

Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for Junior College

Ohtsuki City College



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Public	Location: Yamanashi, 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 Ohtsuki City College

Overview

Ohtsuki City College (hereafter, the College) is a junior college consisting of a single department, The Department of Economics. It was founded in 1955, a year after the inauguration of Ohtsuki.

The College was accredited by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Education in 2008, and has worked to rectify the problems pointed out in the accreditation. In particular, the Future Planning Committee of the College has worked towards the measures necessary for the clarification of the admission policy and improvement of activities limitations resulting from sharing of the school building and school site with the College's affiliated high school. With regards to Japanese language education, which was considered as a unique feature of the College at the time of the last accreditation, the College continues to improve in teaching and makes consistent efforts to improve students' Japanese language competencies and the basic abilities of students.

In this accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (hereafter, JUAA), several features of the College are highly regarded: the enhancement and enrichment of Japanese language education, the implementation of education that visualizes the basic direction of each subject in line with educational objectives, and efforts toward social cooperation in which local residents and students work together to learn about the local community.

However, the College needs to improve the definition and publication of the policy on degree award and the curriculum design policy, as well as the implementation of measures to give substance to the credit system.

The College has been earnestly involved in making contributions to the local community and providing educational services for people who are not regular students of the College. Some of the College's efforts include: conducting a consultation service for citizens; establishment of a research office for local community members who are involved in conducting research; sponsoring a lecture series concerning Yamanashi Prefecture (where Ohtsuki City is located); and, as a part of the university consortium, implementing an open lecture series, "Community College for Residents of Yamanashi Prefecture." The College overcame stagnation in activities in recent years, and now has gained momentum for revitalization and has attempted new endeavors involving the entire College. Positive results are expected in the future.

Notable Strengths

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- The College created the Outline of Educational Purpose and Content of Each Field, in which the basic direction of each subject is visualized in line with its educational objectives. The Outline is used as the foundation of a well-balanced education, while the Outline itself is reexamined appropriately. The syllabus is created based on this Outline. It is commendable that every faculty member, including adjunct faculty, is always conscious of the positioning of the subject within the Outline and consistently makes efforts to provide educational content according to the standard content for each subject.
- In order to cultivate the Japanese language competencies of students, Japanese language is taught in detail in special subjects "Project Research A and B" by all full-time faculty members using a tutorial teaching method. Each faculty member makes constant efforts to improve Japanese language learning and instruction skills

by participating in the Instruction Method Research Group. It is commendable that the College achieves its educational objectives by not only by improving students' reading skills and abilities to think using Japanese, but also by encouraging their initiative while assuring the quality of Japanese language education.

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- The College has set up the Research Office for the Local Community where faculty members engage in activities that make good use of their specialties. It also actively accepts citizens as special auditing students who can audit classes at no cost. Thus, the College creates a stimulating environment where adult students with rich social experiences learn together with regular students, and they mutually inspire each other in this common place of everyday learning. In particular, through the courses established for local revitalization, such as the study of Ohtsuki City and local practical training, the College gives back to the local community by harvesting and selling local agricultural products or developing products. In addition, through these activities, it creates opportunities for students to deal directly with the local community and learn from citizens. It is commendable that the College has put into practice its stated direction as a junior college that learns from and with the community.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- Since the policy on degree award has not been clearly defined, it should be stipulated and made known to the public.
- Since the curriculum design policy has not been clearly defined, it should be stipulated and made known to the public.
- The College has not implemented the measures to give substance to the credit system. This should be improved according to the purpose of the credit system.