Chronology

1869  Prince Kinmochi Saionji founds the private academy, Ritsumeikan

1900  Kojuro Nakagawa, former secretary of Prince Saionji, establishes the Kyoto Hosei School, the predecessor of the current College of Law

1903  Under the Professional School Degree, the school name changes to “Kyoto Profession School of Law”

1904  The school name changes to “Kyoto College of Law and Politics” under the Professional School Degree

College of Law, College of Economics and Preparatory Course for university are established; School of Law, School of Public Administration, School of Economics and Specialized School are established

1905  The school adopts the name “Ritsumeikan,” with permission of Prince Saionji

1913  The name of the school is changed to “Ritsumeikan University”

1917  A special graduate school is established for those who wish to take the bar examination

1922  Ritsumeikan University is reestablished under the University Decree

College of Law (Departments of Law and Economics) and Graduate School and Preparatory Course are established

1945  Hiroshi Suekawa is appointed as the President of Ritsumeikan University

The President introduces a series of democratic reforms, including the Plenary Council and the Presidential Election System

1948  Ritsumeikan University is reorganized under the School Education Law to include Colleges of Law, Economics and Letters

1949  College of Science and Engineering is established

1950  Graduate Schools are established

1962  College of Business Administration is established

1963  Evening classes are reformed; evening class for College of Letters is reorganized
1964 Evening class for College of Business Administration is established; evening class for College of Science and Engineering is reorganized (Department of Engineering Science is established)

1965 College of Social Sciences is established; College of Economics and College of Business Administration are relocated to Kinugasa Campus in Kita Ward, Kyoto City

1978 College of Letters and all evening classes are relocated to Kinugasa Campus

1981 All colleges are relocated to Kinugasa Campus

1987 Department of Information Engineering is established in College of Science and Engineering

1988 College of International Relations is established; Kyoto United Nations Depository Library is established

1991 Joint Ritsumeikan-UBC Program is established on the campus of the University of British Columbia, Canada

1992 Kyoto Museum for World Peace is established; Graduate School of International Relations is established

1994 Biwako-Kusatsu Campus (BKC) is established in Kusatsu City, Shiga Prefecture; College of Science and Engineering is relocated to BKC; College of Policy Science is established; Department of Biological Engineering and Department of Environmental Systems Engineering are established in College of Science and Engineering; Department of Information Engineering reorganized (Department of Information established)

1996 Departments of Optical Engineering and Robotics are established in College of Science Engineering; Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences is established

1997 Graduate School of Policy Science is established

1998 Colleges of Economics and Business Administration is relocated to BKC; Integrated Institute of Arts and Science is established

2000 Departments of Mathematical Science and Physical Sciences are established
2001  Graduate School of Science and Human Services is established; Department of Human Welfare is established in College of Social Sciences; Department of Sociology is established in College of Letters

2003  Graduate Schools of Language Education, Information Science, Core Ethics and Frontier Sciences are established

2004  College of Information Science and Technology is established; Ritsumeikan University School of Law is established

2005  Graduate School of Technology Management is established

2006  Graduate School of Management is established; Suzaku Campus is established in Kyoto City Ritsumeikan University School of Law is relocated to Suzaku Campus

2007  College of Image Arts and Sciences established; Graduate School of Public Policy is established; In College of Social Sciences, Department of Social Sciences and Department of Human Welfare are combined to form Department of Social Sciences

2008  Colleges of Life Sciences and Pharmaceutical Sciences are established

2010  College of Sport and Health Science is established; Graduate School of Sport and Health Science is established

2011  Graduate School of Image Arts and Sciences is established; Global Studies Major is established in College of International Relations

2012  Graduate School of Information Science and Engineering is established; Graduate School of Life Sciences is established; In College of Science and Engineering, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Department of Photonics are combined to form Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering; Department of VLSI System Design changes its name to Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering; Department of Mechanical Engineering and Department of Micro System Technology are combined to form Department of Mechanical Engineering; In College of Letters, 14 majors and programs are combined while eight programs and 18 majors are established

2013  Community and Regional Policy Studies Major is established in College of Policy Science
Ritsumeikan University co-established International School of Information Science & Engineering with Dalian University of Technology

2014  Graduate School of Pharmacy is established; Major in Informatics of Behavior and Culture is established in Graduate School of Letters (Two majors with 15 fields in total)

2015  Osaka Ibaraki Campus (OIC) is established in Ibaraki City, Osaka Prefecture; Colleges of Business Administration and Policy Science, Graduate Schools of Business Administration and Policy Science, Graduate School of Technology Management, and Graduate School of Management are relocated to OIC; Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences is established in College of Pharmaceutical Sciences

2016  College of Comprehensive Psychology is established; Hirai Kaichiro Memorial Library opens

2017  Graduate School of Professional Teacher Education is established; In College of Information Science and Engineering, Department of Information Science and Engineering is established to form seven courses in one department; College of Economics is reorganized to form one department and two majors