WHU’s Accreditations

**EQUIS (since 1998)**

EFMD (European Foundation for Management Development) awards its institutional accreditation EQUIS (EFMD Quality Improvement System) to institutions of higher education worldwide characterized by outstanding quality across all fields. EQUIS focuses on ensuring equal balance between superlative academic quality and practical application as well as establishing an effective learning environment. Given its all-encompassing approach, the EQUIS accreditation is highly challenging. WHU was the first German higher education institution to receive this accreditation in 1998.

During the most recent re-accreditation proceedings in 2019, WHU was praised for its excellent international reputation and strong rankings, the development of a caring and cooperative internal culture, its high quality faculty and students, its impressive network of international partners, and its well-developed alumni and corporate relations.

**AACSB (since 2010)**

AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) is one of the most well-known accreditations for business schools around the world. The association from the US is characterized by its long history, extensive network, and peer-learning ethos. AACSB’s focus centers around the three principles of “Engagement”, “Innovation”, and “Impact”. Resulting from this accreditation process, WHU has integrated the “Assurance of Learning” (AoL) tool into its existing program development process.

Apart from WHU’s strong culture built on openness, collaboration, and distributed leadership, during their most recent visit in 2021, the peer reviewer team highlighted the blend of centralized quality assurance and significant individual freedoms for innovation and adaptation, strong cooperations with companies across the School’s entire portfolio, the strength of the alumni association, and the very strong focus on thought leadership and impact.

**FIBAA (since 2012)**

WHU was one of the first German higher education institutions given the ability to internally (re-)accredit its own degree programs and confer these with the seal of the German Accreditation Council upon successful assessment. This institutional accreditation acknowledges that WHU’s quality management system is capable of ensuring high standards for all of its degree programs thereby meeting strict national and international standards.

WHU’s most recent successful institutional re-accreditation in 2018 was carried out by FIBAA (Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation) as with its initial accreditation. In awarding this re-accreditation, the peer reviewer team emphasized that internationality at WHU is actively lived and apparent in daily life. Furthermore, they made note of WHU’s well-developed and established quality management system which ensured high quality across all areas of the school.