

[Overall Project Initiatives]



立教大学

Global Liberal Arts Education-Leadership Education-Self-Transformation: The Evolution of Rikkyo as a World-Class University

By steadily implementing initiatives under our three major reforms over a 10-year period, we have raised our internationalization capabilities and grown toward our project goal of becoming a “world-class university”

Reform of Curriculum

Medium/long term outcome

Curriculum that fosters students' capacity to continue learning autonomously and proactively

● University-wide leadership education

Solving complex problems in an uncertain era requires teamwork with all members demonstrating their strengths and growing together in pursuit of team goals, regardless of their formal roles and powers. We call this as “new leadership,” and have incorporated it in the Global Liberal Arts Minor subjects and GLAP required subject.



GLAP Leadership Subjects

● Developing English courses based on the Global Liberal Arts Program (GLAP)

Building on the initiatives in GLAP, we have accelerated the rollout of small-class English courses focused on liberal arts at undergraduate level, especially in the College of Law and Politics and the College of Intercultural Communication.

● Expansion of International Cooperative Graduate Programs

The Graduate School of Business and Graduate School of Social Design Studies participate in these programs, which make use of the Indonesia Professional Human Resource Development Project (PHRDP), JICA scholarship and other initiatives. Up to the 2023 academic year, they have welcomed a total of 128 students from Asian countries such as Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, as well as African countries.



Expansion of International Cooperative Graduate Programs Graduation Ceremony

Reform of Student Awareness

Medium/long term outcome

Improved ability to solve problems through dialogue with others from different backgrounds

● Diverse overseas programs and pre-/post-program learning with a focus on quality assurance

We offer a diverse range of programs, including exchange programs to our partner institutions (which numbered 260 as of October 2024), Rikkyo Service Learning conducted with Trinity University of Asia in the Philippines under the CUAC (Colleges & Universities of the Anglican Communion) partnership, and UN Youth Volunteers Program engaging in UN agencies across the world. We also emphasize quality assurance through enhanced training both before students depart and after they return.



UN Youth Volunteers

● Measurement/assessment of effects using learning outcome rubrics

In accordance with a fundamental global capabilities rubric, students in the GLAP and Rikkyo Minor Program undertake ongoing self-assessment of their (1) ability to think critically (reasoning, logical expression), (2) ability to lead changes (identification of problems, creativity), and (3) ability to empathize and collaborate (multicultural understanding, leadership, communication), thereby ascertaining the qualitative outcomes of their learning.

Reform of Governance

Medium/long term outcome

Capacity for self-transformation and organization to enable collaboration among diverse students, faculty/staff and wider society

● Establishment and promotion of the Rikkyo Vision

Formulated as part of our 150th anniversary celebrations, the Rikkyo Vision reaffirms the importance of liberal arts and internationalization. We have maintained strong momentum on internationalization since it was positioned as the university's key focus under Rikkyo Global 24.

● Reliable project advancement and prompt realization of initiatives through the Organization for Global Initiatives

We have established the Organization for Global Initiatives headed by the Vice President for International Advancement. The Organization takes leadership of speedy reform initiatives in areas including admissions reform, English-language syllabus development, and RSP projects (PEACE / NEXUS programs).

[University Growth in the Project Period (connection with outcomes)]

⚙️ We are maximizing effects through a unified approach to reforms of Curriculum, Student Awareness, and Governance and development of organic interconnections across the reforms.

⚙️ The entire university reaffirms that internationalization is an indispensable element in developing the ideas of liberal arts education, which the university has traditionally emphasized in today's increasingly complex world, and to continue to transform itself in pursuit of greater internationality.

Good Practice ① (Undergraduate Level)

Global Liberal Arts Program(GLAP)

- Liberal-arts-focused English-medium course with small class sizes
- Collaboration with liberal arts colleges outside Japan to enhance educational content and improve international compatibility

Development into The Asian Consortium for Excellence in Liberal Arts and Interdisciplinary Education (The ACE), an international consortium established in partnership with Peking University and Singapore National University around the shared theme of “liberal arts education”



ACE Summer Intensive

Good Practice ② (Undergraduate Level)

Rikkyo Study Project (PEACE / NEXUS)

- PEACE Program for students seeking to complete degrees in an English medium only
- NEXUS Program for students improving Japanese language proficiency after enrollment
- Admissions methods using international standards such as IB, A Levels and SAT, enabling direct entry from high schools outside Japan

Attracting more diverse international students through a range of initiatives such as new admissions methods, curriculum, and supports for adjustment to life in Japan such as housing, scholarships, and tutors

Good Practice ③ (Undergraduate Level)

Across-the-board adoption of external English language proficiency tests in Admissions

- External testing of the four areas of English language proficiency in all undergraduate admissions
- Integration with English language curriculum reforms

Relative improvement in students’ English language proficiency levels, also contributing to increased participation in study abroad programs

Good Practice ④ (Graduate School Level)

International Cooperative Graduate Programs

- Development of graduate school framework utilized by Graduate Schools of Business and Social Design Studies
- Recruitment of scholarship students from Asia and Africa through English-medium education and specializations in Public Management & Administration and Social Development & Administration

Establishment of a graduate school internationalization framework through collaboration among multiple graduate schools, together with contributions to intellectual society leveraging the university’s expertise

Good Practice ⑤ (University Level)

Utilization of Rikuzentakata Global Campus

- Establishment of Rikuzentakata Global Campus in April 2017 in Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture, through a partnership with Iwate University
- Operation of the Rikuzentakata Project, an annual PBL program focusing on disaster recovery, in partnership with universities outside Japan (student participants from Rikkyo, Stanford University, University of Hong Kong, and National University of Singapore, and other universities)

Long-standing collaborations between Rikkyo and the local community leveraged to provide opportunities for young people across the world to contemplate the current situation, the recovery efforts and the future of regions affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake



[Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic]

- Sustained motivation and interest in study abroad/international exchange through proactive provision of international exchange events online
- Collaborated closely with partner institutions to enable flexible support and online services for outbound/inbound students
- Rigorously gathered information on issues such as border restrictions enabling rapid resumption of outbound mobility
- Used online class systems built during the pandemic as the basis for post-pandemic programs such as the ACE program and the Japan Forum for Internationalization of Universities