

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

Institute of Business and Accounting, Professional Graduate School
Kwansei Gakuin University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Hyogo, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2019	
Accreditation Status: Accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1.2020 – March 31.2025)	

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for Institute of Business and Accounting,
Professional Graduate School, Kwansei Gakuin University**

With the educational purpose of a professional graduate school to “teach and study academic theories and application, train human resources that possess socially specific and advanced professional skills and outstanding abilities, cultivate personalities according to Christian principles, and contribute to the advancement of culture,” the Business School, Institute of Business and Accounting, Professional Graduate School, Kwansei Gakuin University, has its own unique purpose to foster “globally competent business persons with high professional ethics in line with the university’s founding principles.” The Business School consists of two courses: the Corporate Management Strategy Course (Japanese program; offered mainly on weekday evenings and weekends), which is mainly intended for working students and aims to train those who are keen to develop a theoretical understanding of various business problems and become business professionals, and the International Management Course (English program; offered mainly in the daytime on weekdays), which aims to train globally competent business persons. Both courses accept those with good English skills, capabilities, and enthusiasm and offer consistent education with a focus on globalization and professional ethics.

The curriculum consists of two courses, as noted above. Specifically, the Corporate Management Strategy Course has six programs, and the International Management Course has four programs, each offering a wide range of subjects. Among the programs above, the Municipal, Medical, and University Management Program of the Corporate Management Strategy Course offers a curriculum on the public management and governance of administrative and non-profit organizations such as municipalities, medical institutions, etc., which is a distinctive endeavor. The Business School aims to foster high professional ethical standards with a unique feature of making Corporate Ethics and Business Ethics compulsory for both courses and offering specialized education subjects such as Corporate Ethics Case Studies. The Auditing Student System, which is only available to graduates of the Business School, is a program that enables students to engage in lifelong learning, and thereby represents a commendable effort to support networking between current students and graduates.

In addition to the above, the Institute of Business and Accounting is engaged in various distinctive endeavors, including: (1) consistent implementation of ambitious initiatives, such as the introduction of an working student program and a double

master's system focusing on globalization, in accordance with its long-term vision, long-term strategy, and mid-term strategy; (2) the fact that the office is also playing the role of secretariat of the IBA Research Forum; and (3) implementation of a short-term exchange program through the Summer Graduate Business Program based on an agreement with the University of Victoria in Canada.

However, the issues below should be addressed.

First, regarding the educational program, methods and outcomes, it is stated that class hours should be seven weeks (14 periods) and an eighth week dedicated to make-up classes/term examinations for each quarter. It should be ensured that the regular class hours equivalent to 90 minutes \times 15 weeks is provided. Regarding the utilization of educational outcome assessment, there is a need to grasp the outcomes of post-completion activities and education through the curriculum cooperation council, alumni association, and other organizations that graduates participate in as external members, share that information within those organizations, and consider measures to utilize the information for improving the educational program and methods, in accordance with the purpose of the Business School.

Next, regarding faculty members and faculty, the internal organization involved in the appointment process is complex, and there is a concern that it will become unclear where the responsibility lies. In order to create a high-quality faculty, the roles and mutual relationships of the relevant committees should be clarified. Further, in order to provide support to full-time faculty members engaged in improving educational and research activities and ensure appropriate accountability to students and other stakeholders, a systematic and organizational system for evaluating individual full-time faculty members should be developed, and a system should be created that further motivates full-time faculty members who have made positive achievements in the evaluation, in cooperation with the corporation as well as the university executives in charge of formulating self-study systems and implementing them in individual departments.

The present certified evaluation and accreditation has clarified the features and issues of the Business School. Therefore, we hope the Business School refers to these results and continues to implement self-study and work on reform and improvement, and thereby further enhances its features and develops and improves its educational and research activities even more.