

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

Sagami Women's University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Kanagawa, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2014	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2015 – March.31.2022)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Sagami Women's University

Overview

Sagami Women's University (hereafter, the University) succeeded The Japan Women's School founded in 1900, and was established as a single subject university containing the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in 1949. Thereafter, the University established new departments, faculty, and graduate schools, and has gone through reorganization. Currently, the University contains three faculties, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the Faculty of Human Society, and the Faculty of Nutritional Science, and one graduate school, the Graduate School of Nutritional Science. The Department of Contemporary Life Design in the affiliated junior college was reorganized into the Department of Contemporary Life Design in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of the University in 2013. The campus is located in Sagami City, Kanagawa Prefecture, and the University has been engaged in education and research activities according to its founding spirit.

After its accreditation review by Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) in 2007, the University has made notable efforts in social cooperation and social contributions at the university level to achieve the mission of the University and its objective of developing human talent. However, several issues remain, including student enrollment, formulation of research instruction plans in the Graduate School, and the criteria of assessment for the joint class with the junior college. These issues should be improved. Hereafter, the University is expected to further develop by vitalizing the faculty development activities in each faculty and graduate school, by developing substantial reforms based on self-study, and by setting up an internal quality assurance system and making it functional.

Notable Strengths

Social Cooperation and Contribution

- According to the mission and purpose, the University as a whole is focused on lifelong learning. In order to respond to requests from the local community, the University established the Social Cooperation Promotion Division, and has engaged in expansion of social cooperation and social contribution activities. For example, it participates in the Sagami Consortium. In addition, in cooperation with other local universities, the University offers a lifelong learning lecture series including the Sagami Academy, and has introduced the Lifelong Learning System, which offers the lecture series to a larger number of people. It is commendable that the University has become the core of the local community and that it gives back the results of education and research to society.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- Among the joint classes offered in all the faculties, those offered by the affiliated junior college are accepted as the part of the credits required for degree completion, but the assessment criteria for university credits has not been set. This practice should be improved from the standpoint of quality assurance of education.
- The maximum number of credits a student can register for per a year has been set high at 54 credits for transfer students and those taking the University-wide credit-transferable subjects and the other department's subjects. This should be improved

in accordance with the purpose of having a credit system.

- While the University as a whole has made some efforts to develop the talent of the faculty, systematic faculty development activities have not been implemented in each department and graduate school in order to improve the contents and methods of education. This should be improved.
- In both the master's and doctoral programs in the Graduate School of Nutritional Science, criteria for examining degree-seeking theses and dissertations have not been clearly stated for the students. This should be improved, by clearly stating them to students in the syllabus.

Enrollment

- The ratio of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap is low at 0.17 in the doctoral programs in the Graduate School of Nutritional Science. This number should be improved. The ratios of transfer students to the transfer student admission cap are low at 0.20 in the Department of Japanese Language and Literature, at 0.30 in the Department of English Language, Culture, and Communication, and at 0.30 in the Department of Department of Information and Media Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, at 0.10 in the Department of Societal Management, at 0.23 in the Department of Human Psychology in the Faculty of Human Society, and at 0.38 in the Department of Nutrition and Health in the Faculty of Nutritional Science. These numbers should be improved.

Internal Quality Assurance

- The self-evaluation by faculty and the self-study by staff have been implemented regularly. However, the results are not connected to the self-study of the University as a whole; thus, a system of self-study to identify and address issues for improvement has not been established. An internal quality assurance system should be developed by connecting constant reviews by faculty and staff to self-study of the University as a whole, so that internal quality assurance works appropriately.

Area of Serious Concern

Educational Content, Methods, and Outcome

- In the master's and doctoral programs in the Graduate School of Nutritional Science, the research instruction plans have not been formulated. Research instruction and thesis (dissertation) writing guidance must be offered according to the research instruction plan.

Enrollment

- The average of the ratios of enrolled freshmen to the freshmen admission cap in the last five years and the ratios of enrolled students to the student enrollment cap are low at 0.79 and 0.76 respectively in the Department of Japanese Language and Literature, at 0.69 and 0.62 respectively in the Department of English Language, Culture, and Communication, at 0.66 and 0.60 respectively in the Department of Department of Information and Media Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and at 0.81 and 0.76 respectively in the entire Faculty of Arts and Sciences, at 0.68 and 0.64 respectively in the Department of Societal Management in the Faculty of Human Society, and at 0.87 and 0.79 respectively in the entire Faculty of Human

Society. These numbers must be improved by setting appropriate quotas.