Ogaki Women’s College
Message from the President

Ogaki Women’s college started newly with five subjects in 2013

Ogaki Women’s college was founded in 1969, and since that time, has been more than 25,500 students pass through the gates and enter into fields of Japan. A new subject, Nursing was added to forerunning four subjects, Early Childhood Care and Education, Art and Design, Music and Dental Hygiene in the spring of 2013. A main aim of our college is to educate young women for contribution to the community by means of six policies such as described items later. Therefore, our educational purpose to contribute to the society is getting more clear and easily. Human beings inherit genes from their parents and grow up in various environments. Environmental factors can influence both mental and physical development, especially during this time in a young woman’s life. Therefore, our institution provides students with a safe, clean and beautiful campus. Ogaki Women’s College provides young women with the opportunity to learn special knowledge and techniques that will enable the development of various skills in five core subject areas. The primary purpose of the education provided by Ogaki Women’s College is to foster conscientious women with profound intelligence, accompanied by a gentle character, a high degree of morality, and a spirit of independence.

Education purpose

The purpose of education at Ogaki Women’s College is based on the following six policies:

1. Student-centered education
   Young women are educated with the purpose of evolving their hidden abilities and supporting the development of independent scholarship.

2. Active and effective scholarship with a distinct purpose
   In order to enhance their own abilities, students learn special knowledge and gain special skills in five core subjects.

3. Comprehensive education that is intellectually, physically, and above all, morally balanced
   Accumulation of knowledge that is mentally and physically unbalanced or that does not have a moral compass often results in adverse outcomes.

4. Education that stresses the importance of nature and the sensitivity to life in a variety of environments
   The environment exerts a large influence on human development; however, human beings also exert a large influence on the environment.

5. Personal satisfaction through education that promotes contributions to society
   Rather than focusing on purely individual gain, education should promote the desire to make valuable contributions to society.

6. Cooperative and collaborative education through interdisciplinary exchange
   Although students study a variety of subjects in different departments, Ogaki Women’s College provides abundant opportunities for students from separate departments to meet and exchange their specialized knowledge or even discuss their hobbies. This relatively ordinary interchange is hoped to be useful training for personal interaction in the future.

Educational policy

The comprehensive educational policy at Ogaki Women’s College is composed of the following three parts: admissions; curriculum; and degree attainment.

The admissions policy (AP) is directed at attracting high school graduates with a strong will who are eager to acquire special knowledge. The entrance examination focuses on assessing the attitude of the student in relation to scholarship. Before students are able to enter Ogaki Women’s College, they must exhibit, at a minimum, fundamental knowledge of a high school level education.

The curriculum policy (CP) varies with each subject. However, in addition to the special scholarship provided in each subject area, all students have to acquire basic knowledge related to general education and culture. The design of the curriculum at Ogaki Women’s College promotes active learning a relatively effortless process during the attainment of a broad range of knowledge.

Furthermore, students are advised to actively participate in society through extracurricular activities. The degree policy (DP), the most important policy of Ogaki Women’s College, is connected with AP and CP and represents the final goal of a student education. The degree is necessary to certify and document the accomplishment of this goal.

Upon graduation, the official authorized degree of the college is awarded to students by the Japanese Ministry of Education.

Finally, accompanied by communication abilities and indispensable knowledge acquired through scholarship, graduates are able to independently resolve a variety of problems with an autonomous spirit that leads to personal progress and contributions to both society and the environment.
Educational environment

Ogaki Women’s College consists of the following five programs: Early Childhood Care and Education, Dental Hygiene, Nursing, Music, and Art and Design. Early Childhood Care and Education, Dental Hygiene, and Nursing require a study period of three years, while both Music and Art and Design require two years.

In addition to special scholarships, all students are advised to acquire a general education that enables them to make significant contributions to society. For example, courses that teach art appreciation, the importance of music therapy, and proper oral health care are included in the Early Childhood Care and Education course. A new course focusing on living as a mature woman and being a valuable member of society was also added recently.

These types of courses are possible as a direct result of our specialized staff in each subject area. Our faculty is focused on continuously improving their teaching skills through collaborative faculty development (PdFL).

In 2006, our educational program was chosen as an example of GP (Good Practice) for education by the Japanese Ministry of Education. Furthermore, our educational environment has recently been fully accredited by the Japan Association for College Accreditation. The splendid campus at Ogaki Women’s College has also been designated as a CHARM-ing campus (C: clean and communicative; H: healthy and hearty; A: active and attractive; R: remedial and responsible; M: moral and mannered). This designation signifies that our campus serves to stimulate students to independently discover their own hidden natural abilities.

Additionally, due to its repeatedly proven effects of physical and mental improvement, including damage to the lungs, heart, and digestive organs, smoking has been banned on campus for more than ten years. All aspects of proper health care maintenance, including oral hygiene and avoiding the adverse effects of cosmetics on the skin, are stressed to young students.

As a result of these measures, our campus has maintained its cleanliness and natural beauty, which students can enjoy by witnessing the fresh flowing water of local streams and the seasonal changes in the foliage color of the surrounding trees.

Our educational philosophy is to foster a well-educated and sophisticated woman who is mentally and physically balanced, with a strong moral character, an independent spirit, and a gentle attitude accompanied by intelligence, sensitivity, and adaptability.

Ogaki Women’s College provides a comprehensive education consisting of five special programs that can be easily achieved by all who choose to comply with them.

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Educational policies of each subject

Early Childhood Care and Education

Recently, Japan has been experiencing an aging society and a decreasing birthrate. These historical changes in Japanese society are a cause for great concern. Children grow up rapidly with a wide variety of characteristics, and it is necessary to gain wide-ranging and profound knowledge about them. Therefore, the need for education and training of childcare specialists is becoming increasingly indispensable.

Moreover, remarkable changes in the social environment, including the structure of the modern family, make it more difficult than ever before to learn about children during their increasingly shortened childhoods. Our goal at Ogaki Women’s College is to cultivate childhood educators with a warm spirit who love children deeply. Fortunately, we offer a wide variety of subjects and we have a large number of students who are constantly exchanging knowledge, which results in a natural progression towards this goal.

The facilities at Ogaki Women’s College, complete with a gifted faculty and a CHARM-ing campus, are provided in order to foster warm-hearted specialists with gentle attitudes toward children.

Accompanied by indispensable knowledge about changes in society and family structure, students in the Early Childhood Care and Education, Dental Hygiene, and Nursing programs are taught over a three-year period the various principles and techniques they will require as childhood education specialists. Additionally, both music and art courses are available for students to take as electives.

Furthermore, a specialist from Ogaki Women’s College provides instruction on the proper techniques and importance of oral hygiene for students in all courses. In music courses, students learn types of music such as taiko (Japanese drums). They may also study music therapy or play together with students belonging to the music ensemble course. In art courses, students learn how to draw manga (Japanese comic books/graphic novels) or produce anime (Japanese animation).

In addition to regular coursework, many students often contribute to activities and events in cooperation with local organizations or individuals.
Art and Design

As a result of a Japanese economy that has been weakened, students who wish to study art are decreasing in number, even though manga is still highly popular.

In the general art course, the faculty is comprised of eager specialists who provide both a full understanding of the arts and the skilful techniques, including computer graphics and graphic design, necessary to accomplishing its ongoing production. Adding to the incentive, student art projects are exhibited at Gifu Museum before graduation.

In relation to the manga course, students begin by conceiving a story in their heads and work to eventually develop and construct it using various techniques such as graphic paintings. The faculty guides the students through a constant process of revision until they are left with a complete and fully-realized project.

Music

Students in the music program are divided into the following four courses: piano and organ training; wind ensemble; music therapy; and instrument repair. Activities of our wind ensemble group are well-known, and our recently established instrument repair course has attracted attention throughout the music field.

Although music therapy is recognized as a useful tool in some medical fields, it has yet to gain widespread acceptance. However, progress is expected in the near future, especially as a useful treatment option in relation to the aging society.

Dental Hygiene

Recent advances in medicine have shown the importance of oral hygiene, especially in the elderly. Diseases such as diabetes and heart disease have turned out to be associated with infections of the oral cavity. Therefore, the prevention of oral infections can promote a reduction in the mortality rate associated with myocardial infarction and lung infection in senile patients.

General medical education, including internal medicine and surgery, has also been added to the regular dental hygiene course.

Dental hygiene has typically been a specialty within the medical field involving techniques for keeping the oral cavity clean; however, acquiring a variety of general medical knowledge about the entire body is now seen as indispensable.

Nursing

With advances in medicine, society has a greater need than ever for nurses who are able to work alongside medical doctors. However, nursing shortages are currently being experienced in every part of Japan, and it is particularly prominent in our district. The establishment of a nursing education program has been needed for a long time. Therefore, Ogaki Women’s College will start a nursing program in April of 2013.

Special nursing education is possible because Ogaki Women’s College already has a variety of interrelated subjects. In addition to ordinary nursing education, students will be able to learn methods that support the upbringing of children, an appreciation for the arts, the significance of music therapy, and the importance of oral hygiene for disease prevention. This is a new approach in nursing education being taken by Ogaki Women’s College, one that has never been seen before in Japan, and is largely a result of the existing programs already available at our institution. We are proud of achieving a new and exciting way to provide nursing education.
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