Our History





Kanda Nishikicho, first location of Chuo University

Renamed Chuo Daigaku

(Chuo University)



Surugadai Campus after completion



1905

1926

Establishment of Igirisu Horitsu Gakko

Surugadai Campus completed University relocates from Kanda Nishikicho

Our Founding Spirit

Chuo University was founded as the Igirisu Horitsu Gakko (English Law School) in 1885 by a group of 18 young attorneys. In establishing the school, their aim was to foster young professionals with expertise in common law, those trained in the Anglo-American legal tradition. The school was intended to provide practical education and produce definitive texts in all areas of common law, as well as to build a library of these texts.

The founders established the school with a spirit of providing practical education based on concrete empiricism rather than abstract systems, in the belief that promoting understanding and knowledge of rational and practical common law was indispensable for the development and modernization of Japan. With the philosophy of "Fostering the Ability to Apply Knowledge to Practice," the founders sought to cultivate legal professionals of outstanding character, thoroughly versed in common law, who could contribute to the improvement of Japan's legal system. The founders were convinced that common law was best suited to the transformation of Meijiera Japan (1868-1912) into a modern society under the rule of law, and by teaching this legal tradition with its emphasis on practical experience and respect for liberty, they aimed to cultivate young lawyers ideally suited to the needs of modern society.



Our Strengths

and Koishikawa Campuses

Campus opens



Distinctive University Education

In a society where things cannot simply be divided into the fields of humanities and sciences, a flexible and multifaceted perspective is required. With more than 700 faculty members from diverse fields representing knowledge cultivated over the institution's long history, Chuo University promotes educational and research activities from interdisciplinary and diverse perspectives. In order to foster talented individuals who can properly meet the needs of society, Chuo offers various and numerous educational programs.

Faculty Linkage Program (FLP)

The goal of the FLP Program is to foster specialists in various fields through comprehensive and systematic learning. FLP courses offers educational opportunities that cross and combine disciplines, such as environment, governance, and international cooperation.

Global FLP Program

This Program seeks to nurture global professionals who can leverage the expertise and skills that they acquire through practical education in global society. All courses are offered in English or Chinese.

Interfaculty AI and Data Science Program

Chuo University established its AI and Data Science Center in April 2020. The Center now offers courses related to AI and data science from introductory to advanced level for all students.

Chuo is also proud of its strong alumni network. With more than 590,000 graduates, Chuo is one of the largest and most prestigious private universities in Japan. Over the years, many of these graduates have become top-level executives at major corporations globally.

Notable Rankings

Rankings prove that Chuo stands out among leading universities in Japan with unique strengths in many areas.



Number of graduates hired as Court Officials (General Service)

(2023 University Rankings by Asahi Shimbun Publications)



Number of private university students who have passed the National Public Service Exam (General Service) (2023 University Rankings by Asahi Shimbun Publications)



Number of graduates who are Prefectural Governors in Japan (2023 University Rankings by Asahi Shimbun Publications)



Number of students who have passed the National CPA Exam (Chuo University Institute of Accounting Research, 2022)



Number of graduates who are presidents of listed companies in Japan (2023 University Rankings by Asahi Shimbun Publications)



 $Number\ of\ graduates\ who\ have\ passed\ the\ National\ Bar\ Exam$

