

# Accreditation, Change and Quality in Japanese Higher Education

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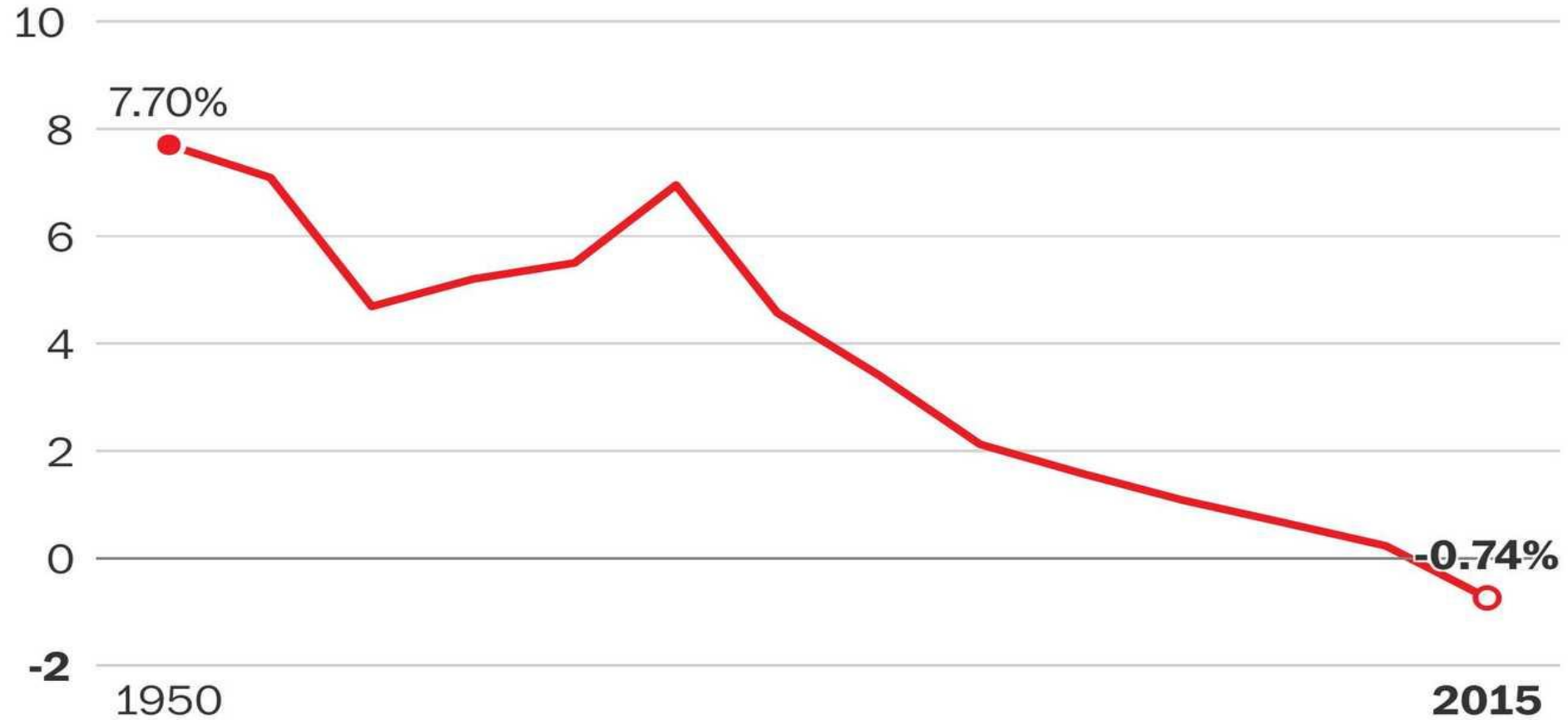
東洋学園大学



Image of Japan?

# Japan's population change since 1950

Percentage population change between each census.

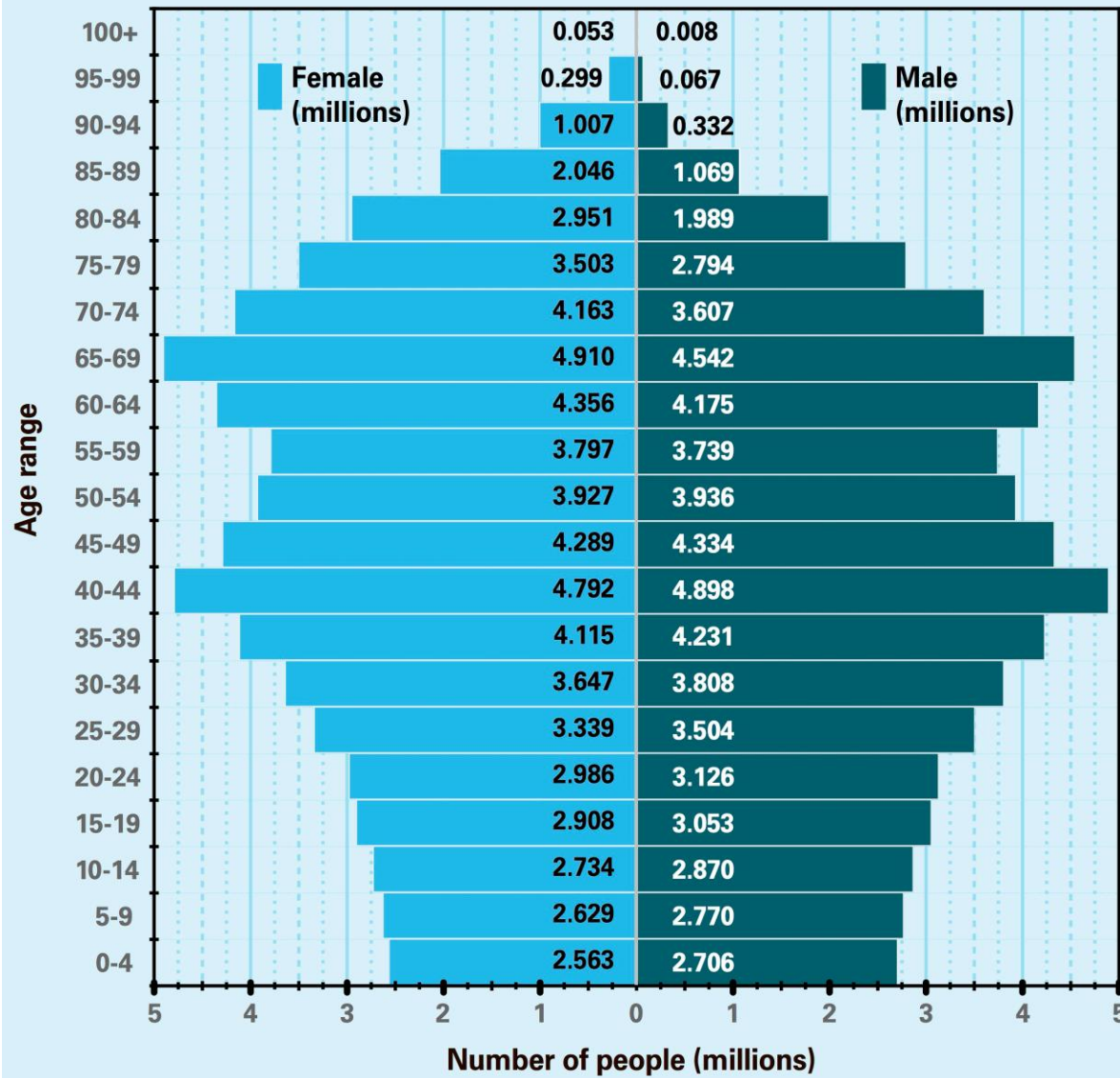


Source: Statistics Bureau of Japan

WORLDVIEWS



## JAPAN IN 2015: A GENDER AND AGE BREAKDOWN



Age 15-19

Male: 3 Million

Female: 2.9 Million

SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, POPULATION DIVISION (2015)

JAPAN TIMES GRAPHIC



<b>Year</b>	<b>Universities (private univ.)</b>	<b>Junior Colleges (private college)</b>	<b>Colleges of Technology (private college)</b>	<b>Professional Training Colleges (private college)</b>
1950	201	149		
1960	245 (140)	280		
1970	382 (274)	479	60	
1980	446 (319)	517	62	2,520
1990	507 (372)	593	62	3,300
2000	649 (478)	572	62	3,551
2008	765 (589)	417	64	3,401
2012	783 (605)	372 (350)	57 (3)	3,249 (3,040)

+ 87 National Universities





# Continuous Improvement?

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改善

Change

For the better

Everybody, Everyday, Everywhere



# What is Kaizen?

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- Good processes bring good results
- Go see for yourself to grasp the current situation
- Speak with data, manage by facts
- Take action to contain and correct root causes of problems
- Work as a team
- Kaizen is everybody's business





# What is Quality Assurance in Japanese HE?

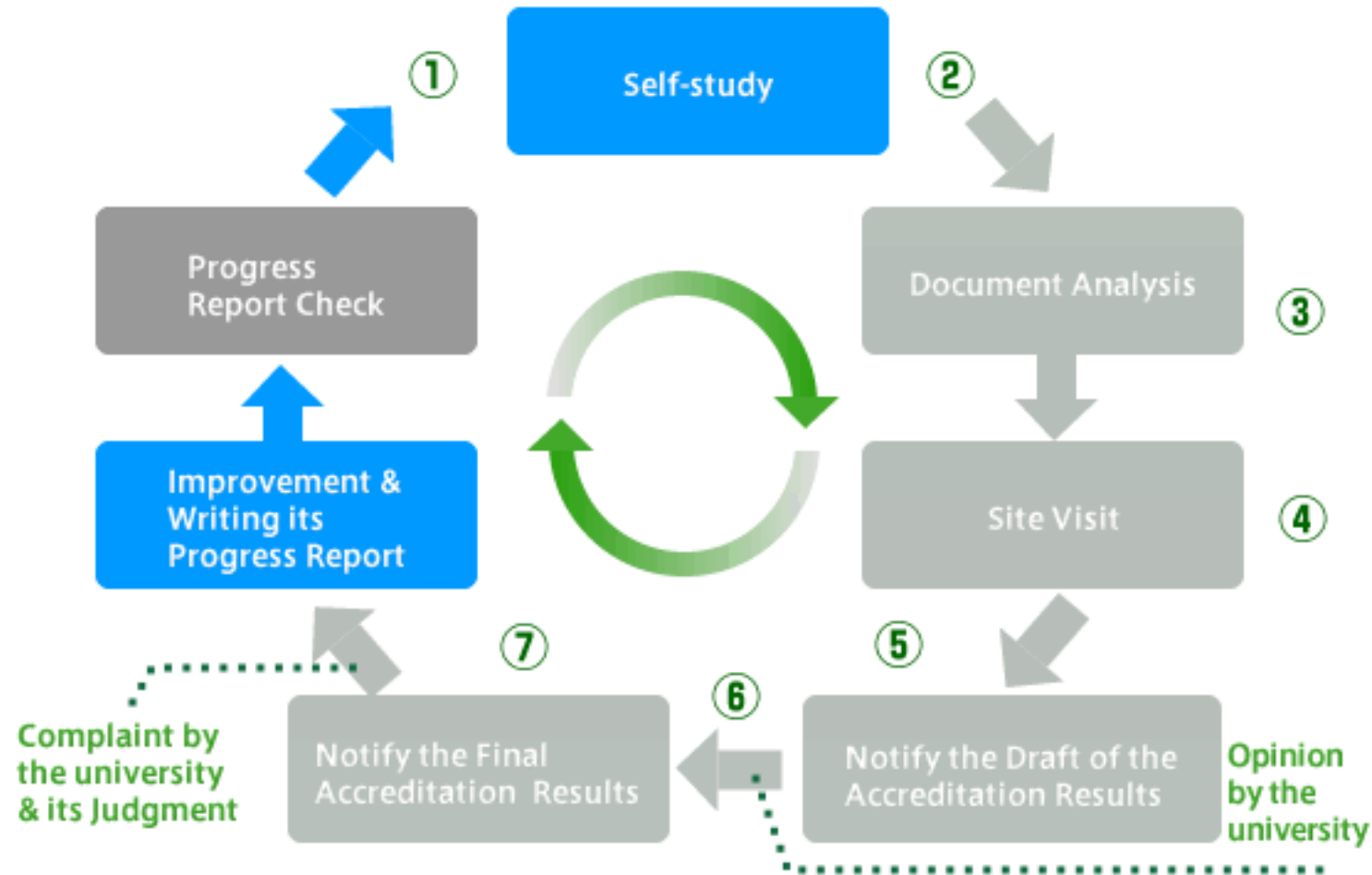
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## *Ninsho*

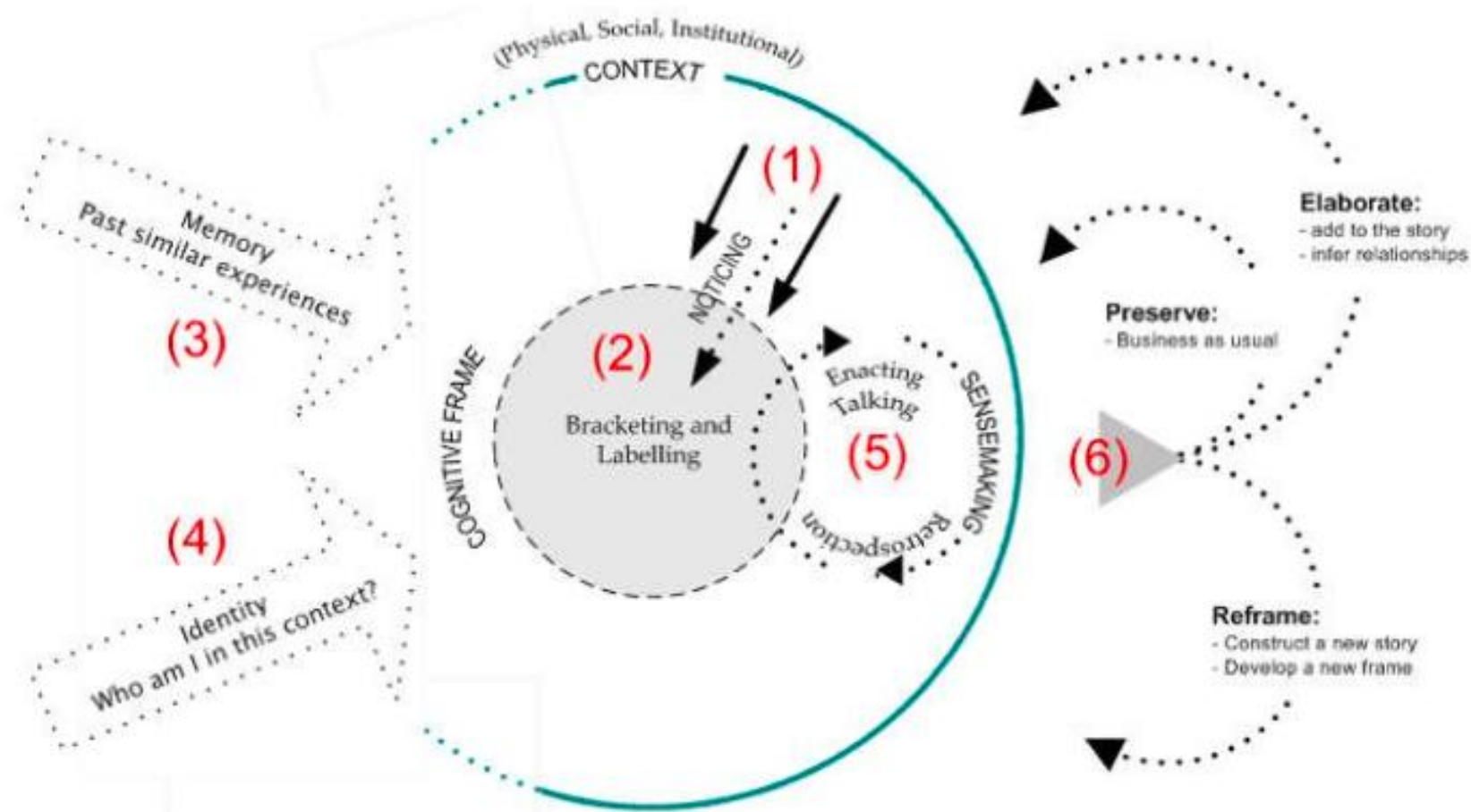
- A) accreditation to **prove** qualification
- B) assess the quality of **processes and systems**

“An evaluation process to decide or reaffirm whether or not an institution or program possesses a certain level of appropriateness. This is performed according to pre-established minimum standards” (JUAA)

# Accreditation in Japan



# How do faculty make sense of accreditation and change?



# Identity

Who Am I?



# Purpose



# Defining the University & Process



# JUAA Goals

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When constructing an internal quality assurance system, it is important to **clarify goals** and plans, **share** these with constituent members, make diligent efforts to realize these goals and plans, and **steadily improve** quality based on appropriate feedback from checks/evaluations and reform (JUAA Handbook p.4)



# Accreditation – *Kaizen*, Sensemaking

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Continuous  
improvement is  
better than  
delayed  
perfection.

*Mark Twain*

meetville.com

**Everybody  
Everyday  
Everywhere**

(Imai, 2014)

