



至善館

SHIZENKAN

Graduate School of
Leadership and Innovation
Shizenkan University

Revolutionary New Business School Opens in Tokyo

Shizenkan Graduate School of Leadership and Innovation (henceforth Shizenkan) opened in Tokyo in August 2018. The school's mission is bold and ambitious. It aims to present a new “whole-person” leadership approach and is committed to developing authentic risk-taking, innovative leaders with high aspirations, creativity and strength of character. By integrating Western rationalism with Asian spiritual traditions, and leveraging innovation in science and technology for the betterment of humanity, it strives for a paradigm shift in leadership and management education, and aspires to contribute to a more sustainable and inclusive society.



Shizenkan Graduate School of Leadership and Innovation builds on the legacy of the Tokyo-based Institute for Strategic Leadership (hereinafter ISL), which has educated more than 1,600 top business and social leaders since 2001. In partnering with like-minded institutions in Asia, Europe and the rest of the world, we want to help transform the prevailing global standard of management and leadership education that was developed in the U.S. over the course of the 20th century, to help businesses and society confront the challenges in this century and the next millennium.

Shizenkan combines the US business school model, which excels at quantitative, logical and strategic analyses, with the design school approach that harnesses creativity and emerging ideas to empower people to sketch out a better world. We incorporate liberal arts education in an attempt to give students deeper insights into humanity and history in order to drive transformational initiatives. At Shizenkan, self-reflection and deep-seated Asian philosophies are designed for students to discover their inner voices, develop sensitivities to people and society, and instill a pride and passion that will encourage them to seek challenges for a better future.

Shizenkan opened to its first class of graduate students on August 20th, 2018 and offers a master's degree. The part-time, two year program is designed for professionals in their mid-20s to late-30s. Classes take place basically twice a week, in the evenings and weekends. The first intake was 80 students. Half the students will complete the program exclusively in English, and the other half basically in Japanese. Most courses are offered in both languages, which makes Shizenkan a truly bilingual school. The diversity of the students, who come from the business, civic and government sectors – helps to create an atmosphere where they can inspire and collaborate with each other across the boundaries of all three. Shizenkan has 67 faculty members from equally diverse backgrounds, including business and design schools, the liberal arts, psychology and coaching. The faculty consists of 16 full-time and 51 visiting professors. The master's degree, officially titled “MBA in Design and Leadership for Societal Innovation,” is accredited by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan, and symbolizes our aspiration to inherit the strengths of traditional MBA management education and at the same time go beyond that to prepare for the future.

About Shizenkan

Institution: Shizenkan University Graduate School of Leadership & Innovation
Degree : MBA in Design & Leadership for Societal Innovation
Course: Two years on weekday evenings and weekends (part-time)
Capacity: 80 split into 2 classes per year (one class in Japanese, the other in English)
Opening: August 20, 2018
Campus: Nihonbashi Takashimaya Mitsui Bldg. 17F, 2-5-1, Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Leaders We Develop

Shizenkan nurtures public-minded business leaders who act with integrity.

We aim to develop “whole-person” leaders, who should possess professional skills and capabilities, and who can effectively deal with the radical changes triggered by globalization and innovation in science and technology. They should dare to challenge the status quo by leading transformational initiatives. They should be imbued with an entrepreneurial spirit that seeks to develop new businesses that address pressing social and human issues. They will lead the designing of the future with creative yet logical and strategic minds, mobilize people and organizations toward that goal and vision, and pursue sustainable growth.

Most importantly, we believe next-generation leaders should not only have such professional skills and capabilities but also have high aspirations and ethical standards along with a keen interest in serving the public good. Consistent and principled, whatever the situation, they will aim to be energetic managers or entrepreneurs while still being responsible members of society. These leaders will recognize, as their personal mission, the need to embrace challenges with a strong sense of purpose.

The 6 qualities we seek to nurture

① Self-Motivation

We educate leaders who have high aspirations and listen to their inner voices rather than being driven by the expectations or commands of others.

② A Holistic Perspective

We do not develop functional specialists but managers and entrepreneurs who have a broad view of business and organizations, and who integrate all the functions and elements with a holistic perspective.

③ Eye on the Future

The future cannot be analyzed or predicted, but we seek to develop leaders who take a birds-eye view, who understand major social trends and grasp signs of change; who stretch themselves to see the future during a time of exponential advancement in science and technology.

④ Whole-Person Integrity

We develop multi-faceted leaders who do not change their stripes depending on the situation; people who understand the complex facets of human beings and take them into account when making decisions and acting with integrity.

⑤ Respect for Humanity

While pursuing business goals and objectives, the leaders we nurture aspire to leverage innovation to serve a better and sustainable future for mankind.

⑥ Acceptance of Diversity based on Identity

We develop leaders who have confidence in their own identities. This confidence allows them to accept the different identities of others, to embrace diversity and create new values that connect global and local communities.

Our Approach

Shizenkan transforms the global paradigm of business and leadership education.

We develop whole-person leaders who dare to have a transformational impact on the world. ISL, our partner institution, provides our knowhow and network to our students and graduates. We are also building a platform by partnering with like-minded institutions around the globe: the School of Inspired Leadership (SOIL, Gurgaon, India), which emphasizes leadership values such as awareness, compassion, and mindfulness; the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Japan (CCCJ) and its siblings in South Asia; and IESE Business School (Barcelona, Spain), which places humanity at the heart of its educational philosophy.

Our Pedagogical Approach

① Back-to-Business Policy

We provide a curriculum based on general management and entrepreneurship that integrates all the core functions and elements of business and organization. Harvard Business School once offered a course called Business Policy that tried something similar but academia has since broken business policy into segments, namely accounting, finance, marketing, strategy and so on. Shizenkan puts business policy back at the core of management education.

② Integrating Business, Design and Innovation Schools

We integrate three disciplines extracted from three different types of professional schools. Business schools traditionally excel at quantitative, logical and strategic thinking. Design schools seek to design or engineer products, services, and businesses by concentrating on the needs and desires of people and local communities and orchestrating the processes of brainstorming, prototyping and storytelling. Innovation school encourages creative, out-of-the-box asymmetrical thinking that helps drive disruptive innovation.

③ Unique Focus on Liberal Arts

We believe that the essence of leadership education resides in the questions posed by French artist Paul Gauguin: “Where do we come from? Where are we? Where are we heading for? What are we in the world?” Our curriculum explores these questions using history, religion, socioeconomics, philosophy and the arts. We explore the future by anchoring our view of the world in history and human existence and figuring out what is variable and what is not.

④ Continuously Asking Why and What - as well as How

Profits are to the business world what oxygen is for human beings: We cannot live without oxygen but we do not live for it. Our curriculum goes beyond training students in the pursuit of profit and being ahead of the game in a competitive environment. Simultaneously, we challenge them to begin the quest to pursue their calling through continuous self-questioning.

⑤ Self-Reflection

We believe that leadership requires reflection and the development of a mindset that drives people to act and face challenges. Our curriculum encourages our students to embark on a personal as well as a professional journey, and to discover who they really are.

⑥ Bridging Western Rationalism and Asian Spiritual Traditions

We are concerned that the world has unquestioningly accepted the standard of leadership and management education developed by American business schools. We seek to embed into the curriculum an authentic leadership education that incorporates the social and spiritual traditions of Japanese and other Asian cultures: Zen-based mindfulness, self-reflection and meditation.

Curriculum Outline

Duration : 2 years

Capacity : 80 split into 2 classes per year (about 40 in Japanese and about 40 in English)

Program Term : Fall and Spring Program Terms:

1st Term : 20th August to 10th January (Winter recess from the end of December to the beginning of January)

2nd Term : 11th January to 19th August (Summer recess from the end of June to the middle of August)

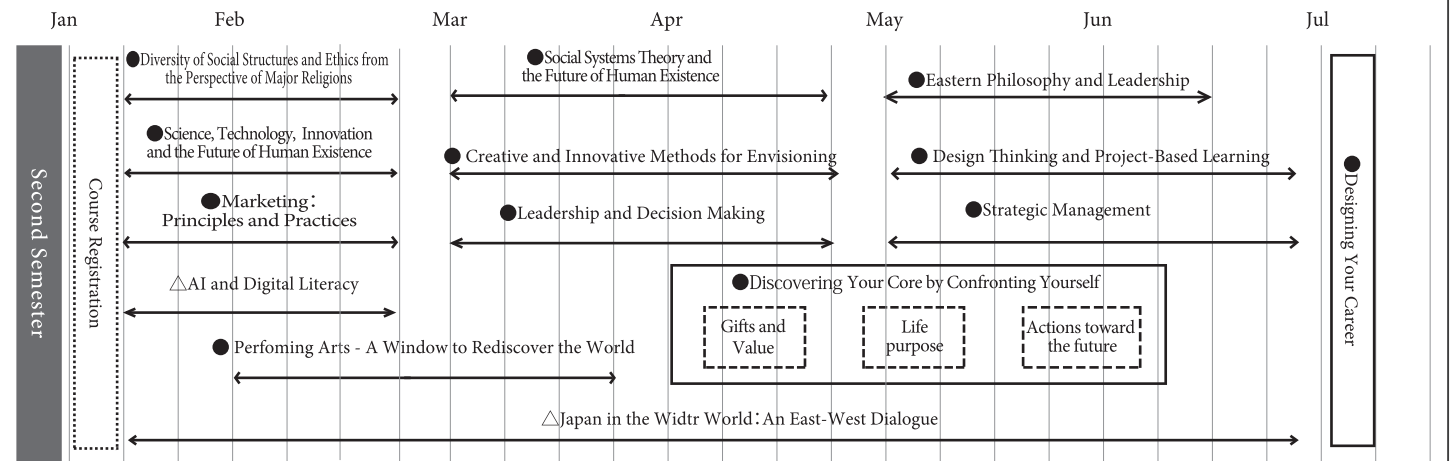
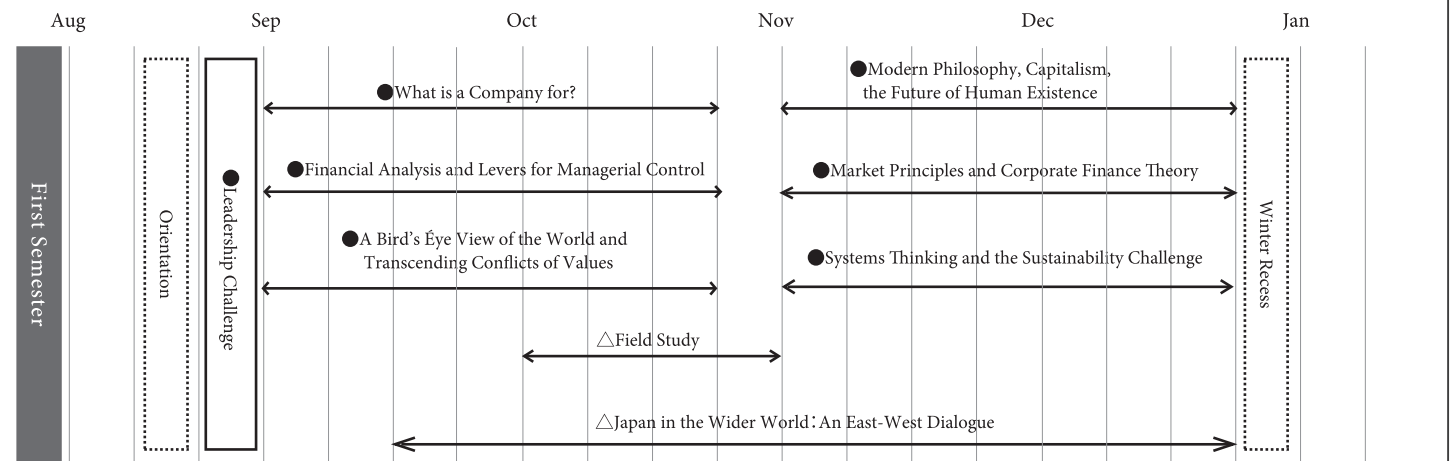
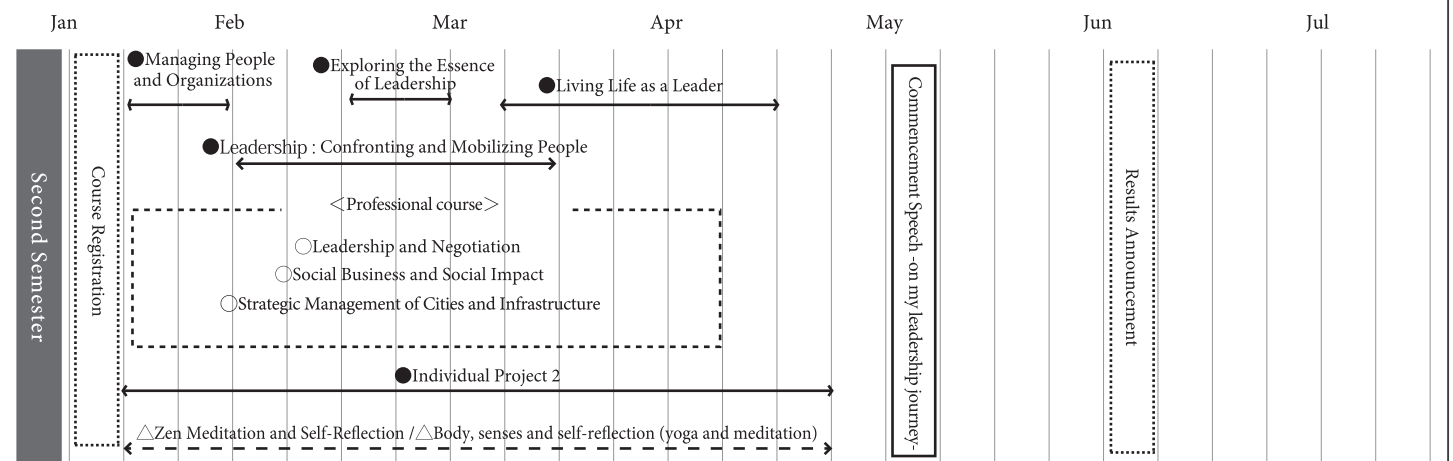
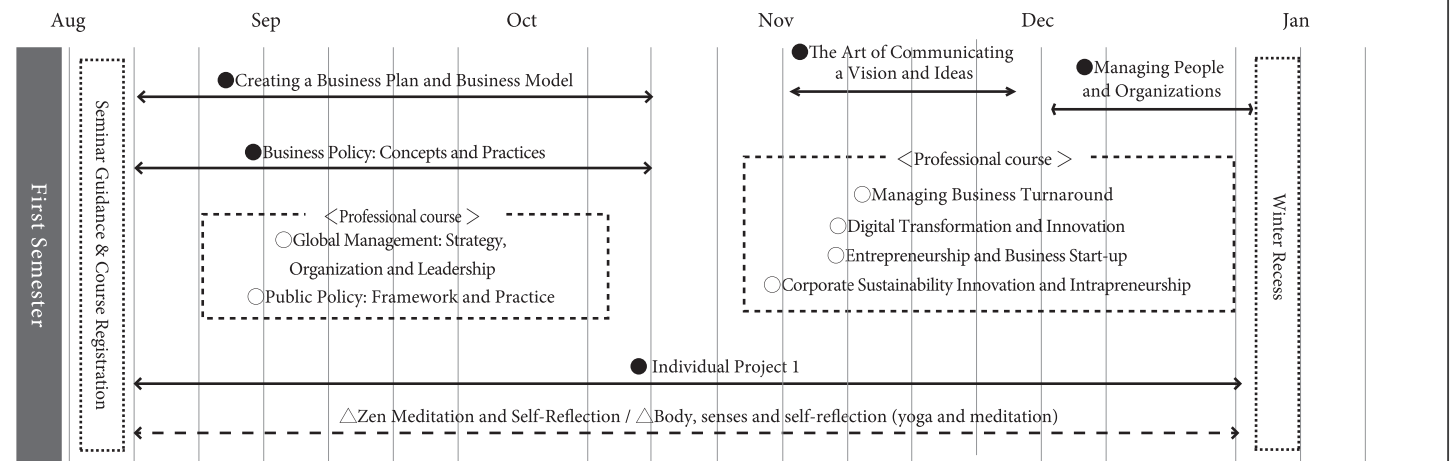
School Hours : Weekday evenings (6:30pm to 9:45pm) and Weekends (9:00am to 7:45pm)

*Some workshops and intensive courses will be held on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Language : Most subjects will be taught in Japanese and in English respectively

*Some subjects will be delivered only in English or mix of Japanese and English.

Tuition : JPY 5,000,000 (Annual tuition of JPY 2,400,000 and admission and administration fee of JPY 200,000)

1st Year in Curriculum2nd Year in Curriculum

Faculty

Members * Serving concurrently as Members of the Board

President : Tomoyoshi Noda* (Founder, Institute for Strategic Leadership)
Dean&VP : Seichi Ohtaki* (Former Professor and Dean of Faculty of Economics, Tohoku University)
Vice-Presidents: Shunsuke Nagao (CEO, Eureka Japon, Deputy Managing Director, Bower Group Asia)
 George Olcott (Director, Dai-ichi Life Holdings, Inc. / Audit & Supervisory Board Member, TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION)
 Tetsuya Shiokawa* (Former Representative in Japan, Xerox Corporation)
 Katsuhiko Yoshikawa* (Former Assistant Professor, Antai College of Economics and Management, Shanghai Jiao Tong University)
Full-time Faculty: Junko Edahiro (President, ISHES)
 Daisaburo Hashizume (Sociologist / Honorary Professor, Tokyo Institute of Technology)
 Yuji Machida (Founder and CEO, BODAI, Co., Ltd)
 Kentaro Mori (Senior Advisor, The Boston Consulting Group)
 Patrick Newell (Co-Founder, TEDxTokyo / Founder, Singularity University Japan)
 Peter David Pedersen (Co-founder, NELIS – Next Leaders' Initiative for Sustainability)
 Seiji Takeda (Western Philosopher / Former Professor, Waseda University)
 Keisuke Seya (CTO & Executive Officer, zero to one)
 Mikio Yamamoto (Former Principal, A.T. Kearney)
 Yuichi Yatsuhashi (Senior Advisor, ACA / Research Professor, Academy for Global Leadership, Tokyo Institute of Technology) etc.
Adjunct-Faculty: Nobuhito Massimiliano Abe (Senior Partner, A.T. Kearney)
 Nalin Advani (Co-Founder, entomo pte ltd)
 Paul R.H. Duerloo (Managing Director & Senior Partner, The Boston Consulting Group)
 Masahiro Fukuhara (CEO, Institution for a Global Society)
 Shoshu Hirai (Buddhist monk / Chief Priest, Zenshoan Temple)
 Oriza Hirata (Playwright, President, Professional College of Arts and Tourism)
 Hironori Iwasaki (Professor, Musashino Art University)
 Keiro Kitagami (Member of the House of Representatives)
 Emiko Matsuda (Professional researcher of somatic sensation)
 Hiroyuki Mitani (Former President, Novartis Holding Japan K.K.)
 Shinji Miyadai (Sociologist / Professor, Tokyo Metropolitan University)
 Norishige Morimoto (Chief Technology Officer and VP, IBM Research & Development-Japan)
 Minoru Noda* (Professor, Graduate School of Business Administration, Meiji University)
 Miyuki Ochi (Founder, SyncVoice Inc.)
 Kiyoyuki Seguchi (Research Director, The Canon Institute for Global Studies)
 Shigeru Sekinada (Senior Partner, Managing Director, Japan, A.T. Kearney)
 Masataka Uo (President and CEO, Japan Fundraising Association)
 Jeff Volinski (Partner, A.T. Kearney)
 Daniel van Wasseem (Principal, The Boston Consulting Group)
 Wong Lai Yong (Founder & Chief, First Penguin Sdn. Bhd.) etc.
Affiliated-Faculty: Yih-teen Lee (Professor, IESE)
 Edson Kenji Kondo (Dean, School of Public Policy and Government, Getulio Vargas Foundation) etc.

Governance

Board of Trustees

Chair : Tomoyoshi Noda (Founder, Institute for Strategic Leadership)
Executive-Trustee: Takahiro Shimojo (Former Executive Officer, Japan Airlines Co., Ltd)
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 Masanobu Tanimoto (Managing Director, Universal Food Machine Company Ltd. / Former Chief of Secretariat, ISL)

Board of Councilors

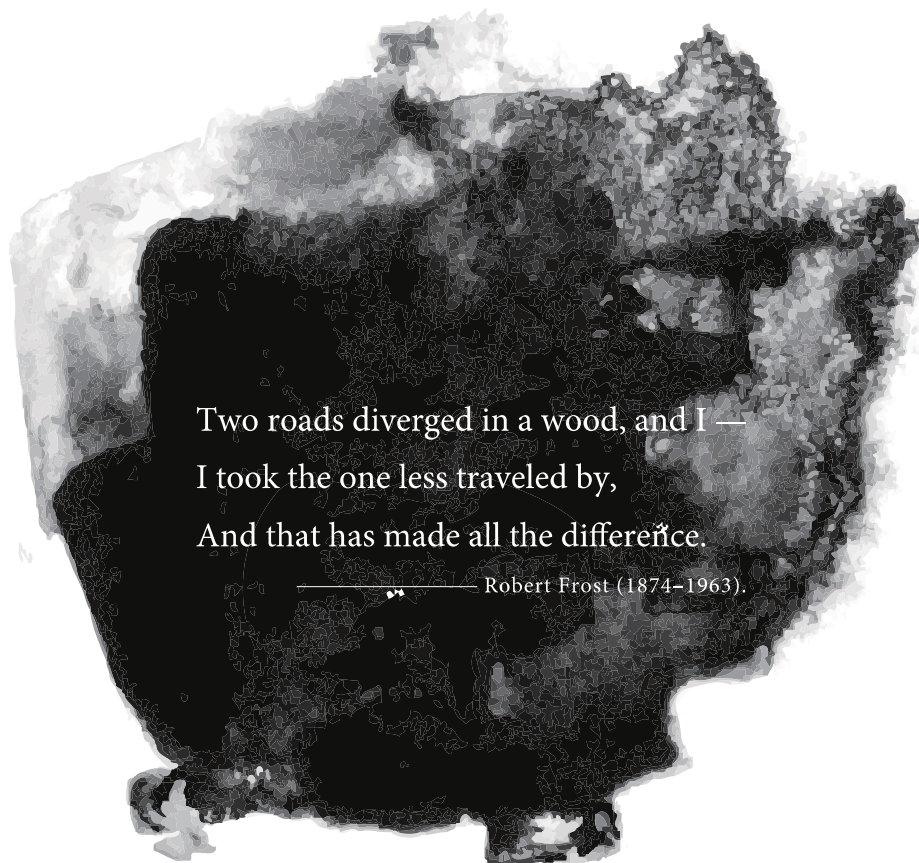
Chair : Sandra Wu, When-Hsiu (Chairperson and CEO, Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd./ Board Member, United Nations Global Compact Board)
Members : Kanae Doi (Japan Director, Human Rights Watch)
 James Higa (Vice-Chair & Board of Governors, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University)
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 Jesper Koll (Global Ambassador, Monex Group, Inc.)
 M. James Kondo (Chairman, International House of Japan)
 Masumi Minegishi (Chairperson and Representative Director of the Board, Recruit Holdings Co., Ltd.)
 Tak Miyata (Founder and General Partner at Scrum Ventures)
 Yuka Shimada (Co-Founder and CEO, YeeY Inc. / Former HR & GA Director, Unilever Japan Holdings G.K.)
 Motoaki Shimizu (Director, Shimizu Co Ltd.)
 Shunji Sugaya (President, OPTiM Corporation)
 Kan Suzuki (Prof., Tokyo University/Prof., Keio University/Formal State Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 Liling Zhang (President, Daifu (CCTV) in Japan) etc.

Academic Adviser

Takahiro Fujimoto (Professor, Waseda Business School / Former Professor, The University of Tokyo)
 Jiro Kokuryo (Professor, Keio University)
 Tatsuyuki Negoro (Former Professor, Waseda Business School)
 Tsuyoshi Numagami (Professor, Hitotsubashi University) etc.

Advisory Board

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 Daniel I. Okimoto (Professor Emeritus, Stanford University / Co-chairman, Silicon Valley Japan Platform)
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 Philippe Haspelslagh (Professor and Honorary Dean, Vleric Business School)
 Ralf Boscheck (Dean, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (UAI) Business School)
 Yan Hao (Chairman & CEO, EPS Holdings, Inc. / Representative Director, Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Japan [CCCJ]) etc.



Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Robert Frost (1874–1963).



Shizenkan is located on the 17th floor of the Nihonbashi Takashimaya Building, immediately above the Nihonbashi subway station, and a short five-minute walk from Tokyo Station. ISL, Shizenkan's mother institution and partner, is situated on the same floor.

Nihonbashi is in the center of metropolitan Tokyo, and home to some of Japan's oldest, most venerable firms. Shizenkan's philosophy of "glocalization" means we encourage co-existing with, partnering with and co-prospering with the local community and learning from its management philosophy of balancing tradition with continuous innovation.



Design:
Go HOSOKAWA

The name of the school, Shizenkan (至善館), derives from the Four Books and Five Classics of Confucianism (四書五經): Shi (至) means ultimate; Zen (善) means goodness; and Kan (館) means school. It implies a quest for great learning, or Daigaku (大学), which leads to ultimate goodness.

The logo of Shizenkan reflects the future we aspire to build. The black square indicates Western rationalism. The black ambiguous shape indicates Asian spirituality. It symbolizes the bridge for these two ways of understanding the world. We believe the integration of the two becomes the key to lead innovation and simultaneously prepare humanity for the 22nd century.

Contact
information

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