building (formerly used by the Iseya pawnshop), a tangible cultural asset designated by Bunkyo Ward, as a venue for students to engage with the local community and has organized various events with the local community as part of its regular courses. It is commendable that the University has not only preserved this cultural asset as a historic property but is making use of the building for educational activities as it strengthens its collaboration with the local government and community, which has led to activating the local community.

Suggestions for Improvement

Internal Quality Assurance

- The University established and designated the Internal Quality Assurance Committee as the organization responsible for promoting internal quality assurance in AY2022, but the committee's roles as the main entity promoting quality assurance, after the University-wide Self-Study Committee verifies the results of self-studies conducted by the faculties and graduate schools, are not clearly defined. The University, which has just started its internal quality assurance efforts under the new system, should clarify the roles of the individual organizations involved in internal quality assurance and how the organizations can better collaborate to ensure a more efficient and practical internal quality assurance system.

Educational Program and Learning Outcomes

- The current efforts of the faculties and graduate schools to assess learning outcomes are insufficient as a mechanism assessing and evaluating the learning outcomes stipulated in the diploma policy. As the University has included in its medium-term objectives an initiative to develop indicators for measuring learning outcomes, it should consider multifaceted ways to appropriately assess and evaluate the student learning outcomes indicated in the diploma policy.

Student Enrollment

- The ratio of student enrollment to the student enrollment cap in the Graduate School of Management is low at 0.05, and improvements are required to ensure that the graduate school's student quotas are thoroughly managed.