

**Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for
Professional Graduate Business School**

**Department of Technology Management,
Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management,
Yamaguchi University**



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: National	Location: Yamaguchi, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2024	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2030)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for the Department of Technology Management, Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management, Yamaguchi University

The Graduate School of Innovation and Technology Management, Yamaguchi University (hereafter “Graduate School”), has set forth the objectives of “nurturing individuals capable of integrating universal principles and the latest knowledge of technology and business management, carrying out research on management that enables the sustainable creation of innovation, and thereby considering and determining their own challenges and the optimal utilization of resources on a regional and global level based on comprehensive and interdisciplinary knowledge, learning, and ethical values. “To foster students based on these objectives, the Graduate School has formulated the following five strategies: Educational Strategy to “carry out internationally recognized and distinctive education on technology management”; Research Strategy to “generate research outcomes that support high-quality education on technology management”; Admissions Strategy to “secure the enrollment of a stable number of high-quality students”; Human Resources Strategy to “make effective use of human resources and enhance the international competitiveness of faculty members in education”; and Financial Strategy to “establish a solid financial foundation to continue education and research.”

As for the curriculum, the Graduate School offers subjects necessary for students to acquire expertise, skills, and thinking and other abilities essential for technology management education in line with the curriculum design and implementation policy and the MOT Education Core Curriculum developed under its leadership. To ensure sequential learning, the curriculum consists of Fundamental, Advanced, and Applied courses. Students take six compulsory subjects in the Fundamental courses, during their first six months, followed by Advanced courses, that offer specialized knowledge corresponding to their fields of expertise. The Applied courses comprise multiple theme-based courses such as intellectual property and data science, and provide students with opportunities to develop thinking and other skills through advanced and practical tasks. For example, they offer subjects in response to the remarkable advancement of digital transformation (DX)-centered innovation in recent years, following the development of information and communication technology (ICT). In the Special courses, the Graduate School offers internships as well as special programs providing short-term overseas training in East Asia and Southeast Asia to cultivate international perspectives, thereby providing students with opportunities to learn practical knowledge. Furthermore, in

Specific Subject Research, where students conduct case studies and develop business plans under their own initiative and faculty guidance, practical education is provided to Japanese working students that is beneficial to their affiliated companies, while international students receive guidance tailored to their post-completion goals for further study or employment. In this way, the Graduate School has designed a systematic curriculum that allows students to learn sequentially while responding to their individual needs, and providing education to achieve its objectives.

Regarding faculty organization, the Graduate School successfully maintains a balance between theory, practice, and management to foster technology managers as specified in its mission statement. Efforts are made to maintain and enhance the international competitiveness of faculty members in education through overseas training programs and other initiatives.

One of the program's strengths is the contribution of the Asia Innovation Center (AIC) to internationally recognized technology management education. The AIC not only develops project-based learning (PBL) materials and provides PBL education for students from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, but also hires faculty members from partner universities in East Asia and Southeast Asia through the Cross-Appointment System for six to seven months each year. With these educational and research collaborations, the AIC strives to globalize technology innovation-based education in East Asia and Southeast Asia, starting with Yamaguchi University. These are commendable initiatives that contribute to the implementation of internationally recognized, distinctive technology management education, which is a key component of the Graduate School's educational strategy.

However, there are several areas of improvement. One area is related to the burden imposed on faculty members. Full-time faculty teach at three locations in Ube, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka. To avoid an imbalanced burden, the Graduate School has set a four-subject annual limit for each faculty member, including Specific Subject Research, , and adjusts the length of the lecture periods to secure dedicated research time. In reality, however, some faculty members are observed teaching more than four subjects. Rigorous management of the faculty's workloads is desirable to maintain a more balanced workload among faculty members. Regarding barrier-free accessibility to classrooms at the Fukuoka and Hiroshima campuses, which was also pointed out in the last certified evaluation and accreditation report, the Graduate School has taken measures, such as hiring support staff and offering online courses, due to the difficulty of providing barrier-free access on leased properties. These measures, however, are for currently enrolled students. Additional measures should be considered to prevent the exclusion of

prospective students with physical disabilities.

The Graduate School is advised to adopt the results of this accreditation review for professional graduate business schools and continue its self-study efforts to further ensure and enhance the quality of education, thereby further developing its unique characteristics.