

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

Kanto Gakuin University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Kanagawa, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2013	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2014 – March.31.2021)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Kanto Gakuin University

Notable Strengths

Student support

- It is commendable that Kanto Gakuin University (hereafter, the University) implements across-campus, systematic student support system. For example, with the Faculty-Staff Mentoring System, a faculty or staff member consults with students individually on various issues they may encounter. The system operates as follows: At the beginning of each school year, a student support counselor chooses an appropriate faculty-staff member for a student, and the same mentor continues to work with the student for a maximum of one year. The University also has the Student Mentoring System, in which a senior student consults with a junior student on the matters of study and student life in general. A training workshop is offered to students who are registered as mentors. The students are provided with fine-grained support through these mentoring programs. The services are offered comprehensively through Assistant Center for Student Life and Learning, and numerous faculty and staff members as well as students take part in these mentoring programs.

Social cooperation and contribution

- It is commendable that, for the purpose of “making contributions to the sustainable development of the local community,” the University has offered open lectures and co-sponsored lectures with local businesses, and that it has been actively engaged with the local community. It is also commendable that the University actively promotes collaborative, industry-government-academic activities. For example, Research Advancement and Management Organization at the University plays a major role in strengthening the industry-academic collaboration network. By signing the “Agreement on Promotion of the Industry-Academic-Government Collaboration” with the Yokohama City Center for Industrial Technology and Design, and joining the “Council for the Promotion of Industry-Academic-Public Collaboration in Kanagawa,” the University has earned opportunities for funded research as well as submitted more applications for patents on the research results.
- It is commendable that students’ volunteer activities and contributions are steadily well received in Japan’s disaster areas. Various kinds of volunteer activities are available for students inside and outside of the University, and many participate in them under the school motto of “Be a Man and Serve the World.” In particular, to support relief efforts in the disaster areas of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the University launched the “Kanto Gakuin University East Japan Earthquake Restoration Support Volunteer Project” soon after the disaster and has continuously sent students on a regular basis. Every time the University recruits volunteers, more students than the application cap apply. The applicants are carefully screened through interviews and sent to the areas in groups.

Suggestions for Improvement

Faculty and faculty organization

- In the College of Human and Environmental Studies, the age structure of the

faculty is skewed. The ratio of faculty aged sixty-one to seventy is very high, and the number is higher than that of the last accreditation and evaluation. This should be improved.

Educational content, methods, and outcome

- The degree granting policies and the content, elements, and structure for organizing and implementing the curriculum varies depending on the departments and graduate schools. The basic ideas on degree granting policies and the policies for designing and implementing curriculum also vary. There should be some consensus at the University as a whole. The University needs to formulate an appropriate policy. This should be improved.
- The curriculum of the doctoral program of the Graduate School of Humanities does not include appropriate coursework. Considering the purpose of the credit-based degree granting system, the doctoral program should offer appropriate coursework.
- The maximum number of credits students can register for per year has been set high at fifty-six for fourth year students in the College of Law. This should be improved in accordance with the purpose of having a credit system.
- The Graduate School of Economics, the Graduate School of Law, and the Graduate School of Engineering do not clearly state their criteria for examining degree-seeking theses and dissertations. These criteria should be clarified and made public in the student handbooks of each academic unit.

Enrollment

- There is no consistency in admission policies across undergraduate and graduate programs. Required content and levels of knowledge for the admissions are not clearly stated. Since the content of policies written on the web page, in the brochure for the Admission Office Entrance Exam, and in the “Report on Self-Study and Evaluation” are not consistent, the wording should be coordinated, and clear and unified admission policies should be stipulated.
- The ratio of transfer students to the transfer student admission cap is low in several academic units; at 0.13 in the Department of English in the College of Humanities, at 0.13 in the Department of Electrical, at 0.13 in the Electronic and Information Engineering in the College of Engineering, and at 0.13 in the Department of Modern Communication in the College of Human and Environmental Studies. There are no enrolled students in more than several academic units such as the Department of Comparative Culture and the Department of Applied Sociology in the College of Humanities, the Department of Economics and the Department of Business Administration in the College of Economics, the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Department of Network and Multi-Media Engineering and the Department of Architecture and the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Department of Applied Material and Life Science in the College of Engineering, and the Department of Human Environmental Design in the College of Human and Environmental Studies. This situation should be improved.
- The ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is low at 0.17 in the doctoral programs in the Graduate School of Law, at 0.28 in the Graduate School of Engineering, and at 0.46 the Graduate School of Practical Legal Studies. This

situation should be improved.

Internal quality assurance

- The content of self-studies is not sufficiently examined in the University's current "Report on Self-Study and Evaluation," and, therefore, the self-studies have not led to effective improvements and reforms of the University. The University should set up an appropriate system to make good use of the results of self-studies and evaluations for the entire University. Also, the errors and faults that existed in the report and the data and that were pointed out in the last accreditation and evaluation process have not been corrected. At this time of accreditation and evaluation processes, there are still unclear words and errors as well as mistakes in the University's basic numerical and statistical data. As the information is open to public, the University should produce more accurate and detailed reports and data.

Area of Serious Concern

Enrollment

- In the Department of Applied Material and Life Science in the College of Engineering, the average of the ratios of enrolled freshmen to the freshmen admission cap in the last five years has been high at 1.33 and the ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is high at 1.36. This situation must be corrected.